



CORPORATE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE – 10TH OCTOBER 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 route risk assessment inspection. The improvement notice has now been lifted.
- 2.2 Work is ongoing to improve the way the Authority manages contractors following the HSE issuing a prohibition notice on the Authority at Cefn Fforest Leisure Centre in January. A working group chaired by Stuart Bates, Head of Property has been meeting regularly to progress the HSE's recommendations regarding selection of contractors, monitoring of contractors and client responsibilities. A report will be taken to CMT shortly outlining the issues and recommending action to ensure compliance with the HSE's recommendations and the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007.
- 2.3 Work is ongoing to action the HSE's expectations regarding asbestos management. The content of a leaflet for tenants of council houses has been agreed and training is ongoing to ensure all those required to respond to queries from tenants are able to respond accordingly. A meeting with the HSE on Asbestos Management Plans recently took place and the content of both the Authority's Asbestos Management Plan and Asbestos Management Plan for Domestic Areas and Communal Areas of Domestic Areas were agreed subject to minor changes.
- 2.4 The HSE have contacted the Authority to follow up on a number of complaints and accidents. These include an asbestos complaint, follow up of an electric shock incident, follow up after a complaint regarding a sub contract mini bus company that we use and to investigate the condition of a playground.
- 2.5 The HSE have indicated they intend to inspect on Manual Handling compliance at the beginning of January 2008. The inspection will focus on manual handling practise as opposed to paperwork and there is an intention to look at training and provision of manual handling equipment. Areas likely to be inspected include Homecare and Residential Care, Special Educational Needs, Building Maintenance, NCS and Parks. Other areas e.g. Libraries and IT could also be subject to inspection.

- 2.6 The HSE also intend to carry out an inspection on Stress Management before the end of March 2008.
- 2.7 The HSE have undergone a significant restructure and as a result Caerphilly County Borough Council have been allocated a new Inspector. Steve Lewis has taken over this function from Sian Clayton and will be invited to January's meeting to address the group.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That the contents of the report be noted.

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Councillor David Poole, Cabinet Member