

## **CORPORATE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE – 13TH OCTOBER 2004**

**SUBJECT: SAFETY OF MACHINERY IN SCHOOLS**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND LEISURE**

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to update Members, Management and Trade Union Safety Representatives on the issue of safety of machinery in schools. The report details the remedial action taken to date to ensure the safety of staff and pupils using machinery in schools.

### **2. THE REPORT**

- 2.1 The issue of machinery safety in schools was raised in the Corporate Health and Safety Committee Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2004 where it was estimated that 30% of machinery in schools would not be compliant with Provision and Use of Work Equipment 1998.

- 2.2 A machinery survey was sent to all secondary schools to identify machinery being used which would fall outside current legal requirements. The issue in question related to the run down times of moving blades on woodworking machinery. The survey has been completed by schools, community education establishments etc. and returned, currently there are four schools which will be effected by the requirements (became illegal to use after December 2003):-

St Martins School	-	Tenoning Machine needs to be fitted with a breaking mechanism
St Cenydd School	-	Circular Saw needs to be fitted with a breaking mechanism
Bedwas High School	-	Tenoning Machine needs to be fitted with a breaking mechanism and localised emergency stop
Heolddu School	-	Circular Saw and Tenoning Machine need to be fitted with a breaking mechanism

- 2.3 The machinery in question has been isolated from its power source, this has been confirmed by each school.
- 2.4 It is envisaged that the machinery involved will undergo remedial work (fitting of a DC breaking device) over the half term period after which they will be reinstated.
- 2.5 The second phase machinery survey for items which will become illegal to use after December 2004 will be issued this month with a view of undertaking any remedial work over the Christmas holiday. This will avoid having to isolate machinery and disrupt curriculum activity.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

3.1 That the contents of the report be noted.

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