

Item 8 Updated Scheme of Delegations to the Head of Housing, Health & Communities

Report of the Housing, Health & Communities Portfolio Holder

Recommended:

That the updated Scheme of Delegations to the Head of Housing, Health & Communities be approved.

SUMMARY:

The Delegation to the Head of Housing, Health and Communities has been updated to reflect the restructure within the Service.

1 Introduction

1.1 The restructure of the Service has resulted in one Environmental Health Business Unit Manager (Post HH06 – Environmental Health Manager) with the result that the Scheme of Delegations (ANNEX 1 of this report) has to be revised in order that the delegations for environmental health legislation are transferred to this post. In addition certain authorisations for private sector housing have been transferred to post HH05 - Housing Manager.

2 Background

2.1 The Council's Scheme of Delegation to Officers comprises part of the Constitution. It is reported to annual Council, the Cabinet and Committees, for approval and sets out the post holders authorised to enter land and carry out any act included in specified legislation.

2.2 These Delegations need to be updated when there is a significant change of the structure in order that officers continue to be authorised to undertake their duties and to ensure that statutory notices are signed by the appropriate competent person.

3 Corporate Objectives and Priorities

3.1 The work of the Environment Health Business Unit, within the Housing, Health and Communities Service, is reflected in the Council's Corporate Plan, the Council's Aims, values, priorities and key corporate programmes. In particular the work contributes to both health and well being and the environmental SCHEME priority.

4 Consultations/Communications

- 4.1 The scheme of delegations given in the report does not require stakeholder consultation.

5 Options

- 5.1 Failure to review the scheme of delegations to reflect changes in legislation could mean that the Council may be subject to legal challenge if enforcement action is taken by unauthorised officers.

6 Risk Management

- 6.1 An evaluation of the risks associated with the matters in this report indicate that further risk assessment is not needed because the changes/issues covered do not represent significant risks or have previously been considered by Councillors (24th September 2009, Cabinet meeting Item 14 Doc. No. 11586).

7 Resource Implications

- 7.1 None

8 Legal Implications

- 8.1 The proposed revised scheme of delegations will ensure that officers continue to be authorised to undertake their duties and to ensure that statutory notices are signed by the appropriate competent person.

9 Equality Issues

9.1 Option 3

An **EQIA screening** has been completed in accordance with the Council's EQIA methodology and no potential for unlawful discrimination and/or low level or minor negative impact have been identified, therefore a full EQIA has not been carried out.

10 Other Issues

- 10.1 Community Safety – There are no Community issues
- 10.2 Environmental Health/Sustainability Issues – None

10.3 Property Issues – There are no Property issues

10.4 Wards/Communities Affected – There is no direct impact on any particular Wards/Communities

11 Conclusion

11.1 The revision of the Scheme of Delegations ensures the regulatory capacity of the Council and allows for its enforcement policies to be implemented correctly.

<u>Background Papers (Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D)</u>			
<u>Confidentiality</u>			
It is considered that this report does not contain exempt information within the meaning of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, and can be made public.			
No of Annexes:	1	File Ref:	
(Portfolio: Housing, Health & Communities) Councillor Mrs Hawke			
Officer:	Carol Ruddle	Ext:	8461
Report to:	Licensing Committee	Date:	9 February 2010