

**CONSULTATION BY THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT ON PUBLIC HEALTH ETC.
(SCOTLAND) ACT: DESIGNATION OF COMPETENT PERSONS REGULATIONS
2008 (DRAFT) (AN145-2008)**

The Committee is asked to note the Public Health etc. (Scotland) Bill was passed by the Scottish Parliament on 13th June, 2008.

The Act modernises the legislative framework governing the practice of health protection, much of which dates back to the 19th century.

The Scottish Government is consulting on the draft Public Health etc. (Scotland) Act: Designation of Competent Persons Regulations 2008.

The draft regulations state that environmental health officers, accredited by the Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland (or equivalent body), with a minimum of two years local authority experience or equivalent should be deemed as competent persons for carrying out the Act's functions.

The local authority may also appoint, under the main Act, authorised officers to work with competent officers. This reflects the current arrangements in the department where environmental health officers work with technical assistants.