



CORPORATE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE – 11TH JULY 2016

SUBJECT: SAFETY OF AUTOMATED GATES - UPDATE.

REPORT BY: INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to update the Corporate Health and Safety Group on developments arranged by H&S Officers within maintained Caerphilly Schools, in relation to automatic powered access gates as previously reported in September 2014 and February 2015. This is a further update in 2016.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 In Bridgend, on July 3rd 2010, a five year old girl was killed when she became trapped and crushed to death by an electric gate. The Health and Safety Executive have recently provided findings to the case. The child was trapped because :
- Their presence in the vicinity of the closing edge was not detected.
 - The closing force of the gate when they obstructed it was not limited to the values specified in standard BS EN 12453:2001.
 - The higher level of risk is considered to be those installed at Primary schools due to the number of children accessing and egressing the schools sites compared to the Depot sites, which are generally populated by adults.
 - Health & Safety originally reported the level of non - compliance relating to the Local Authority installations in September 2014. The Health and Safety Section and Risk Management in consultation with Building Consultancy decided to commission independent reports for each site. These were completed on 20th & 21st January 2015. The report cost the Health and Safety & Risk Management areas £2.5k to commission.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The report links to the Authority's statutory duties in relation to Local Authority maintained education premises/activities.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 Originally, a total of 10 Inspections were completed, of which 7 were Primary schools between June and August 2014. Subsequently two further sites have been identified; one is an Authority Depot site and one at Llancaeath Manor House. These are not in the Education Directorate.
- 4.2 An H&S Audit in 2014, indicated a high level of non-compliance with the BS EN 12453 standard for design, installation and maintenance of powered gates. Schools have subsequently received, during 2015, individual reports and feedback on remedial actions required.
- 4.3 Schools will be required to maintain the gates to BS EN 12453 standard. The Authority will monitor the pressure testing maintenance of the gates via the RAMIS system and every two years via the school management audits.
- 4.4 The current position from the inspection programme is as follows with only one school (Bryn Primary) is now outstanding. The gates have been kept on manual operation for the whole period. The delays in progressing the improvements on these gates is due to a dispute around damage that occurred to the gates in an unrelated incident and who would therefore pay for the repair and upgrade the electrics. An agreement has been reached with the school and it is expected that the matter will be completed very soon.
- 4.5 In the interim period, one secondary school (Lewis Girls) has installed a new set of powered gates for traffic control purposes on a compact site. The school were provided with all the necessary standards and safety requirements that they were required to meet prior to the contractor installation.
- 4.6 These gates will be picked up on a school general inspection for compliance with the necessary BS standards and pressure testing, as all schools will be re-inspected as part of the two year rolling programme of general inspections by SLA or Core Officers.
- 4.7 The current situation for schools is:

| School | Current Status Manual or Powered | Independent Report Issued | Completed or In progress | Pressure Test Completed |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Bryn Primary | Manual | 27.03.2015 | In Progress | Outstanding |
| YG Gilfach Fargoed | Manual | 27.03.2015 | Completed | Not required Set to Manual Disconnected |
| Ty – Sign | Powered | 27.03.2015 | Completed | Ongoing each service |
| Pantside | Powered | 27.03.2015 | Completed | Ongoing each service |
| YG Penalltau | Powered | 27.03.2015 | Completed | Ongoing each service |
| Ystrad Mynach | Powered | 27.03.2015 | Completed | Ongoing each service |
| Ysgol Cwm Derwen | Powered | 27.03.2015 | Completed | Ongoing each service |
| Lewis Girls | Powered | Not required new install | Completed | On going each service |

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no Equalities implications for the Council arising from this report.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no direct financial implications for the Council arising from this report.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no direct personnel implications arising from this report.

8. CONSULTATIONS

8.1 All consultations have been reflected in the report.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 That the contents of this report are noted by Committee members.

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