

CORPORATE SAFETY COMMITTEE – 23RD OCTOBER 2003

SUBJECT: ACTION BY THE ENFORCING AUTHORITIES

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF THE ENVIRONMENT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Members, Management and Trade Union Safety Representatives of visits to Council premises Officers of the H.S.E. and the resulting action.

2. SUMMARY

2.1 Officers of the Health and Safety Executive have made a number of visits to this authority following reports of breaches of health and safety legislation.

2.2 An Officer visited a play area following an accident to a member of the public. A small boy was apparently struck by a metal bar, which fell from an item of play equipment. The report on the incident, which concluded that the accident occurred as a result of vandalism, criticised the Council's procedure for accepting newly built play areas. The procedure has subsequently been amended and the HSE informed of the changes. The HSE appear to be happy with the changes in procedure.

2.3 An Officer visited a Council house in Cefn Fforest to investigate a tragic, fatal accident to a small child, who was struck by a garden wall, which had collapsed. The Officer took possession of the sections of the wall and the investigation is still ongoing. A full report will be provided to the Committee when the investigation is completed.

2.4 It has become necessary to inform the Health and Safety Executive of incidents in a number of schools which have resulted in contractors being possibly exposed to asbestos dust. The enforcing Authority is currently investigating these occurrences and has interviewed a number of employees. A full report will be provided to Committee when the investigation is complete.

2.5 An Officer of the Fire Authority inspected a building, which is used by staff employed by a number of different service areas. Due to a change in legislation the building now requires to have a fire alarm fitted. The Fire Authority has issued an Enforcement Notice, requiring that a suitable system is provided and works are in hand to ensure compliance.

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