

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

To: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE	Subject: Food Safety (General Food Hygiene) Regulations 1995. Case against Mr. Charles Traynor, t/a Tannochside Quality Meats, 491 Old Edinburgh Road, Tannochside Uddingston.
From: DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	
Date: 2nd June, 1998. Ref: CAP/MC	

PROPOSED DECISION

To note the Report.

REPORT

1. The Department found it necessary to report Mr. Charles Traynor, sole proprietor of the food business trading as Tannochside Quality Meats, 491 Old Edinburgh Road, Tannochside, Uddingston, to the Procurator Fiscal with a view to legal proceedings being instituted in respect of alleged contraventions of the Food Safety (General Food Hygiene) Regulations, 1995.
2. During an investigation into the source of a salmonella food poisoning outbreak the above butcher's shop was visited by Environmental Health Officers on Saturday, 16th August, 1997. Due to the apparent general lack of cleanliness in the premises an inspection was carried out in terms of the Food Safety (general Food Hygiene) Regulations, 1995, when a considerable number of contraventions were noted.

The proprietor of the business was advised by the Officers that they proposed to take action for the immediate closure of the premises in terms of Section 12 of the Food Safety Act, 1990, due to the imminent risk of injury to health because of a serious infestation of insects found throughout the premises and the poor maintenance of routine cleaning. The proprietor voluntarily agreed to close the butcher's shop.

The butcher's shop remained closed until Tuesday, 19th August, 1997, when Environmental Health Officers re-inspected the premises and were satisfied that sufficient measures had been taken to ensure that the condition of the premises no longer involved an imminent risk of injury to health.

3. On Friday, 22nd May, 1998, at Hamilton Sheriff Court an intermediate diet was heard where the accused, Mr. Charles Traynor, proprietor of the butcher's shop trading as Tannochside Quality Meats, 491 Old Edinburgh Road, Tannochside, Uddingston, pled guilty to two charges and the following penalties were imposed;

Contraventions of:

1. Regulation 4(1) of the Food Safety (General Food Hygiene) Regulations 1995 regarding failure to ensure that the preparation, processing, manufacturing, packaging, storing, handling and offering for sale of food was carried out in a hygienic way in that the premises were dirty, equipment with which food came into contact was dirty, food was exposed to the risk of contamination, there was an insect infestation within the premises and employees did not maintain a high degree of personal cleanliness.

Accused pled guilty and was fined £500.

2. Regulation 4(2) (a), Schedule 1, Chapter I of the Food Safety (General Food Hygiene) Regulations, 1995, regarding failure to ensure the premises were being kept clean and maintained in good repair and condition, in that there was a build up of sawdust, plastic bags for wrapping food and food debris on the floor; there was a large number of crawling insects found on the floor behind the three metallic storage bins in the front shop refrigerated raw meat counter; there was a large number of live insects found behind and adjacent to the 'Tricity' chest freezer and under the 'Hobart' mincer in the back shop / preparation area; and the intervening space between the sanitary accommodation and the back shop / preparation area was dirty and insects were present in this area.

Accused pled guilty and was find £500.

M. Kenzie L. Hutton