

Subject:	Official Feed and Food Controls Service Plan 2013/14		
Date of Meeting:	9 May 2013 27 March 2013 – Environment & Sustainability Committee		
Report of:	Strategic Director, Place		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Nick Wilmot	Tel: 292157
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Key Decision:	No		
Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

- 1.1 To agree the Official Feed and Food Controls Service Plan previously known as Food Law Enforcement Service Plan required by the Food Standards Agency.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the committee agrees the Official Feed and Food Controls Service Plan 2013/2014 set out in the appendix to this report and recommends it to Full Council for approval.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 The Food Standards Agency's Framework Agreement on Local Authority Food Law Enforcement requires the production and publication of a service plan. Every local authority is required to develop an annual food enforcement service plan, which provides the basis on which local authorities are monitored and audited by the Food Standards Agency.
- 3.2 To ensure local transparency and accountability, it is a requirement that the Official Feed and Food Controls Service Plan is submitted to the relevant member forum for approval.
- 3.3 The attached plan (Appendix A) is an integral part of the organisation of Regulatory Services within Planning and Public Protection.
- 3.4 In accordance with the Standard outlined in the Framework Agreement the food service is a mix of enforcement, intelligence based work, investigation and education. It is planned that a performance targets of completion of 98% of programmed food safety interventions and 90% of service requests responded to within 5 days.

- 3.5 In addition, areas of current good practice, and opportunities for further improvement, have been identified, both in Food Safety and Food Standards, in section 6.3 of the Service Plan. The targeting of resources to these areas of work aims to provide a balanced mix of services, which is most likely to benefit the business sector, consumers and other stakeholders. The service will continue to focus enforcement action on the poorer performing businesses.
- 3.6 The service has built on the partnership work of the Healthy Choice Awards referred to in 3.7.1 to work on a number of healthy eating initiatives with the Director of Public Health. Initiatives such as promotion of reduced salt, portion size and use of Trans fats as part of National Chip Week 18th to 24th February 2013 and the reduction of Monosodium Glutamate in Chinese restaurant and takeaway cooking are planned.

4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Brighton & Hove Food Partnership were consulted during the drafting of this plan

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 The proposed 2013/14 budget for food Safety is £564k. The cost of functions detailed within this report will be met from within this budget.

Finance Officer Consulted: Jeff Coates

Date: 6th February 2013

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The Food Standards Agency places a requirement on local authorities to develop and submit a service plan. Local authorities are audited and assessed by the Food Standards Agency on the basis of their food law enforcement service as provided for in their Service Plans. The Food Safety Act 1990 (Code of Practice) places a requirement on local authorities to operate an inspection rating scheme, which determines frequency of intervention of food premises. The Official Feed and Food Controls Service Plan 2013/14 identifies the planned number of interventions for that period.
- 5.3 The Council's Constitution requires the adoption of the Official Feed and Food Controls Service Plan to be reserved to full Council. It is for the Environment & Sustainability Committee, following consultation with relevant stakeholders and overview and scrutiny, to formulate the Service Plan for submission to full Council for approval.

Lawyer consulted: Elizabeth Culbert

Date: 31st January 2013

Equalities Implications:

- 5.4 An Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken. See 2.4.5 of appendix 1 for profile of food premises registering with the food service during the year 2011/2012. The service is mindful of the greater assistance food business operators require where their first language is not English. Written information, translation and interpreting

services are employed where necessary to assist businesses to comply with regulatory requirements.

Sustainability Implications:

5.5 None.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.6 None

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.7 SMART targets for the food safety service is 98% of due food safety interventions achieved and 85 % of food businesses deemed to be 'broadly compliant'.

Public Health Implications:

5.8 The Food and Feed Service Plan is seen as key to protecting public health in the City. It is in line with the stated outcome to 'reduce health inequalities and long standing public health issues' as part of the priority of tackling inequalities which states that 'we will continue with high profile enforcement of food and health and safety rules, maintaining our excellent record of environmental health improvements.'

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.9 See 1.2 of appendix 1

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

6.1 There is no legal alternative to the statutory service plan.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 In order to comply with the Food Standard Agency Code of Practice.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Draft Official Feed and Food Controls Service Plan 2013/2014.

Documents in Members' Rooms

1. None

Background Documents

1. None