



2016/2017 ISSUE 1
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Mission
LHAAC will advance a risk based sampling scheme to ensure food safety and quality.
LHAAC will have strong corporate governance, leadership and effective partnerships.
LHAAC will maintain a sustainable and cost effective service for all clients.

CONTRACT FOR ANALYTICAL SERVICES

LHAAC is looking to extend the current contract for the Provision of Analytical Services to LHAAC for a further 6 months commencing on 1 Jan 2017. This is the second of two optional extensions to the contract.

LHAAC is also currently working with the State Department of Finance to develop a Request for Tender brief for a new Contract for Analytical Services with a scheduled commencement date of 1 July 2017.

EXPENDITURE TO DATE SUMMARIES

The provision of Sampling to Date Summaries to all participating LGAs has been well received since we began the process in late 2013. The first of these for the financial year 2016/17 will be issued mid-November, and monthly thereafter. The Summary is not usually issued in the first few months of the financial year due to low sampling activity in the first quarter.

CHANGE OF HOME FOR LHAAC



LHAAC moved to a new office location at ECU University, Joondalup campus on 5 September 2016. LHAAC had enjoyed a very happy stay at the offices of PHAIWA in Shenton Park, since moving there in March 2012, but with the site, including the former Shenton Park Rehabilitation Hospital, scheduled to be sold by State Government, all tenants were asked to investigate alternative accommodation options.

The offer of some vacant offices at ECU happened at a very opportune time. Negotiations progressed very quickly and LHAAC moved in to the 'new' premises in September. Already LHAAC are in discussions with various sections of the University about possible partnering opportunities so the relationship looks very promising.

I can be now be contacted on 08 6304 2104 or t.chapman@ecu.edu.au

ADDITIONAL FORMS OF SAMPLING

Responding to the results of a survey of Local Governments in November 2015 LHAAC now allows other forms of sampling as part of the LHAAC Scheme. This includes asbestos; chemicals in air, soil and water; heavy metals; hydrocarbon detection; lead; speciation testing; more extensive forms of water testing and microbiological testing (after utilising all of the D of H Pathwest allocation!!).

Until the current Contract for Analytical Services ends (likely to be 30 June 2017), and due to our contract obligations with Agrifood and ChemCentre as the two appointed Analysts under that contract, LHAAC funds can only be used for other forms of sampling where these samples are submitted to Agrifood or ChemCentre directly, or on a sub contracted arrangement. Where Agrifood and/or ChemCentre can perform the analysis themselves pricing should be very competitive. However, where Agrifood or ChemCentre have to sub contract the work to another analyst, it may prove more costly than a LGA going direct to the other Analyst. LGAs are therefore encouraged to check the prices carefully and make the most economic use of the services available. From 1 July 2017, prices will be stipulated in the new contract for most types of sampling.

LHAAC AND THE NEW PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 2016

Western Australia finally has a new Public Health Act thanks to the efforts of many. Our friends at PHAIWA, and particularly Melissa Stoneham, worked tirelessly to encourage the change. Many other public health stakeholders have also lobbied for change and the staff of the Public Health Division have worked diligently to re-write and implement the new Acts.

The Public Health Act and the Public Health (Consequential Provisions) Act 2016 both received Royal Assent on 25 July 2016. LHAAC now sits under the Consequential Provisions Act 2016, which provides for the consequential amendment of the Health Act 1911.



LHAAC has not really experienced much change as a result of the new Acts. The most significant one is the ten member Committee no longer has any statutory members. Instead it will be made up of seven metro and three non- metro members.

Implementation will occur in stages over the next three to five years.

Details of the changes Local Governments will face and answers to the many FAQs can be found in a range of supporting resources produced by the Public Health Division and available on their website (Public Health Act webpage).

A FEW GENTLE REMINDERS

Discretionary Sampling

LHAAC would like to thank all LGAs for their tremendous support of Coordinated Sampling Projects (CSPs). LGAs have really embraced the CSPs and are very supportive of them.

LHAAC do still encourage the use of random or discretionary sampling of food premises too – just to keep manufacturers and distributors on their toes.

Bright Ideas!

Speaking of CSPs, LHAAC welcomes suggestions from Local Government EHOs. We certainly do not have the monopoly on good ideas in this regard and would greatly appreciate suggestions from you.

ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16



The 2015/16 Annual Report is now available on the LHAAC website.

www.lhaac.org.au and go to Resources.

Happy Reading !!



LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES ANALYTICAL COMMITTEE (LHAAC)

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