

**REPORT TO: ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSUMER PROTECTION COMMITTEE
19TH MARCH 2001**

REPORT ON: FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

REPORT NO: 182-2001

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Committee of the Council's position regarding the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease in the United Kingdom.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Director of Environmental and Consumer Protection assumes the role of the Council's Lead Officer during the course of the outbreak.
- 2.2 The Council's Emergency Planning Officer is available to assist the Director in all matters relevant to the outbreak.
- 2.3 The Council fulfil their obligations to control the disease and support the other agencies involved in the outbreak as required.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 None.

4.0 DUNDEE 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Health is protected by creating a safe environment.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 None.

6.0 BACKGROUND

- 6.1 The first cases of Foot and Mouth Disease within the United Kingdom were notified on 21st February 2001 by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (M.A.F.F.) prompting the issue of emergency powers to control the outbreak.
- 6.2 Emergency powers include (in confirmed cases) the non-movement of livestock and their slaughter from the affected areas and the closure of rights of way, paths etc. within such restricted areas.

- 6.3 In certain instances Local Authorities may secure the power to restrict or prevent access to areas which have the potential for causing concern. Such powers would have to be agreed with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.
- 6.4 Dundee City Council, although not within any restricted area, is taking measures to limit the possibility of infection spread.
- 6.4.1 Measures taken are: -
- Closure of Camperdown Wildlife Park.
 - Appropriate preventative steps taken in Camperdown Country Park, e.g. disinfection mats at entrances.
 - Limitation and control of visits sponsored by Departments to agricultural areas associated with livestock for leisure activities.
 - Assessing scheduled events organised by Departments within Council open-air leisure facilities.
 - The proposed Farmers Market, scheduled for 17th March, to be held at Shore Terrace has been cancelled.
 - Council staff have been instructed to cancel planned visits/inspections to any farms or holdings within the City until such time as the current crisis is ended.
 - Council refuse collection vehicles will not enter farms or agricultural holdings at the present time. Collections will take place from the public highway.
- 6.5 One farm within the City sells pigs and they are currently seeking a movement order(s). The issue of movement orders is granted by the Animal Welfare Officer subject to the conditions imposed to control such movement.
- 6.6 The Market Street Abattoir is currently closed, and at the present time has not been authorised by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for slaughtering purposes. However approval is expected to be given in the week beginning 12 March 2001.
- 6.7 Dundee City Council is working closely with other members of the Regional Emergency Co-ordinating and Planning Group (RECAP) in the response to the outbreak. (The Group includes the emergency services, Angus , Dundee City and Perth and Kinross Councils).

The overall response is in accordance with a contingency plan prepared earlier this year by RECAP.

- 6.8 Information to Scottish Local Authorities is being co-ordinated and forwarded from COSLA (Convention of Scottish Local Authorities) and SERAT (Scottish Executive Rural Affairs Department) on a daily basis.

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

- 7.1 The Chief Executive
All Chief Officers, Dundee City Council
Emergency Planning Officer
Animal Welfare Officer

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 The Foot and Mouth Disease Order 1983 (as amended (1993).
- 8.2 The Animal Health Act 1981.
- 8.3 The Animal (Miscellaneous Provisions) Order 1927.
- 8.4 The Foot and Mouth Disease Declaratory (Controlled Area) (Scotland) Order 2001.
- 8.5 The Foot and Mouth Disease Contingency Plan.

9.0 SIGNATURE

Director of Environmental and Consumer Protection

Date: 9th March 2001