

**REPORT TO : ENVIRONMENTAL & CONSUMER PROTECTION COMMITTEE
– 17th December 2001**

REPORT ON : PURCHASE OF ION CHROMATOGRAPHY EQUIPMENT

REPORT BY : DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL & CONSUMER PROTECTION

REPORT NO: 797-2001

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To seek approval for Scientific Services to purchase Ion Chromatography equipment.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The offer from Metrohm UK Limited be accepted.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The total tender cost of £14,963.00 can be met from surpluses generated by Scientific Services for 2000/01.

4 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Purchasing this equipment will assist in ensuring access to good food and water at a reasonable cost.

5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None.

6 BACKGROUND

6.1 At present Scientific Services do not have Ion Chromatography equipment.

6.2 The purchase of this equipment, which includes an auto sampler, will allow us to carry out the analysis of foods, waters and contaminated land samples more efficiently and cost effectively.

The use of the autosampler will also release staff time to carry out other work.

6.3 Tenders were received from two companies and are detailed below.

Metrohm UK Limited, Buckingham	£14,963.00
--------------------------------	------------

Dionex (UK) Limited, Camberley, Surrey	£14,600.00
--	------------

6.4 The tender from Metrohm UK Limited includes a 2-year warranty on the equipment whereas Dionex only offer 1-year warranty.

6.5 Both tenders include training but Metrohm UK Limited offers more flexible customer tailored training on site than does Dionex.

6.6 The tender from Metrohm UK Limited is the only one which fully meets the

specification as laid out in the tender document.

- 6.7 For the above reasons, despite not being the cheapest tender, acceptance of the tender from Metrohm UK Limited is recommended.

7 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The Chief Executive
Director of Support Services
Director of Finance

8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing this report.

Signed

Date

Director of Environmental & Consumer Protection