

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE MICROBIOLOGICAL SAFETY OF FOOD

INFORMATION PAPER

**UPDATE PROVIDED BY FSA SCOTLAND ON TWO *E. COLI* O157
OUTBREAKS IN SCOTLAND – MAY 2006**

Outbreak 1 - Careshare Nursery, Dunfermline, Fife

Summary

We were informed by HPS of the outbreak at 17:00 on 08/05/06.

To date, 5 children were hospitalised with Haemolytic Uraemic Syndrome and a total of 13 people have been confirmed as cases (7 asymptomatic).

The nursery voluntarily closed and all children and staff were excluded until 2 clear stool samples 24 hours apart had been submitted.

No source of the outbreak has been identified within the nursery. All swabs and samples taken from the nursery have proved negative for *E.coli* O157. The outbreak has not been linked to food or drink within the nursery. The hypothesis is that it was brought into the nursery by a carrier (adult or child) and spread through poor hygiene practices.

Food Standards Agency Involvement

As no link has been made to food or drink, we have had no particular involvement. We have been kept aware of the situation and receive regular updates.

Outbreak 2 - Dreams Daycare Nursery, Inch, Aberdeenshire

Summary

Dreams Daycare Centre voluntarily closed following 2 cases of *E.coli* O157. Staff and children were excluded on the same basis as the Fife case.

The strain involved is distinct from the Fife outbreak and is therefore not connected with that outbreak.

All samples and swabs taken have proved negative for *E.coli* O157. No links have been established to food or drink within the nursery.

Food Standards Agency Involvement

As no link has been made to food or drink, we have had no particular involvement. We have been kept aware of the situation and received regular updates.

**Secretariat
June 2006**