

TO: ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 7<sup>th</sup> June 2006

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF SCRUTINY OF FOOD SAFETY ENFORCEMENT & PROMOTION

FROM: ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 Executive Minute 886 *OUTCOME OF SCRUTINY OF FOOD SAFETY ENFORCEMENT SERVICE* resolved, inter alia, that a progress report be submitted to the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee in 12 months on the progress made on the implementations of the recommendations.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Divisional Environmental Health Officer was requested to investigate the means of implementing the following recommendations from the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and submit any reports for approval as necessary:

The recommendations made are itemised below, with updating comments:

- (a) Staffing levels be reconsidered, in particular a student placement or a new training post;

**Update** - This has not found favour in the Service Planning process.

- (b) The premises visit form be amended;

**Update** - This form has been amended to reflect the type of cuisine offered by catering premises.

- (c) There be continued and closer co-operation with Warwickshire County Council and Stratford Upon Avon District Council;

**Update** - As well as continuing liaison on food safety generally, Warwickshire County Council Trading Standards, Stratford on Avon and North Warwickshire Environmental Health Departments are collaborating on the Department of Trade & Industry's Retail Enforcement Pilot project. This follows the agenda of the Hampton Review on reducing the enforcement burden on business and will form the core project for the national newly constituted Local Better Regulation Office.

- (d) Investigations be made into charging for some/more services;

**Update** - Stratford on Avon District Council charges for street trading consent. In the interests of consistency this will be investigated for similar businesses seeking to trade in Warwick District Council's area.

- (e) A higher profile for the team and their achievements, such as an email newsletter each month to councillors and colleagues, should be sought, subject to the outcome of the Best Value Review of Communications;

**Update** The Council's web site is being employed for this purpose.

- (f) The 'Heartbeat' scheme, in the light of the Health White Paper and Air Quality in Restaurants Bill be reviewed;

**Update** - The Heartbeat Award criteria now include smoke freedom.

- (g) The Department participate in the Warwick District Community Plan, with a focus on the Health Strategy to help the Council in achieving its strategic aims.

**Update** - The Local Strategic Plan is now being advanced through, for examples, the Council's Health Strategy and the Food for Health Group.

- (h) A draft 'Scores on Doors' scheme for this District, whether or not other councils participate, be produced.

**Update** - As a first step in this direction, local Heartbeat and Safe Food Awards will be published on the Council's web site shortly.

### 3. POLICY AND BUDGET FRAMEWORK

- 3.1 These improvements will advance the Community Plan and the Local Strategic Partnership health outcomes.

### 4. OUTCOME REQUIRED

- 4.1 That this report be noted.

**Rob Chapleo**  
**Divisional Manager, Food & Occupational Safety & Health**

### BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

**Areas in District Affected:** All

**Executive Portfolio Area and Holder:** Councillor Mrs M Begg

**For further information about this report please contact:**

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