



## **Epsom & Ewell Borough Council Health and Safety Intervention Plan 2019-2020**

Epsom & Ewell Borough Council has a duty to enforce the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 and associated regulations within its district. The Council has enforcement responsibilities in many areas including retail units, offices, warehousing, catering premises, leisure and entertainment premises, consumer services such as beauty parlours and tattooists and tyre and exhaust fitters - the vast majority of areas the public has access to.

The primary objective of the health and safety service placed within the Environmental Health Service at Epsom & Ewell Borough Council is to protect employees and the public from hazards arising from work activities and to seek improvement in working conditions in terms of health, safety and welfare.

This intervention plan sets out the overall aim of the service and identifies specific areas where we will prioritise our efforts in line with the better regulation concepts of modern regulatory enforcement.

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## Service aim and objectives

The primary objective of the health and safety service placed within the Environmental Health Team at Epsom & Ewell Borough Council is to promote health and protect employees and the public from hazards arising from work activities and to seek improvement in working conditions in terms of health, safety and welfare through advisory and enforcement activities.

We will do this by both proactive and reactive means.

## Key Delivery Priorities

In 2013 changes in government guidance and direction caused the service to review its method of operation. For example, The Löfstedt review<sup>1</sup>, the Department for Work and Pensions Ministerial Statement on Good Health and Safety<sup>2</sup> the Young Report<sup>3</sup> and the Health and Safety Executive/Local Government Association guidance on reduced proactive inspections<sup>4</sup> is directing enforcement authorities to carry out fewer overall inspections and utilise greater targeting of proactive interventions. The result of these changes meant that very few routine inspections are carried out in Epsom & Ewell, and instead the Council concentrates on a project based approach taking into account national priorities and local initiatives where there is evidence that intervention is warranted.

The key delivery priorities are as follows

- Execution of proactive inspections of businesses and undertakings representing particularly high risk or poor standards.
- Investigating accidents and incidents in line with the Health and Safety Executive's (HSE) incident selection criteria which has been adopted for use locally.
- Responding to service requests in line with the Council's customer charter and incident selection criteria.

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<sup>1</sup> Reclaiming health and safety for all: An independent review of health and safety legislation  
Professor Ragnar E Löfstedt November 2011 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reclaiming-health-and-safety-for-all-lofstedt-report>

<sup>2</sup> Good Health and Safety, Good for Everyone The next steps in the Government's plans for reform of the health and safety system in Britain 21 March 2011 [www.dwp.gov.uk/docs/good-health-and-safety.pdf](http://www.dwp.gov.uk/docs/good-health-and-safety.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Common Sense Common Safety [www.hse.gov.uk/aboutus/commonsense/index.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/aboutus/commonsense/index.htm)

<sup>4</sup> Joint guidance for reduced proactive inspections [www.hse.gov.uk/lau/pdfs/reduced-proactive-inspections.pdf](http://www.hse.gov.uk/lau/pdfs/reduced-proactive-inspections.pdf)

## **Proposed 2019-2020 interventions**

In 2019-2020 the service plans to deliver the following programme of interventions.

- Identification and resolution of matters of evident concern identified during interventions for other regulatory reasons.
- Reactive responses to complaints, accidents and requests for assistance from business.

## **Measurable Targets**

- We will deliver the identified priorities as planned during the year.
- We will not investigate all accidents reported to us. Instead we aim to investigate 100% of those accidents which meet the accident investigation criteria.
- We will respond to matters of evident concern highlighted during our work with business and in the community at the time they are identified or as soon as possible afterwards.

## **Review of 2018-2019 Service Plan**

### **Proactive**

In line with the national local authority enforcement code, the service carried out no proactive inspections. However five non inspection interventions were undertaken including work on safety advisory groups, a petting fair and a local village fair.

### **Reactive**

The service responded to 18 accidents, complaints or matters of evident concern found during visits to premises for other reasons. These ranged from concerns over asbestos, electrical hazards and dangerous lifting gear. The service received 47 formally notified accidents and investigated one of these which matched the incident selection criteria. One accident from the previous year was still under investigation. This investigation alone accounted for the largest proportion of the resource available for health and safety.

### **Formal action**

No formal action took place in 2019-2020.