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| To: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE | Subject: Underage Sale of Cigarettes |
| From: DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES | |
| Date: 12th May, 1998. Ref: AR/MC | |

PROPOSED DECISION

To note and approve the content of the report.

BACKGROUND

This Department enforces certain provisions of the Children and Young Persons (Protection from Tobacco) Act 1991. The sale of cigarettes to young persons is difficult to control as the Scottish legal system does not allow the use of children to test purchase cigarettes.

REPORT

It is proposed, in association with the Lanarkshire Health Board to undertake a joint initiative identifying "responsible retailers". The Health Board would, as part of their education programme, use school children to identify retailers who adopt a responsible role in the sale and advertising of cigarettes. The retailers would undertake to follow a code of practice and the remit of this Department would be to carry out subsequent inspections to determine compliance with the code. The retailer would be allowed to display membership of the scheme. The inspections would not be burdensome on the Department's resources, as routine inspection is already carried out.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee approve the report.

M'Kenzie L. Hutton