



CORPORATE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE - 5TH JANUARY 2009

**SUBJECT: DRAFT LATEX POLICY AND CORPORATE MANAGEMENT
ARRANGEMENTS FOR RISK ASSESSMENT**

REPORT BY: CORPORATE HEALTH AND SAFETY UNIT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Members, Management and Trade Union Safety Representatives of the revised and updated Health and Safety Policy on the Use of Latex at Work and associated Corporate Management Arrangements.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Authority currently has in place a Latex Policy, which was introduced in January 2005 and revised in April 2006.
- 2.2 The existing policy has been updated to reflect the new format of a briefer more concise policy covering commitment and responsibilities and separate corporate management arrangements
- 2.3 The policy (attached as appendix 1) sets out the Authority's commitment to eliminating the use of gloves or equipment containing latex in the workplace and also details responsibilities. The corporate management arrangements (attached as appendix 2) cover the practicalities of how the risk can be controlled e.g. substitution with non-latex products, risk assessments, provision of information to staff, health surveillance.
- 2.4 The revised policy and corporate management arrangements have been subject to minor changes, which are primarily small working changes and also take into account updated guidance from the HSE regarding different types of latex allergies. A summary of the changes is attached as appendix 3.
- 2.5 This policy and management arrangements have been subject to consultation with the following groups:
- Health and Safety Professionals Group
 - Corporate Health and Safety Group
 - Management consultation via Directorate Health and Safety Officers
 - Direct Union Consultation
 - HR Strategy Group

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That the contents of the report be noted and the policy and corporate management arrangements be agreed or agreed subject to amendments so that the documents can be communicated to managers and employees.

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Councillor Allan Pritchard, Cabinet Member for Human Resources and Constitutional

Appendices:
Appendix 1 Draft Latex Policy
Appendix 2 Corporate Management Arrangements
Appendix 3 Summary of the Changes