

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

To: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE	Subject: Draft Natural Mineral Water, Spring Water and Bottled Water Regulations, 1998
From: DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	
Date: 29th December, 1998 Ref: GB/TM	

PROPOSED DECISION

To note the Report and advise The Scottish Office Agriculture, Environment and Fisheries Department (SOAEFD) that the Council has no comment to make on the proposals and cannot assist with the Regulatory Impact Assessment as it has no businesses participating in this industry within its area.

REPORT

The Department has received a Consultation Document from the SOAEFD on a proposal to implement new Regulations with regard to Natural Mineral Water, Spring Water and Bottled Drinking Water as a result of Council Directive (EC) No. 96/70.

The purpose of the new legislation is to extend to spring waters some of the requirements which presently apply to natural mineral waters viz:

- a) Protection of Water Against Contamination at Source and During Bottling,
- b) Analysis for Microbiological Parameters,
- c) Labelling,
- d) Restrictions on Treatments of Water and,
- e) Restrictions on Bottling More Than One Brand From The Same Spring,

thus fully implementing Council Directive (EEC) No. 80/777 as amended by Directive (EC) 96/70 and preventing infraction proceedings being taken by the EC against the UK.

The new legislation also consolidates all the bottled water legislation into one document and will revoke and replace the Natural Mineral Water Regulations, 1985 and the Drinking Water in Containers Regulations, 1994. It permits the treatment of natural mineral water and spring water with ozone enriched air for the removal of unstable elements such as iron and sulphur compounds. This is one of the treatments permitted by Directive (EC) 96/70 however, this treatment is not mandatory.

McKenzie L. Hutton