

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE – 5th FEBRUARY 2004

FOOD SERVICE PLAN

Report by Director of Community Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise the Committee of slight amendments to the Food Service Plan 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 White Paper "The Food Standards Agency – A Force for Change" identified the Food Standards Agency as having a key role overseeing local authority enforcement activities relative to Food Safety.
- 2.2 The provision of a Food Service Plan is seen as an important part of the process to ensure national priorities and standards are addressed and delivered locally.
- 2.3 This is an updated version of the Food Service Plan which was approved by this Committee on 13 November 2002 and will be audited by the Food Standards Agency as part of the auditing of Food Law Enforcement by local authorities.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 In addition to ensuring that national priorities and standards are addressed and delivered by local authorities, the Food Service Plan will also:
 - 3.1.1 Highlight key service delivery issues
 - 3.1.2 Set future objectives.
 - 3.1.3 Provide a means of managing the performance of the local authority
- 3.2 The Food Service Plan provides information about the Service and how the Service will be provided and reviewed.
- 3.3 The Food Service Plan will demonstrate that the Council is providing a balanced service in respect of Food Safety Enforcement.

- 3.4 The Food Service Plan provides an expression of the Council's commitment to the development of Food Safety policies and procedures
- 3.5 The Food Standards Agency Framework Agreement on Local Authority Food Law Enforcement recommends that Food Service Plans are submitted to committee for approval. A copy of East Ayrshire Council's Food Service Plan has been lodged in the Members' Lounge and individual copies can be obtained from the Director of Community Services.

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Nil

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Food Service Plan is commensurate with existing Council Policy and Strategies.

7. CONCLUSION

- 7.1 The adoption of the amended Food Service Plan is in accordance with the Framework Agreement on Local Authority Food Law Enforcement and will form part of the audit by the Food Standards Agency of local authority Food Law enforcement.
- 7.2 The amended Food Service Plan provides a detailed breakdown of the Food Service provided, how the Council will maintain the service and how this will be reviewed. A copy of the Plan is available for inspection in the Members Lounge.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 The Committee is invited to:-
- (i) Consider the approval of the Food Service Plan; and
 - (ii) Otherwise note the report.

William Stafford
Director of Community Services
WS/GM
14th January, 2004

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. East Ayrshire Council: Food Service Plan

If you require further information on the background paper listed above please contact Paul L. Todd, Principal Officer, Environmental Health and Waste Management on 01563 554021

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