

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **CABINET**

DATE: **TUESDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2014**

REPORT BY: **CHIEF OFFICER, PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT**

SUBJECT: **FOOD SERVICE PLAN 2014-15**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To seek Member approval for the Food Service Plan for Flintshire County Council, which the Constitution Committee of the Council determined should be approved at Executive level in January 2011, as per The Framework Agreement on Official Feed and Food Controls by Local Authorities (Amendment 5 April 2010).

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 available in the Members' Library and on the website, 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 2014 to 31st March 2015 as well as a review of the Service Plan for 2013 with overall performance for 2013 to 2014 shown as Appendix 3 within the Service Plan.

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

Key Achievements for 2013/14 are as follows:

- The whole Service was subject to a comprehensive 5 day audit by the Food Standards Agency Wales in October 2013 as a

result of which, it is very pleasing to report that FSA Wales identified several strengths of the Service, namely:-

- Documented policies and procedures for Food Hygiene and Food Standards
- Primary Authority Scheme and the Home Authority Principle
- Advice to businesses across the whole Food and Feed Service
- Control and Investigation of Outbreaks and Food Related Infectious Disease
- Internal Monitoring Arrangements for Food Hygiene and Food Standards
- Food Safety and Food Standards promotion

When published, the full report will be accessible on the FSA website via the following link :

<http://food.gov.uk/enforcement/auditandmonitoring/auditreports/auditwales/#.U-M1htRwbIU>

In addition the following further achievements are also worthy of note:-

- Achieving 100% of all Food Hygiene, Food Standards and Feedstuffs High Risk inspections.
- Successful implementation of the Food Hygiene Rating (Wales) Act 2013, which came in to force in November 2013
- Further development of cross-agency working with Natural Resources Wales and Wirral Council in relation to the Dee Estuary and shellfish industry.
- Delivering Food Hygiene and Food Safety Management System Training in the medium of Cantonese for 100 food handlers as a joint project with Wrexham County Borough Council, which was grant funded by FSA Wales. This was identified as an area of Good Practice as a Case Study in the FSA's recent Food and Feed Law Enforcement in Wales report published in July 2014.
- The updating of the Feed Hygiene premises database.

Key Targets for 2014/2015 are as follows:

- Implementation of the FSA Audit Action Plan,
- in line with target dates identified within the action plan. A copy of the Action Plan is included as an Appendix to the Food Service Plan.
- Achieve 100% of all High Risk inspections for Food Hygiene, Food Standards and Feed.

- Develop and implement collaborative working on a regional basis in relation to Feed inspections and sampling.
- Provide comprehensive advice to businesses on the major change in Food Standards legislation due to come in to force as of December 2014.
- Delivery of Food Hygiene and Food Safety Management System training in the medium of Turkish to 50 food handlers within Flintshire and Wrexham, funded by FSA Wales as part of the regional Environmental Health collaboration projects.
- To carry out further survey work on Nut Allergens and Meat Substitution to be delivered on a regional basis as part of the Trading Standards Collaboration Plus Project.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 That Members approve the Food Service Plan 2014/2015.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 The cost of implementing the agreement in Food Law Enforcement will be met within the existing Planning, Public Protection and Environment Directorate budget.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 None.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 None.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 The Plan seeks to ensure food is safe for consumption by all.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 N/A

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 N/A

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 N/A

12.00 APPENDICES

- 12.01 Appendix 1 – Food Service Plan 2014/2015 (available in the Members' Library and on the website)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None.

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