

## **BRECKLAND COUNCIL**

### **Report of Ann Steward, Executive Member for Health, to the CABINET – 10 June 2008**

#### **Food Safety and Health and Safety Service Plans 2008/2009**

##### **1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The Food Safety and Health and Safety Service Plans for 2008/2009 are submitted for approval.

##### **2. Recommendations**

- It is recommended that the Cabinet:
- 2.1 Approve the Food Safety and Health and Safety Service Plans for 2008/2009 to satisfy the requirements of the Food Standard Agency (FSA) and the Health & Safety Executive (HSE).

**Note:** In preparing this report, due regard has been had to equality of opportunity, human rights, prevention of crime and disorder, environmental and risk management considerations as appropriate. Relevant officers have been consulted in relation to any legal, financial or human resources implications and comments received are reflected in the report.

##### **3. Information, Issues and Options**

###### **3.1 Background**

- 3.1.1 The Food Standards Agency's Framework Agreement on Local Authority Food Law Enforcement requires each food authority to produce an annual Food Safety Service Plan.
- 3.1.2 The Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974, Section 18 guidance requires local authorities to produce and make available an annual Health and Safety Service Plan.

###### **3.2 Issues**

- 3.2.1 The Food Safety Service Plan is drawn up in accordance with the FSA's Planning Guidance in Chapter 1 of the Framework Agreement. It aims to meet the standards set out in Chapter 2. It is anticipated that the work detailed in this Service Plan will ensure compliance with the standard.
- 3.2.2 The Health and Safety Service Plan is written in accordance with Section 18 of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974, which places a duty on the HSE and local authorities to make adequate arrangements for enforcement.
- 3.2.3 The Service Plans are designed to make the most effective use of resources and have the maximum impact on food safety and health and safety in Breckland. They support the Environmental Health Service Team Plan 2008/2009. It is anticipated that the work detailed will ensure compliance with guidance and is in line with the approach taken by local authorities across the Country.

###### **3.3 Options**

- 3.3.1 The Service Plans can be approved or not.

### 3.4 Reasons for Recommendation(s)

3.4.1 The recommendation is made to ensure that Breckland complies with the Food Standards Agency's standard and to ensure safe food in Breckland.

3.4.2 The recommendation is made to ensure that Breckland Council complies with Section 18 of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974.

## 4. Risk and Financial Implications

### 4.1 Risk

4.1.1 The risk assessment indicates that if the recommendations are not implemented the following risks may occur:

The Authority would not fully comply with the statutory guidance and may be open to criticism or intervention by the external government agencies in the event of external audit or service failure.

### 4.2 Financial

4.2.1 None.

## 5. Legal Implications

5.1 The consequence of the Council not having the plans in place could result in external criticism and challenge of the service, or in extreme cases of service failure external agencies may be commissioned to intervene.

## 6. Other Implications

a) Equalities: Has an Equalities Impact Assessment been conducted?  
No –implicit within process

b) Section 17, Crime & Disorder Act 1998: None.

c) Section 40, Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act 2006: None.

d) Human Resources: None.

e) Human Rights: None.

f) Other: None.

## 7. Alignment to Council Priorities

7.1 None.

## 8. Ward/Community Affected

8.1 Whole district.

### Background Papers

None.

### Lead Contact Officer:

*Name/Post:* Richard Kirk – Interim Assistant Director

*Telephone:* 01362 656346

*Email:* richard.kirk@breckland.gov.uk

Key Decision Status (Executive Decisions only):  
On Forward Plan.

Appendices attached to this report:  
Food Safety Service Plan 2008/2009  
Health and Safety Service Plan 2008/2009