

REPORT TO: Corporate Policy & Performance Board
DATE: 20 October 2015
REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Community & Resources
PORTFOLIO: Resources
SUBJECT: Corporate Health and Safety Policy
WARDS: Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To provide and interim report on the performance of health safety management within the Authority from 1st April 2015 to 1st September 2015.

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That:

(1) The interim report be noted; and

(2) if deemed necessary, PPB makes recommendations to the Executive Board.

3.0 BACKGROUND and PROPOSALS

3.1 The interim health and safety report on the performance of health safety management for the current financial year is appended for Corporate Services Policy & Performance Board's consideration.

3.2 It provides national and local health and safety information including a physical and racist attack which happened to one of the Council's social workers.

3.3 In summary the report highlights that there have been year by year increases in the number of risk assessments being undertaken, which is positive.

3.4 However, it also highlights that for the same period last year there has been an increase in the number of 'significant' accidents and verbal violent incidents. There is also an increase in the number of days lost with 166 this year compared to 15 days for the same period last year. This is predominantly due to 2 particular incidents; a manual handling accident and the violent incident referred to above.

3.5 Finally, it contains addendum reports on both the results and actions from the corporate Stress Survey, together with a benchmarking

exercise undertaken across other Unitary Authorities comparing the frequency of incidents.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no direct financial implications associated with the report, although this is clearly a cost to the Council of staff absences from work.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The management of health and safety for employees and others affected by the Council's actions is a legal responsibility required by the Health and Safety Act 1974.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL

6.1 The provision of a safe working environment and reduction in accidents is important in order to provide,

- A Healthy Halton
- A Safer Halton
- Efficient and Effective Delivery of Services

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 Accidents which lead to lost time have financial implications for the Authority (although these are always secondary to our concern for the well-being of staff and customers).

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1. There are no direct equality and diversity issues arising from this report.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

9.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.