

CORPORATE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE – 4TH APRIL 2005

SUBJECT: RECENT HSE UPDATES

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 recent updates in Health and Safety information, advice and guidance.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The HSE have decided to harmonise commencement dates for new health and safety legislation. From 2005, domestic legislation will be implemented on two days each year: 6 April and 1 October. This will not apply to legislation arising from EU Directives, however where possible the HSE will align such legislation with common commencement dates.
- 2.2 Working at Height Legislation – new draft Working at Height Regulations are currently with the Minister and are expected to come into force in April. The HSE has decided to remove the 2metre rule meaning a risk assessment needs to be carried out prior to deciding on precautions for all working at height and no specific prescriptive requirements will be applicable to work at 2 metres or above.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That the contents of the report be noted.

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