

AGENDA ITEM: 4.5

Pages 56 – 60

Meeting	Corporate Health and Safety Joint Negotiation and Consultation Committee
Date	15 March 2012
Subject	Deputy Chief Executive's Service Annual Health & Safety Report
Report of	Deputy Chief Executive
Summary	This report updates the Committee on the progress against the health and safety priorities set by the Deputy Chief Executive's Service for 2011/12 and sets out the key health and safety priorities for the Chief Executive's Service for 2012/13.
Officer Contributors	Mike Koumi, Head of Safety, Health and Wellbeing
Status (public or exempt)	Public
Wards affected	Not Applicable
Enclosures	Appendix A – Health, Safety and Welfare Annual Report – Deputy Chief Executives Service
For decision by	Corporate Health and Safety Joint Negotiation and Consultation Committee
Function of	Not applicable
Reason for urgency / exemption from call-in	Not applicable
Contact for further information: Mike Koumi, 020 8359 7960	

1. RECOMMENDATION

1.1 That the report be noted.

2. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS

2.1 Corporate Health & Safety JNCC – 7 March 2011, agenda item 4.4

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 All initiatives contained within this report contribute to the Deputy Chief Executive Services Business Plan. This report seeks not only to ensure the provision of robust health and safety management systems and compliance with statutory duties but drive business improvement which will in turn contribute to the corporate priority of 'better services with less money'
- 3.2 The Corporate Priority, 'Sharing opportunities and sharing responsibilities', includes the strategic objective to 'improve health outcomes for all'. This report aims to help meet these goals by setting standards to demonstrate how the Deputy Chief Executive's Service is working to comply with its duties under The Health and Safety at Work Act of 1974. This Act seeks to ensure not only the protection of all who may be affected by Council activity but also the participation of all stakeholders in that aim.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 4.1 This report sets out the work undertaken to date and the further work planned for 2012/13 in order to ensure that the Deputy Chief Executive's Service complies with its general duty of care to employees as required by the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974. Failure to comply with statutory obligations could lead to prosecution. Any work practices that result in ill health could result in civil action against the Council, financial loss and negative public relations. Good management and leadership are vital in ensuring effective service delivery and high levels of health and safety in the Council, and this new arrangement has been designed to help the Council to manage health and safety more effectively.

5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 5.1 The actions undertaken and those further actions planned which are set out in this report represent the Deputy Chief Executive's Service's intention to comply with the Council's Health, Safety and Welfare Policy. This policy aims to ensure the protection of employees and anyone else who may come into contact with our activities and services. This includes people at special risk for example people with disabilities, pregnant women and vulnerable service users. The Policy also seeks to enhance Barnet's reputation as a good place to work and live, and aims to protect employees and service users taking regard of age, disability, ethnicity, faith/belief, gender, and sexual orientation.
- 5.2 The Policy supports the Council in meeting its statutory equality duties and compliance with the range of employment (equality) regulations.

6. USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (Finance, Procurement, Performance & Value for Money, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 6.1 Any additional risk assessments, training or equipment costs which may be required to comply with the initiatives outlined in appendix A will be incorporated within the Deputy Chief Executive's Service's existing budget

7. LEGAL ISSUES

- 7.1 None other than those contained in the body of this report.

8. CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS

- 8.1. Constitution – Council Procedure Rules – Section 3 – Panels & Consultative Bodies – Appendix 2 – Constitution of the Corporate Health & Safety Joint Negotiation and Consultation Committee.
- 8.2 The Council has established consultative bodies for the purpose of consultation with the trade unions and has determined their Constitutions and Terms of Reference.

9. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 9.1 All Directorates are required to submit annual reports to the Corporate Health and Safety JNCC as required by Arrangement 7 of the Corporate Health, Safety and Welfare Policy.
- 9.2 Due to changes in the corporate structure, the Deputy Chief Executives Service was newly formed and therefore had no substantive historical data or Health and Safety plans for the previous 12 months to report to this committee on the 7 March 2011. Agreement had, therefore, been reached that the Services would report their Health and Safety priorities for the following 12 months to that meeting.
- 9.3 The report attached at appendix A outlines progress on those priorities and the Service initiatives for the next 12 months.

10. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 None

Legal: PBP
CFO: JH/MC