



## **CORPORATE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE – 13TH FEBRUARY 2008**

**SUBJECT: HEALTH AND SAFETY EXECUTIVE ACTION**

**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 Health and Safety Executive visits and associated actions.

### **2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The HSE inspected the Authority on Manual Handling compliance on 15/16/17 January 2008. The inspection included Special Educational Needs, Residential Care and Domiciliary Care, Building Maintenance and NCS.
- 2.2 Initial feedback from the HSE is that they are happy with the Authority's arrangements for people handling. With regard to inanimate load handling, improvements are required regarding simplifying documentation and improving control measures in NCS and Building Maintenance. The HSE also require the provision of mechanical lifting aids for paving works in NCS. The HSE has indicated that they expect improvements to be made in the next 4-6 weeks to avoid them issuing an Improvement Notice. Improvements in arrangements for monitoring of manual handling practices are required across all Directorates. A formal report is expected shortly and the Manual Handling Sub-Group will review how the recommendations can be implemented across all Service Areas.
- 2.3 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 outlining the issues and recommending action was recently agreed by CMT.
- 2.4 Work is ongoing to action the HSE's expectations regarding asbestos management. The leaflet for tenants of council houses has been distributed and any queries arising as a result have been actioned. Work to survey a % of council houses for asbestos is due to commence shortly.

### **3. RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 That the contents of the report be noted.

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Gareth Hardacre, Head of People Management and Development  
Councillor Gwyn Price, Cabinet Member for Human Resources and  
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