

# **Committee on the Inquiry into the E.coli outbreak in Wales**

**E.Coli(2) 01-05(p2)**

**Meeting date: 7 November 2005**

**Meeting time: 2:30pm**

**Meeting venue: Committee Room 3, National Assembly for Wales**

**PAPER FROM JULIE BARRATT, DIRECTOR**

**CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, WALES**

## **Purpose**

1.1 This paper provides suggestions from The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health on the possible terms of reference for the Inquiry.

2. The Terms of Reference should include the following:

- What caused the outbreak?
- Could anything have been done that would have prevented such an outbreak, and if so, by whom?
- Could anything have been done to reduce the spread of the outbreak, and if so, by whom?
- The value, if any, to local authorities of the audits conducted by the Food Standards Agency, given the delay in providing the audit reports;
- Communication issues, particularly the putting of information that is was potentially sub judice into the public arena;
- The priority and resources given to environmental health services in local authorities;
- Any wider issues that have come to light as the result of the investigation – such as product sourcing by the company likely to be the source of the outbreak and the effectiveness of the Farm to Fork regime;
- School Meals procurement policies;

1.3 The suggested list is neither exhaustive nor exclusive.

**Julie Barratt**

**Director CIEH Wales**