



**HEALTH AND SAFETY PANEL  
11 NOVEMBER 2015  
3.30 - 4.00 PM**

**Present:**

Councillor Tullett (Chairman)

**Employer's Representatives:**

Andy Anderson, Health & Safety Manager  
Andrew Deacon, Adult Social Care, Health & Housing  
Kim Stevens, Environment, Culture & Communities  
Tony Madden, Chief Officer Human Resources  
Paul Young, Children, Young People & Learning

**Employees' Representatives:**

Cliff Mandville, ASCL  
Tom Wheaton, NUT  
Fred Jones, NUT

**Apologies for absence were received from:**

Carly Mabbott, UNISON  
Graham Jackson, NASUWT

**17. Minutes and Matters Arising**

The minutes of the meeting on 3 June 2015 were approved as a correct record.

Matters Arising

Minute 12:

Children, Young People & Learning: It was reported that all schools had been contacted in June 2015 to remind them of their responsibilities around preventing finger trapping.

**18. A Discussion on the Future Format and Timing of the Health & Safety Panel Meetings**

The Chairman reported that following discussions with the Chief Officer: Human Resources and other officers, it was clear that the role and future of the Health & Safety Panel needed to be reviewed. The intended role of the Panel was to establish a line of communication with trade unions, allowing any health and safety issues to be resolved. In practice, the trade unions were not raising any issues or feeding anything into the meetings as issues were being dealt with in other ways. Trade unions would typically contact officers directly if they had any issues and this was working well. In addition, departmental safety groups were already feeding information into their departmental management teams and this was considered sufficient. The Panel was poorly attended and had become ineffective.

Officers and trade unions agreed that there was enough infrastructure in place within the Council to allow sufficient health and safety reporting and to allow any issues to be dealt with in a timely and effective manner.

**The Panel agreed that the Health and Safety Panel be suspended for 12 months, pending any urgent request from trade unions for an issue to be discussed. After 12 months, a decision would be taken as to whether the Panel could be disbanded.**

19. **Date of Next Meeting**

To be confirmed – November 2016

**CHAIRMAN**