

Licensing and Regulatory Committee

Thursday, 07 April 2016

Matter for Information and Decision

Title: Food Safety and Health and Safety Service Plan 2016-2017

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1. Introduction

The Environmental Health Team is responsible for applying the legislation concerning Food Safety and Health and Safety in the workplace. The national regulatory bodies for these functions are the Food Standards Agency (FSA) and the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) both of which require enforcement authorities to prepare an annual service plan.

2. Recommendation

That Members approve the Borough of Oadby and Wigston Food Safety and Health and Safety Service Plan 2016-2017 (as set out at Appendix 1).

3. Information

- 3.1. The Borough of Oadby and Wigston is the enforcing authority for Health and Safety at commercial premises in the Borough. Similarly the Borough is the enforcing authority for food safety legislation.
- 3.2. The HSE and FSA are the national authorities for the strategic direction of the two services and they both require local enforcing authorities to follow mandatory guidance for the provision of the services. This power is exercised through "Section 18" guidance in the case of HSE and "the Food Law Code of Practice" issued by the FSA.
- 3.3. Both agencies require the enforcing authorities to produce an annual service plan. As the information required in the plans is similar and, in the case of this authority the services are delivered by the same staff in the Environmental Health Team, the plans are combined into one document.
- 3.4. The Service Plan is a statement of service objectives that identifies key service delivery issues, links to resource planning, sets objectives and provides a means of managing performance and performance comparisons. Because the staffing arrangements for the Team will not be fully completed before the start of the financial year there are elements of the plan that will need to be reviewed during the year but the core services should not be affected by this.
- 3.5. The 2016/17 Plan is attached in Appendix 1 and the 'Leicestershire Food Liaison Group Work Plan 2016' is attached in Appendix 2 for Members' information.

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Implications	
Financial	The financial implications of providing the base services are taken into account in the annual budget. Any unplanned events such as a major food poisoning outbreak or death at work investigation would be subject to separate financial controls.
Legal	The Council is required to adopt the plans and to provide the relevant services within the legislative framework of the central agencies.
Risk	There would be a reputational risk in not properly controlling the health risks to the public and of public action by the agencies in not adopting plans.
Equalities	The plans apply equally to all relevant premises and persons in the Borough.