



CORPORATE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE – 18TH APRIL 2007

SUBJECT: HEALTH AND SAFETY EXECUTIVE ACTION

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 Health and Safety Executive visits and associated actions.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The HSE have indicated that they are happy with the action taken to meet the requirements of the Improvement Notice issued following the Hafordynys Minibus fatality. The improvement notice has now been lifted.
- 2.2 Work is currently in progress to meet the requirements of the refuse/recycling improvement notice. The HSE have agreed the format for the route risk assessments and have extended the date for compliance with notice until June 2007.
- 2.3 The HSE recently visited the Authority to monitor compliance with recommendation made following last year's schools transport inspection. The HSE have indicated they are happy with the Authorities Strategy and Action plan. Much work has been done within Education/Leisure to ensure a representative on each school site is trained to carry out traffic management risk assessments.
- 2.4 There was a recent minor explosion at Heolddu Comprehensive School in Bargoed. A teacher and 4 pupils were taken to hospital as a precautionary measure. The HSE have been notified of the incident and a copy of the investigation report will be forwarded to them as soon as possible.
- 2.5 The HSE issued a prohibition notice on the Authority at Cefn Fforest Leisure Centre in January following roofwork being carried out by a contractor on an unguarded roof. A meeting with the HSE has taken place and work is taking place to address their recommendation regarding selection of contractors, monitoring and client responsibilities.
- 2.6 The HSE recently visited Social Services following an accident involving a service user falling from a shower chair. The HSE were happy with the accident investigation and processes however made some recommendations regarding the need to put in place a process to review whether a service users needs have changed which would then trigger a revised Occupational Therapist assessment. The HSE indicated they were happy with work taking place around manual handling and arrangements for training key handlers to monitor and supervise practise in the workplace.

2.7 The HSE are currently undergoing a significant restructure meaning we will be having a new HSE Inspector to lead on accident/inspections. The HSE are meeting on 30th March and should release details of their work programme for 2007/08 shortly afterwards. The HSE have indicated their 2007/08 workplan will include Local Authority inspections on Asbestos, Manual Handling and Violence at Work.

3. RECOMMENDATION

3.1 That the contents of the report be noted.

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Councillor David Poole, Cabinet Member