

Why should Boroughs retain their membership of Alehm?

Alehm activities include:

- 1) Alehm provides an established and coordinated voice for environmental health in London. All 33 London local authorities are members and Alehm raises the profile of pertinent issues and takes guided action on behalf of the membership, including:**
 - Collated responses to consultations on behalf of London,
 - Network for professional discussion to present a representative view for London,
 - Safe forum to voice emerging borough issues and concerns anonymously,
 - Alehm representatives attend strategic/development meetings on behalf of boroughs and technical liaison groups,
 - Routine liaison with other bodies for smarter enforcement and data sharing,
 - Regular feedback to members with summaries of developments across the field of EH,
 - Development of regional policy,
 - Benchmarking of services.

- 2) Regional coordination. To assist boroughs to maintain competency or access competent officers across a range of services.**
 - Support and coordination of complex cross border investigations.
 - Project management of externally funded projects delivered across London,
 - Appointment of competent officers to undertake specific activities,
 - Delivery of statutory services of lower priority to local authorities (feed inspection).

- 3) Apply for funding for regional projects.**
 - Identify potential funded projects which may interest local authorities
 - Coordinate bids for funding for local authority activity.

- 4) Competency, training and access to expertise.**
 - A programme of 6 Alehm meetings offering at least 20 hours of CPD training each year to environmental health managers and senior environmental health staff,
 - Free update CPD technical training days across the spectrum of environmental health, (charge to non-members of £250),
 - Networking group, signposting local authorities to relevant expertise in other member authorities and providing access to competent officers or trainees to assist and support local authority work programmes,
 - Development of specific training courses to meet local competency needs providing subsidised training courses with significant member discount.

- 5) Student support/trainees and apprenticeships.**
 - Work with boroughs to find placement opportunities for students and trainees,
 - Joint working with Middlesex University to support access to the new degree apprenticeship scheme.
 - Appoint students and manage student placements on behalf of boroughs.
 - Coordination of an apprenticeship cohort for a range of regulatory activities.

6) Technical groups, wider support

- Support for technical and liaison groups to enable them to operate effectively.
- Assist in the development of consistency, best practice and enforcement advice.
- Coordinate local projects for London providing wider service opportunities for boroughs.

Additional benefits of membership.

1. Accessing services and opportunities that local authorities no longer have resources to access directly,

- Provide experienced contractors to provide local expertise, eg feed central coordination
- Undertake funded work for boroughs, eg local food sampling programmes
- Assisting boroughs to recruit students and apprenticeships for borough training placements
- Coordination of and providing operational resources for the London technical liaison groups, with attendance and representation at strategic and operational forums.

2. As a coordinator of cross London services Alehm has accessed in the last 2 years

- £90,000 for delivery of London's feed inspection services, with a range of feed work provided to each borough to carry out statutory feed inspections and access to regional feed lead services.
- £25,000 for regional coordination of the healthier catering commitment and provision of facilities and materials worth £400 for each participating borough.
- Coordinated bid to MHCLG for £40,000 funding to pilot an intelligence sharing system to help control rogue landlords.

3. Achievements, delivered outputs and reinvestment

- Regional feed delivery service and borough support to enable boroughs to meet their statutory feed responsibility. Central funding has been invested to provide an ongoing feed support service for boroughs to access as and when required. Alehm assists with FSA feed audits and assists boroughs to complete annual feed statutory returns.
- Launch of new web site, and on line course bookings.
- Management of Khub communities to provide easy access to supporting documentation and best practice guidance across the technical range of environmental health.
- Coordination of regional projects, providing services which boroughs cannot fund locally, eg regional investigation projects for health and safety using trainees.

In 2019/20 reinvestment was made into:

- Subsidised training courses and CPD days including food hygiene, food standards, housing and air quality, investigation skills, imported food, cooling tower training, legal training courses, accident investigation, approvals, gas safety, asbestos and working from heights. Average saving per course attended £50/person.
- Extended back office and technical support for technical groups.
- Supporting students to complete their training portfolios and to enable local authorities to use high quality trainees to deliver local low risk activity.
- Financial resource to develop the second tier for multi-outlet businesses for the Healthier Catering Commitment Scheme.
- Student projects to investigate priority areas on behalf of boroughs including pink duck survey and health and safety management of multi-occupancy workplaces.
- Allergen sampling programme.

Alehm's Activity Programme for 2020/21

- 7 Senior manager meetings, keeping members up to date on a range of topical areas across the widening spectrum of environmental health.
- Training programme to provide courses for front line officers to help maintain wider competency of regulatory staff. To include EMM training for health and safety officers, gas safety in catering premises, asbestos training, approvals training, and free food standards, food hygiene and health and safety training days.
- Members' survey to identify membership needs and priorities to ensure Alehm provides appropriate member services.
- Representation at a range of national forums including the National Environmental Health Forum, National Food Hygiene Group, FHRS User Group, GLA and CIEH policy groups which enables Alehm to keep members up to date with national priorities and emerging issues affecting the wider profession.
- Review of London's current and projected Environmental Health workplace needs, with the aim of developing an effective student and apprenticeship support network for local authorities to expand training in environmental health and other areas of local authority regulation to help meet future local authority recruitment demands.
- Deliver the regional feed inspection and enforcement programme for London.
- Provide continuing support to the Healthier Catering Commitment programme and further develop the second tier for multi outlet fast food businesses.
- Develop a training programme for environmental health to make wider use of intelligence led enforcement and extend the use of the IDB intelligence database across local authority regulatory services.
- Examine a range of new income streams to help minimise subscription cost to members.
- Carry out specific projects to improve consistency, identify areas of wider non-compliance for focused enforcement activity. The completion of the commercial landlord compliance project and the allergen sampling survey.
- Submit bids for public health and other funding to carry out cross London activity.