



CORPORATE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE - 20TH NOVEMBER 2017

SUBJECT: ELECTRICAL SAFETY POLICY

REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Committee Members approval for the draft policy for Electrical Safety prior to the report being referred to Cabinet for consideration.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) made recommendations regarding the need for a policy setting out the Authority's commitment to and arrangement for managing electrical safety following a RIDDOR reportable electrical incident, and subsequent electrical safety spot checks by HSE Inspectors. Since the HSE's visits improvements have been made in managing electrical safety and the Electrical Safety Policy has been drafted by Property Services and Health and Safety which reflect the arrangements currently in place.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The report links to the Authority's statutory duties in relation to managing the risks associated with electrical work and electrical installations.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 Work on and maintenance of electrical systems is fundamental to the safe and efficient operation of CCBC premises and maintenance of services. The main hazards of working with electricity are:
- electric shock and burns from contact with live parts,
 - injury from exposure to arcing,
 - fire from faulty electrical equipment or installations,
 - explosion caused by unsuitable electrical apparatus or static electricity igniting flammable vapours or dusts.
- 4.2 The draft policy details the role and responsibilities at all levels for managing the risks associated with electricity, electrical work and inspecting electrical equipment/installations.
- 4.3 The draft policy details the practical measures which will be undertaken to control the risks including:
- Competence of employees working on or near to electrical equipment
 - Selection of electrical contractors and testing personnel

- Selection and use of equipment
- Deciding whether to work with the electrical installation dead or live
- Planning and preparation for both dead and live working
- Asbestos and electrical work
- Arrangements for inspection and testing of fixed electrical systems in council premises
- Arrangements for inspection and testing of fixed electrical systems for council highway power supplies
- Electrical permits-to-work.

4.4 Compliance with the policy will enable the Authority to meet its obligations under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989.

5. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

5.1 This report contributes to the Well-being Goals as set out in Links to Strategy above. It is consistent with the five ways of working as defined within the sustainable development principle in the Act in that we will seek to prevent accidents and incidents occurring through proactively managing electrical risk in accordance with HSE legislation and guidance. This will assist in safeguarding the health and safety of our employees, residents, service users and visitors and ensure that the Council as a public body and social landlord meets its regulatory duties and corporate objectives.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no equalities implications.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no direct financial implications.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no direct personnel implications.

9. CONSULTATIONS

9.1 The report reflects the views of the listed consultees.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 That the contents of this report are noted and the draft policy approved and referred to Cabinet for consideration.

11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 To ensure that the Authority meets its statutory responsibilities under Health and Safety law.

12. STATUTORY POWER

12.1 Not applicable to this report.

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Appendix 1 Electrical Safety Policy