

Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting	5th July 2022
Report Subject	Food Service Plan 2022-23 for Flintshire County Council
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Planning, Public Health and Public Protection
Report Author	Helen O'Loughlin
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Food Service Plan provides an overview of the Food Service in line with The Framework Agreement on Official Feed and Food Controls by Local Authorities April 2010. The plan sets out the aims and objectives for the Service for the forthcoming year and how these are to be achieved.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To approve the Food Service Plan 2022-23.
---	---

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE FOOD PLAN FOR FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL 2022-23
1.01	Local Authorities throughout the U.K. have been directed by the Food Standards Agency (FSA) to take the necessary action to implement the Framework Agreement on Official Feed and Food Controls by Local Authorities. This Framework Agreement became operational from 1st April 2001. The Framework has been developed to ensure a consistent food law enforcement service throughout the country.
1.02	The Service Plan has been produced by officers of the Food Safety and

	Standards Team and Animal Health Team within the Planning, Environment and Economy portfolio in line with the model format contained within the Framework Agreement. It outlines the proposals for service delivery for the period 1st April 2022 to 31 st March 2023. It also contains a review of the service performance for 2021-22 with overall performance for 2021-22 detailed in Appendix 3 within the Service Plan.
1.03	The elements of the Food Service, namely Food Safety, Food Standards and Animal Feed are managed by the Team Manager – Food Safety and Food Standards, who reports in to the Community and Business Protection Manager.
1.04	<p>Key achievements for 2021-22 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All programmed inspections were achieved • Significant progress was made in relation to moving at a faster pace than the minimum requirements set out in the Food Standards Agency COVID-19 Local Authority Recovery Plan: guidance and advice to local authorities for the period from 1 July 2021 to 2023/24 • Focussed auditing of shellfish registration document completion was undertaken which increased the compliance levels and improved traceability through the food chain • All officers within the Food Safety and Food Standards areas completed the required number of Continuing Professional Development hours required by the Food Law Code of Practice • All fishing vessels were inspected <p>Targets for 2022-23 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To complete all programmed inspections in line with the FSA Recovery Plan deadlines • To complete all overdue and due Category C Food Hygiene inspections • To complete all Category B and Category C Food Standards inspections that are due in Category C Food Hygiene premises • To further support micro businesses in the new requirements for Prepacked for Direct Sale foods as per the amendment to the Food Information (Wales) Regulations 2014 • To ensure all officers across the service complete the required number of Continuing Professional Development hours required by the Feed Law Code of Practice

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	The cost of implementing the plan will be met within the existing Planning, Environment and Economy portfolio budget.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT
3.01	The Plan follows the ‘farm to fork’ principle to ensure food is safe for consumption by all.

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	None

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Food Service Plan 2022 - 23

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	<p>Contact Officer: Helen O’Loughlin, Team Manager – Food Safety and Food Standards Telephone: 01352 703390 E-mail: helen.o’loughlin@flintshre.gov.uk</p>

8.00	<p>GLOSSARY OF TERMS These are provided corporately on the Infonet (link) and maintained by the Executive Office</p>
	<p>Food Standards Agency Wales - is a non-ministerial government department supported by seven agencies and public bodies. It is the central competent authority for the UK in relation to European Union food legislation. In Wales, it is responsible for Food Safety and Hygiene and Food Labelling Policy. It works with local authorities to enforce Food Safety, Standards and Feed regulations.</p> <p>The Framework Agreement on Official Feed and Food Controls by Local Authorities - sets out what the Food Standards Agency expects from local authorities in their delivery of official controls on feed and food law. It was developed in consultation with local authorities, local government associations and the relevant professional bodies.</p> <p>COVID-19 Local Authority Recovery Plan: guidance and advice to local authorities for the period from 1 July 2021 to 2023/24 – sets out the guidance and advice to local authorities with the aim of ensuring that during the period of recovery from the impact of COVID-19, that local authority resources are targeted to where they had greatest value to provide safeguards for public health and consumer protection in relation to food. It also aims to safeguard the credibility of the Food Hygiene Rating Scheme. The Recovery Plan provides a framework for re-starting the</p>

delivery system in line with the relevant Food Law Code of Practice. It focuses on new food establishments and high-risk or non-compliant businesses and allows flexibility to be applied to lower risk premises.

Food Law Code of Practice (Wales) July 2021 - the Food Law Code of Practice is issued under section 40 of the Food Safety Act 1990 (the Act), regulation 24 of the Food Hygiene (Wales) Regulations 2006,1 and regulation 6 of the Official Feed and Food Controls (Wales) Regulations 2007, and sets out the execution and enforcement of that legislation by Food Authorities. It relates to Wales only. The code specifies how a local authority should risk rate a food business following its inspection which determines the frequency of food hygiene and standards inspections of that business. For Food Hygiene there are five risk bands A – E, for Food Standards there are three risk bands, A – C.

Feed Law Code of Practice (Wales) 2014 - sets out instructions and criteria to which local authorities ‘the feed authorities’ should have regard when engaged in the enforcement of animal feed law. Feed authorities must follow and implement the provisions of the Code that apply to them.