

1. DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY – FUNDING BIDS

The Committee is asked to note two successful bids by the Environmental and Consumer Protection Department to the Department of Trade and Industry from their Modernisation Fund for Trading Standards 2002-03.

The first is for £7500 to fund an investigation into the availability of prescription medicines through the internet. The main outcomes will be based around checking compliance with existing legislation, the availability of counterfeit medicines, and medicines advertising. The Council's Trading Standards Service will be partnered by the Medicines Control Agency in undertaking this project.

Another bid for £10000 has also been granted, to fund help for businesses who are setting up online, to ensure they are aware of the applicable legislative requirements. Aberdeenshire Council is lead authority for this project, but the Council's Trading Standards service are participating locally through e-business events at the Small Business Gateway.