

**FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO:**           **CABINET**

**DATE:**               **TUESDAY, 10 JULY 2012**

**REPORT BY:**       **DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT**

**SUBJECT:**           **FOOD SERVICE PLAN**

**1.00   PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.01   To seek Member approval for the Food Service Plan for Flintshire County Council, which details the service delivery programme for the period 1st April 2012 to 31st March 2013. This Plan includes a review of the Service Plan 2011 and therefore could not be finalised until all the statistical data and all other information was compiled and reviewed for the previous year.

**2.00   BACKGROUND**

2.01   Local authorities throughout the U.K. have been directed by the Food Standards Agency to take the necessary action to implement the Framework Agreement on the Local Authority Food Law Enforcement. This Framework Agreement became operational from 1st April 2001. The Framework has been developed to ensure consistent food law enforcement service throughout the country.

**3.00   CONSIDERATIONS**

3.01   The Service Plan, a copy of which is attached as Appendix A, has been produced by Officers of the Health Protection Service within Public Protection in line with the model format contained within the Framework Agreement. It outlines the proposals for service delivery for the period 1st April 2012 to 31st March 2013 as well as a review of the Service Plan for 2011 with overall performance for 2011 to 2012 shown as Appendix 3 within the Service Plan.

The elements of the Food Service, namely Food Safety, Food Standards and Animal Feeding stuffs, sit under two Team Leaders, both under the responsibilities of the Health Protection Manager within the Public Protection Service.

**Key Achievements for 2011/2012 are as follows:**

- The performance of the Team in 2011/2012 was the team achieved its targets of 100% of High Risk inspections for Food Safety and Food Standards.
- The new business inspections target of 87% for Food Safety was exceeded ,achieving an actual figure of 91%.
- The percentage of businesses broadly compliant with Food Hygiene legislation was maintained at just under 85%.
- Following survey work carried out on the possible substitution of cod for cheaper species of fish, the Team successfully prosecuted a local takeaway selling Panga as Cod.
- The team submitted successful bids for approximately £7400 of grant funding from the Food Standards Agency Wales for both Food Safety Management System Coaching and for Food Standards Sampling Surveys.
- As only a percentage of lower risk food hygiene inspections can be achieved in any one year, it is essential a risk-based approach based on Public Health considerations is taken to best target resources. Project work was therefore undertaken on Low Risk food premises to identify those which should be prioritised for a food hygiene intervention.

**Key Targets for 2012/2013 are as follows:**

- To achieve 100% of High Risk Inspections for both Food Safety and Food Standards
- To prioritise all Food Safety revisits to premises receiving a National Food Hygiene Rating Score of 0, 1 and 2 to improve the businesses level of compliance to Broadly Compliant with Food Hygiene legislation.
- To complete low risk inspections identified by last year's project work as requiring prioritisation.
- To review and revise all internal processes in preparation for the commencement of the Food Standards Agency Wales three-year rolling programme of Local Authority audits.
- To improve the percentage of Significant Breaches rectified within the year for Food Standards legislation.

3.02 The Service Plan, which will be reviewed annually, outlines how the service will be delivered over the coming financial year. The Plan will be backed up by comprehensive documentation and procedures which will be developed to ensure that the Council's Food Law Enforcement activities meet the requirements.

**4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS**

4.01 That Members approve the Food Service Plan 2012/2013.

**5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.01 The cost of implementing the agreement on Food Law Enforcement will be met from within the existing Environment Directorate budget.

**6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT**

6.01 None.

**7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

7.01 None.

**8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT**

8.01 None.

**9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

9.01 None.

**10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED**

10.01 N/A

**11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN**

11.01 N/A

**12.00 APPENDICES**

12.01 Appendix A – Food Service Plan 2012/2013

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985  
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Contact Officer: Helen Roberts  
Telephone: 01352 703390  
Email: h.roberts@flintshire.gov.uk