



## **REPORT of CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

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**to  
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE  
4 JULY 2017**

### **HEALTH AND SAFETY ENFORCEMENT WORK PLAN 2017 / 18**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 This report presents the Health and Safety Enforcement Work Plan outlining proposals for delivering health and safety enforcement during 2017 / 18.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Health and Safety Enforcement Work Plan 2017 / 18 is approved.

#### **3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES**

- 3.1 Health and safety legislation in Great Britain is enforced by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) or Local Authorities (LA) depending on the main activity carried out at any particular premises. In general, LAs are the main enforcing authority for retail, wholesale distribution, warehousing, hotels, catering premises, offices, consumer and leisure activities.
- 3.2 Each LA is an enforcing authority in its own right and must make adequate provision for enforcement as one of its statutory functions. The National Local Authority Enforcement Code (the Code) introduced in May 2013 sets out the principles that each LA should follow to ensure a consistent, proportionate and targeted approach to regulation based on risk.
- 3.3 Alongside the Code, the HSE produces a list of national priorities and the publication of a list of specific activities in defined sectors that are suitable for targeting for proactive inspection. The Code provides flexibility for LAs to address local priorities alongside the national priorities set by the HSE. Local Authority Circular (LAC 67/2 (rev 6) provides LAs with guidance and tools for priority planning and targeting their interventions, enabling them to meet the requirements of the Code.
- 3.4 Based on the HSE's guidance, a health and safety enforcement work plan for 2017-18 is proposed for Maldon District Council, see **APPENDIX 1**. This work plan is aligned with the Essex work plan produced by the Essex Health and Safety Liaison Group which consists of health and safety enforcement representatives from each of the Essex LAs.

## 4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The work plan provides a clear programme of health and safety enforcement to be undertaken in the Maldon district during 2017-18. It aligns with national guidance and the Essex-wide work plan. By undertaking enforcement activities, the Council is fulfilling its statutory functions as required by section 18 of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974. It provides a targeted approach dealing with higher risk hazards and activities thereby protecting employees and the public who may come into contact with those work activities.

## 5. IMPACT ON CORPORATE GOALS

- 5.1 Health and safety enforcement plays a key role in delivering the corporate goal of helping communities to be safe, active and healthy as it helps protect employees and members of the public from hazards and risks that may be incurred in places of work across the Maldon District.

## 6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – Helps protect employees and customers visiting businesses within the Maldon district.
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – Helps protect customers and employees who are disabled as health and safety law has to be applied to all, including vulnerable groups.
- (iii) **Impact on Risk** – By fulfilling its statutory functions, the Council will not suffer reputational damage.
- (iv) **Impact on Resources (financial)** – None.
- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – None, the plan can be delivered with existing resources.
- (vi) **Impact on the Environment** – Health and safety control measures can help improve the local environment by removing hazards and risks.

### Background Papers:

LAC 67/2 (rev 6)

The National Local Authority Enforcement Code May 2013

Essex Health and Safety Work Plan

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