

**TO: COUNCIL**  
**17 SEPTEMBER 2014**

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**FOOD LAW ENFORCEMENT PLAN 2014 - 2015**  
**Director of Environment, Culture and Communities**

**1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To consider and ratify the draft Food Law Enforcement Plan for 2014-2015 in accordance with the Council Constitution, part 2, section 3, paragraph 3.1(a). The Plan addresses local delivery of enforcement and advice within the areas food hygiene, food standards and animal foodstuff.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 **That the Council notes the supporting information and ratifies the Food Law Enforcement Plan for 2014-15 (Annex A).**

**3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 It is a requirement under the Food Standards Act 1999 to ensure that national priorities and standards are delivered effectively and consistently at a local level. The proposed Work Plan for 2014-15 is included from page 17 of the Plan.

**4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 4.1 None, the production of an annual plan is a legal requirement.

**5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 5.1 This Plan incorporates the outturn for the plan approved in 2013-14 and covers the intentions for food safety enforcement for the 2014-15 year. The Plan has to be able to reflect a refocusing of priorities identified by the Food Standards Agency and includes the control of E-coli through new FSA Guidance, and other matters that have arisen from new legislation or intelligence.
- 5.2 Food law enforcement is a function of the Environmental Health and Trading Standards Sections. The Borough currently has over 1,190 food premises where it is responsible for ensuring compliance with the Food Safety Act 1990, the European Communities Act 1972 and associated Regulations. A risk rating is allocated to all food premises in accordance with Statutory Codes of Practice to ensure that all relevant premises are inspected according to risk. Doing so meets the requirement of the Food Standard Agency's 5-year inspection programme. Some of the Borough's premises are deemed sufficiently low risk and therefore are not subject to routine inspection. In such instances alternative strategies are deployed such as the provision of information and advice through the use of newsletters, mailshots and seminars. The outturn for the year 2013-14 is attached to the report as Part 2 from page 11, whilst the work programme for 2014-15 is included from page 17 of the Plan.
- 5.3 Progress against the Plan is measured internally monthly and progress reported to Members in the Performance Management Report. The Plan is also underpinned by written procedures and regular quality monitoring to ensure effective service delivery.

## **6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS**

### Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 The relevant legal provisions are contained within the main body of the report.

### Borough Treasurer

- 6.2 The Borough Treasurer is satisfied that no significant financial implications arise from this report.

### Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.3 The Plan targets premises based on the history of risk and identified need. Where issues of equality may arise, provision is made to help as may be necessary. The activity is regulatory and the plan will be covered by the overarching document entitled Enforcement Policy 2014 and the Equalities Impact Assessment (Executive May 2012).

### Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.4 There are no strategic risk management issues relating to this report.

## **7 CONSULTATION**

### Principal Groups Consulted

- 7.1 The nature of the Plan is such that we have consultation with stakeholders after its adoption. All feedback is taken into account and helps inform the Plan's future development.

### Method of Consultation

- 7.2 The Plan will be published on the Council's website after Council approval and comments will be invited. The Plan will remain on the website so that further comments can be received and considered when drawing up the Plan for 2015/16.

### Representations Received

- 7.3 N/A.

### Background Papers

Food Law Enforcement Plan 2013-14

Framework Agreement on Local Authority Food Law Enforcement (2003 as amended)

### Contact for further information

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