

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE – 29TH MARCH 2006

FOOD SAFETY PLAN

Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise the Committee of amendments to the Food Safety Plan to reflect new legislative arrangements and to request that the Committee formally approves the Plan which reflects the Food Law and Enforcement policies and procedures as recommended by the Food Standards Agency.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Food Standards Agency is responsible for the overview of Food Safety within the UK and issues guidance on best practice, which includes the adoption of a Food Safety Plan. This is seen as an important part of the process to ensure national priorities and standards are addressed and delivered locally.
- 2.2 The previous plan was approved by this Committee on 5th February 2004 but now needs to be updated to reflect legislative changes. The plan is audited by the Food Standards Agency as part of the auditing of food law enforcement by local authorities.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 The Food Safety Plan provides an expression of the Council's commitment to Food Safety policies and procedures, and demonstrates that the Council is providing a well balanced service. It provides information about how we achieve this as well as setting future objectives.
- 3.2 A copy of the Food Safety Plan can be obtained from the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services, and a copy has also been placed in the Members Information Point.
- 3.3 The amended plan reflects legislative changes as of the 1st January 2006 when the national legislation was replaced by European Legislation.

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Food Safety Plan forms part of the Food Law and Enforcement Policy which will be audited by the Food Standards Agency.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The Food Safety Plan is commensurate with existing Council policy and strategies and the Community Plan Aim 3: To Help People of All Ages to Make Healthy Lifestyle Choices”.

7. CONCLUSION

7.1 The adoption of the amended Food Safety Plan is in accordance with the Framework Agreement on Local Authority Food Law Enforcement.

7.2 The amended Food Safety Plan provides a detailed breakdown of the Food Service provided, how the Council will maintain the service and how this will be reviewed and reflects amendments following legislative changes on 1st January 2006.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 The Committee is invited to:-

- (i) Consider the approval of the amended Food Safety Plan; and
- (ii) Otherwise note the report.

William Stafford
Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

WS/PLT/RRS

10th March 2006

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. East Ayrshire Council: Food Safety Plan

Any person wishing to inspect the above background paper should telephone 01563 576111 and ask to speak to John Crawford, Head of Protective Services.

Implementation Officer – john.crawford@east-ayrshire.gov.uk