

## **CORPORATE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE - 4TH JULY 2005**

**SUBJECT: RECENT HEALTH AND SAFETY UPDATES**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF THE ENVIRONMENT**

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### **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 Health and Safety Executive (HSE) has published a Discussion Document on The Review of The Reporting of Injuries Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995. The document contains no formal proposals for changes to the regulations but has identified possible changes that might benefit duty holders and the enforcing Authorities. These changes include: a consideration of whether to make at work traffic accidents reportable under RIDDOR and the removal of the current requirement to report major injuries and replace it with a requirement to report all work related over three day absences. The discussion ends on the 30th June after which the Health and Safety Commission will decide the way forward.
- 2.2 The Health and Safety Commission has published a consultative document setting out proposals for new regulations to consolidate and replace the Construction (Design and Management) and Construction (Health Safety and Welfare) (CHSW) regulations. The proposals aim to:
- simplify the Regulations to improve clarity and make it easier for everyone to know what is expected of them;
  - maximise their flexibility to fit with the vast range of contractual arrangements;
  - focus on planning and management, rather than 'the plan' and other paperwork;
  - encourage co-ordination and co-operation, particularly between designers and contractors; and
  - simplify the assessment of the competence of organisations.
- 2.3 The consultation closes on 29th July 2005. If responses indicate a general support for the proposals, the aim is to have the new Regulations in place by October 2006.

### **3. RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 That the contents of the report be noted.

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