

## **CORPORATE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE – 10TH OCTOBER 2007**

**SUBJECT: RECENT HSE 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 Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act 2007 was given Royal Assent on 26th July 2007. This was achieved after the Lords accepted a timescale of three years for the inclusion in the Act of deaths in police and prison custody. This Act will allow companies and organisations to be found guilty of corporate manslaughter on the basis of gross corporate failures in health and safety. The Act itself is due to come into force in April 2008.
- 2.2 The Health and Safety Executive have issued a new free leaflet entitled, 'Managing 'task and finish' to reduce safety risks'. This leaflet is aimed at waste and recycling collection round managers, their supervisory staff, and safety professionals within the industry and provides advice on what actions can be taken to ensure that the practice of 'task and finish' is properly managed and controlled so that the health and safety of workers is not adversely effected.
- 2.3 The National Health Service (NHS) can now claw back the cost of treating those injured in workplace accidents. This has been made possible by the introduction of the Injury Cost Recovery Scheme Regulations 2006, which allow the NHS to recover costs incurred in treating these who have received personal injury compensation. This scheme works in a similar way to the Road Traffic Act Scheme that allows the NHS to recover costs of treating people injured in road traffic accidents if they have successfully claimed compensation. The costs will be recovered from the insurers who say that premiums may rise as a result.

### **3. RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 That the contents of the report be noted.

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