

**FOOD SAFETY / HEALTH AND SAFETY SERVICE PLANS**

<u>Report of the:</u>	Head of Housing and Environmental Services
<u>Contact:</u>	Oliver Nelson
Urgent Decision?(yes/no)	No
If yes, reason urgent decision required:	N/A
<u>Annexes/Appendices</u> (attached):	Annex 1 - Food Service Plan Annex 2 - Health and Safety Intervention Plan
<u>Other available papers</u> (not attached):	None

**REPORT SUMMARY**

**In 2015 the Social Committee adopted the Environmental Health Service Plans for Health & Safety and for Food Safety. This report contains monitoring information on action taken in 2015-2016 and proposes new targets for 2016-2017.**

**RECOMMENDATION (S)**

**That the Committee:**

- (1) adopt the service plan for food safety**
- (2) adopt the intervention plan for health and safety**
- (3) agree to receive revised food and health and safety plans for 2017-2018 at the Environment Committee meeting in June 2017.**

*Notes*

**1 Implications for the Council's Key Priorities, Service Plans and Sustainable Community Strategy**

- 1.1 The Council's Key Priorities of Supporting Business and the Local Economy, Supporting our Community and Managing our Resources are relevant. Fair, justifiable and proportionate intervention to address poor standards in business helps to ensure a level playing field for law abiding operators whilst protecting and promoting public health.
- 1.2 The Council's Key Priority of Supporting our Community is relevant because of the beneficial effects to public health of an effective food and health & safety service. The service exists to protect and enhance public health, particularly in cases where the most vulnerable are involved.

- 1.3 The proper planning of services allows the Council to manage its resources by ensuring efficient service delivery using the available resources in the most effective manner.

## **2 Background**

- 2.1 As a result of the recent committee restructuring, environmental health matters now fall under the remit of the Environment Committee. This was previously under the remit of the Social Committee.
- 2.2 A report setting out proposed service plans relating to Health and Food Safety were considered on an annual basis by the Social Committee, the last service plans being considered and adopted by that Committee in 2015.
- 2.3 Those plans have been updated with information on progress and achievements in 2014-2015. In addition the planned actions for 2016-2017 have been included as targets.
- 2.4 The section 18 standard under the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 requires local authorities to make adequate arrangements for the enforcement of health and safety law in their area and to draw up effective intervention plans setting out how they plan to carry out their enforcement and advisory function for the year.
- 2.5 The Council is also charged with enforcement of UK and European food hygiene controls within its area. The expectation from the Food Standards Agency under the food framework agreement and code of practice is that local authorities will draw up a service plan illustrating how they intend to fulfil out their food safety duties and for that plan to be adopted by the relevant policy deciding body of the Council.
- 2.6 Best practice in the area of regulatory services is to establish transparent plans for the deployment of public resources and to publicise those plans.

## **3 Proposals**

- 3.1 It is proposed that the Committee adopt both the food safety service plan and the health and safety intervention plan for 2015-2016.

## **4 Financial and Manpower Implications**

- 4.1 There are no additional implications to be highlighted arising from this report.
- 4.2 **Chief Finance Officer's comments:** None for the purposes of this report.

## **5 Legal Implications (including implications for matters relating to equality)**

- 5.1 The Council has statutory duties in relation to these service areas.

5.2 **Monitoring Officer's comments:** None for the purposes of this report.

## **6 Sustainability Policy and Community Safety Implications**

6.1 None arising from this report

## **7 Partnerships**

7.1 The Service is working in partnership with other Surrey Boroughs in both the health and safety and food safety areas. Further partnership arrangements exist with other bodies such as the Health and Safety Executive, OFSTED, Care Quality Commission, Surrey County Council and Public Health England.

## **8 Risk Assessment**

8.1 The Food Standards Agency and the Health & Safety Executive monitor the effectiveness of the Authority's action taken in these service areas. The risk of under resourcing these areas is a decrease in public protection and public health, adverse publicity arising from annual reports on local authority performance and dereliction of statutory obligations.

## **9 Conclusion and Recommendations**

9.1 It is recommended the Committee adopts the service plan for food safety and the intervention plan for health and safety and agrees to receive revised food and health and safety plans for 2017-2018 at its meeting in June/July 2017.

**WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALL**