

LBRO Presentation to the UK Weighing Federation

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Introduction to LBRO

- Set up by the Regulatory Enforcement and Sanctions Act (RES) 2008
- To reduce red-tape in the regulatory landscape- Better regulation not de-regulation
- Ensure that regulatory activities are risk based and implement the better regulation principles of accountability, targeted, transparency, proportionality and consistency

LBRO Objectives

Support service improvement and change in local authority regulatory services e.g. Trading Places, Retail Enforcement Pilot

Directly **deliver consistency** principally through the primary authority scheme

Act to **improve** the local regulatory services system more generally e.g. World Class Programme

Statutory Functions

- Primary authority
- Advice to ministers
- Guidance to authorities
- Priorities national & local
- Statutory and other partnerships- MOU with National Regulators

Trading Places

New Perspectives on Compliance



New Perspectives on Compliance

What is Trading Places?

- LBRO Business exchange initiative
- Endorsed by CBI, BRC, BCC, CIEH, TSI
- 2 formats
 - 2 day visits for larger businesses
 - 1 day visit for smaller and single site businesses

Objectives

- Provide opportunity for full and frank exchange of views on how businesses and regulation works
- Build LARS business/commercial awareness.
- Break down perceived cultural barriers to communication
- Foster joint approach to delivering outcomes
- Enhance tune in by LARS to business drivers and needs
- Feedback and develop new way of working

Who can take part?

- Anyone employed in Local Authority Regulatory Services (LARS)
- Each visit is agreed with business
- Selected to be of same professional level
- Officers from different Authorities and disciplines
- Any businesses prepared to follow the format
- LBRO would welcome participation from UKWF

What does 'Trading Places' involve

- Prework
- Day 1: Business overview, Governance, Marketing, Buying, Own label, Customer Service, Logistics,
- Debrief with 'Primary Authority'
- Day 2: Operational management of compliance and the customer interface
- Feedback and workplace follow up

Business feedback

‘Interestingly, a number of our colleagues commented that the attitude of the visitors was refreshing, and they had good knowledge of the issues we faced.’

“We gained an insight into Trading Standards practices and how they think about business support / advice and enforcement action.”

Competency of Local Authority Officers

- Part of the World Class Programme
- Developing a common competency framework for local authority Trading Standards officers
- Working Group consists of National Regulators BRE, BIS, FSA, HSE OFT, NMO, LACORS and professional bodies TSI, CIEH, IOL
- Adopting Health and Safety framework
- Core Skills and Knowledge Modules being developed including Metrology

Civil Sanctions

- RES Act gives new powers to national regulators who demonstrate that they are Hampton Compliant
- RES Act can allow local authority regulators to gain access to powers providing they can demonstrate Hampton Compliance
- New powers will be Fixed Monetary Penalties
Variable Monetary Penalties, Stop Notices,
Enforcement Undertakings

Business Reference Panel

- Membership consists of 22 businesses and trade associations e.g. CBI and the NFRN
- LBRO provide an update on it's work on better regulation and opportunity for business to raise issues and share ideas
- Identified certain working groups e.g. Underage Sales Group
- Does UKWF wish to join? contact Gemma Durie next meeting 17th May in London

Summary

- LBRO – better local regulation not de-regulation
- Trading Places – good initiative for business and regulators to gain a better understanding
- Interested in views about regulatory landscape and consistency from Business and Trade Associations as part of the Business Reference Panel

Contacts

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