

ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO AND DECISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE ON 23 SEPTEMBER 2021

REPORT

SUBJECT: Health and Safety Service Plan

REPORT AUTHOR: Neil Williamson, Environmental Health Team Manager

DATE: 19 August 2021

EXTN: 01903 737676

AREA: Technical Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) requires Councils to publish a service plan setting out a health and safety intervention programme for the year.

The proposed service plan outlines Arun's health and safety priorities for 2021/22, this significantly includes maintaining arrangements to support COVID-19 compliance.

The proposed Health and Safety Service Plan for 2021/22 is attached and is recommended for adoption.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Health and Safety Service Plan for 2021/22 is adopted.

1. BACKGROUND:

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) requires Councils to publish a service plan setting out a health and safety intervention programme for the year.

During 2020/21 significant resources were dedicated to supporting COVID-19, in particular ensuring workplaces operated in a COVID-secure manner. A wide range of activities were employed to support businesses and provided public reassurance that necessary standards were being employed. This included carrying out more than 1500 visits to provide advice, guidance and to verify standards, working in partnership with the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) to conduct spot checks on nearly 800 businesses, and responding to more than 300 COVID related service requests.

The proposed service plan outlines Arun's health and safety priorities for 2021/22, this significantly includes maintaining arrangements to support COVID-19 compliance. Whilst most legal requirements relating to COVID-19 were revoked on 19 July at Step 4, obligations under health and safety at work legislation to carry out a risk assessment, and

to control the risk from COVID-19, remain. The plan proposes continuation of further spot checks in partnership with HSE and maintaining proactive COVID marshal patrols.

Prioritised accident investigation and complaint investigation services will be maintained, in addition to preventative work including gas safety awareness within catering.

2. PROPOSAL(S):

That the Health and Safety Service Plan for 2021/22 is adopted.

3. OPTIONS:

1. Amend and adopt the health and safety service plan.
2. Do not adopt the health and safety service plan.

4. CONSULTATION:

Has consultation been undertaken with:	YES	NO
Relevant Town/Parish Council		X
Relevant District Ward Councillors		X
Other groups/persons (please specify)		X

5. ARE THERE ANY IMPLICATIONS IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL POLICIES: (Explain in more detail at 6 below)

	YES	NO
Financial	X	
Legal	X	
Human Rights/Equality Impact Assessment	X	
Community Safety including Section 17 of Crime & Disorder Act	X	
Sustainability		X
Asset Management/Property/Land		X
Technology		X
Other (please explain)		X

6. IMPLICATIONS:

Failure to establish a service plan for 2021/22 means that Arun will not meet its statutory obligations to publish an approved service plan and creates potential safety risks to our community due to the absence of an agreed health and safety intervention programme.

Delivery of this service plan can be met within existing budgets included maintaining additional resources allocated to support COVID compliance.

7. REASON FOR THE DECISION:

Adopting the health and safety service plan will ensure that Arun meets its statutory

obligations and establishes a commitment to resource and deliver the proposed health and safety interventions for 2021/22, aimed at protecting the safety of our community.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Health & Safety Service Plan 2021/22

Equality Impact Assessment Health and Safety Service Plan