

AGENDA

**REPORT TO
AUDIT & GOVERNANCE
COMMITTEE
30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

**REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF
CORPORATE SERVICES**

HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the health, safety and wellbeing performance of the Council for the period 1 July 2024 – 30 August 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

1. The current position as identified in the report is noted.

DETAIL

1. The service has always reported based on activity, it is important that H&S risks are understood and as such reports moving forward will be more aligned to understanding how well H&S risks are being managed.
2. There is a project underway within the team to align the work being undertaken by the team to these core H&S risks to facilitate an assessment of the risks faced by the Council. This work will take some time as it includes the introduction of a new system of recording and planning H&S audit work and we will have a revised audit programme in place for April 2024. As the revised programme of H&S audit work is completed, we will gain a better understanding of the current status of risks.
3. Reports during this implementation period will continue to develop to include more information and a robust method of assessing risk. During this period the assessment of risks will have some limitations.

Health & Safety Risks

4. Below is a summary of the main H&S Risks:

Risk	Audit Assurance	Incidents Recorded	Training Delivered	Other Comments
Asbestos Management	100%			
Culture	100%			Work is being undertaken to refresh the H&S policy and develop an induction programme specifically for new managers, both tasks will help ensure a H&S culture is embedded.
Construction				
Display Screen Equipment			50	
Electrical Safety	90%			
Equipment, Machinery & Plant			See Comments	Training is delivered via on-site monitoring and "toolbox" talks, numbers currently not recorded.

Fire Safety	70%		35	Revised approach to fire risk management has been proposed in response.
Open Water and Flooding				
Gas Safety				
Hazardous Substances	100%			
Violence & Aggression		5	9	Reduction from 20 in the same period in the previous year.
Legionella	85%		5	
Lone Working				
Noise				
Manual Handling		5	20	
Working at Height	100%			
Vibration				
H&S Risk Assessment		5	7	Generally slips/trips, 1 of these was RIDDOR reportable as it led to an absence in excess of 7 days, the incident was a trip which resulted in a torn leg muscle

Current Audit Programme

5. The revised programme of audit work is now being bedded in and the first results are shown in the table above. Areas of concern are currently focussed around fire risk management which has been identified corporately as requiring improvement. There is currently a task and finish group led by the AD – Procurement & Governance to review current arrangements and put in place improvements. A small number of minor concerns have been raised with regards to Legionella management, specifically the availability of copies of risk assessments on-site.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial - None

Legal - The Health and Safety team enable the Authority to comply with Regulation 7 of the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999, to assist in complying with the requirements and prohibitions imposed under relevant statutory provisions.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The activity of the Health and Safety Team in conjunction with Line Manager's support, contribute to the effective identification and mitigation of a broad range of occupational health and safety risks.

COUNCIL PLAN IMPLICATIONS

None

CONSULTATION

N/A

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Background Papers: Health and Safety Policy 2022

Ward(s) and Ward Councillors: None

Property Implications: None