

Hello,

Thank you to everyone who was able to make the resident's meeting on 8 December 2022. Please find attached minutes from this meeting and copies of the slides we presented to you. If you have any questions about these please send them to publichealth@gov.je.

I want to provide reassurance that we have noted the comments expressed by many of you in regard to how we can improve meetings with you in the future, including your suggestions around location, timing and notice period for meetings. These will all be considered before organising future meetings with you.

A key message that I heard from the meeting was the need to provide you with updates and information. Moving forward I will provide you with a written update, via email as and when there are appropriate updates to share with you. Together with my team, we will aim to begin each update with progress since our last message and end with what to expect in the next one.

Progress with the PFAS Scientific Advisory Panel

Since we last met, we have been progressing the PFAS Scientific Advisory Panel. The purpose of the Panel is to coordinate and provide expert advice on PFAS issues to enable an effective and evidenced based approach to inform decision-making in response to PFAS matters on the Island.

The formation of this panel has been approved by the Council of Ministers. We are now writing documents for the panel, including a Terms of Reference. This sets out the responsibilities and accountabilities of the panel and the way meetings will be conducted. These documents will be shared with two members of the resident's group for review. This follows the collective request at the December meeting to engage with these residents during the development phase of the panel. Their comments and feedback will be considered before the Terms of Reference is finalised. If you would like to see the Terms of Reference (TOR), please contact us on email by 1st March 2023.

We have also started the process to identify suitable experts for the panel and will be sending out an invitation for expressions of interest. Thanks to the residents who have made suggestions for experts – we have included these. If anyone has any suggestions, please email them to us before 1st March 2023. I am expecting that the first meeting of the panel will be during the second quarter of this year.

We have now received all the blood test results and the Public Health Intelligence team are incorporating those into the slides we shared with you and will update the slides when we can. To assist the panel in their work, we will share the results with them but please be assured that all results will be anonymised and shared in strictest confidence.

The next update I expect to give will be to announce the panel members and the topics they will be exploring; this is likely to be in the late part of this quarter or the early part of quarter two. If you are happy for us to add you to our email distribution list for future PFAS related communication or if you would prefer a paper copy posted to you, please confirm by email.

In the meantime, please do contact us if you have any questions by emailing publichealth@gov.je.

Best wishes
Prof Peter Bradley