



CORPORATE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE – 13TH FEBRUARY 2008

SUBJECT: RECENT HSE UPDATES

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

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 Commission has launched a 'Simplification Plan' which aims at helping employers and employees concentrate on improving outcomes rather than bureaucratic processes. This years work plan involves reviewing overlaps and duplication in the requirements for organisations to have a health and safety policy document and clarification of the Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 to ensure safe movement of loads by employees without unnecessary or disproportionate costs on employers. The project is due to run until 2010 and the plan will be updated annually and new initiatives added as they are developed. Full details of the plan can be downloaded from www.hse.gov.uk/simplification.
- 2.2 The HSC/E has published its report on the Health and Safety statistics 2006/07 for the U.K. The report presents the top level statistics, details of enforcement activity and includes details on progress against targets set in the 'Revitalising Health and Safety' strategy. The document itself is available at www.hse.gov.co.uk. The Key points of 2006/07 are:

Ill health

- 2.2 million people were suffering from an illness they believed was caused or made worse by their current or past work.
- 646,000 of these were new cases in the last 12 months.

Injuries

- 241 workers were killed at work
- 141,350 other injuries to employees were reported under RIDDOR
- 274,000 reportable injuries occurred

Working days lost

- 36 million days were lost overall (1.5 days per worker), 30 million due to work related ill health and 6 million due to workplace injury.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That the contents of the report be noted.

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Councillor Gwyn Price, Cabinet Member for Human Resources and
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