



**REPORT TO PROPERTY, HOUSING
AND PUBLIC HEALTH PORTFOLIO
ON 11 SEPTEMBER 2008**

	Key Decision	NO
	Cabinet Portfolio Holder	Cabinet Member for Property, Housing and Public Health Councillor Mrs Jane Mortimer
Corporate Priority	Developing Safer and Stronger Communities	Date of Decision/ Referral to O&S 11 September 2008
	Creating Healthy and Vibrant Communities	Deadline for call-in 5.00pm 16 September 2008 Implementation Date (if no call-in) 17 September 2008

REPORT OF: **Head of Environmental Services – HES/08/62**

WARDS AFFECTED: **All**

SUBJECT: **FOOD SAFETY SERVICE PLAN 2008/09**

RECOMMENDATION (S):

That the Food Safety Service Plan for 2008/09 be approved.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION (S):

To ensure the Council is in compliance with statutory requirements and Food Standards Agency guidelines.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Food Safety Act 1990, European Communities Act 1972 and supporting Regulations made under these Acts contain the powers necessary to ensure food safety and hygiene standards. Enforcement of these Acts is a statutory function of the Borough Council. The Food Safety Service is responsible for the ensuring safe standards of food manufacture and supply throughout the Borough. The service operates to standards laid down in the North Yorkshire Food Liaison Group: Food Quality Management System, which is registered to ISO 9001:2000 standard.

- 1.2 The Food Standards Agency (FSA) has published a Code of Practice in relation to food law enforcement that set out matters such as inspection frequency, risk rating and guidance on enforcement options. It is a requirement of the FSA that the Council develops an annual Food Safety Service Plan to outline by what means it intends to carry out its statutory functions under food legislation.

2. CORPORATE AIMS/PRIORITIES AND THE COMMUNITY PLAN

- 2.1 The work of the Food Safety Service supports a number of aims in the Corporate Plan, particularly Aim 1 - Developing Safer and Stronger Communities and Aim 3 – Creating Health and Vibrant Communities.

3. BACKGROUND AND ISSUES

- 3.1 The Food Safety Service Plan 2008/9 (attached) has been developed in accordance and having full regard to statutory codes of practice and FSA guidance. It lays out in detail the objectives of the service, an interventions programme, quality and performance information and the resources available.
- 3.2 The draft plan was considered as part of the FSA audit of the Council's Food Safety Service in May this year. Recommendations made by the inspectors following the visit in relation to the plan have been taken into account and the plan amended accordingly.

4. CONSULTATION

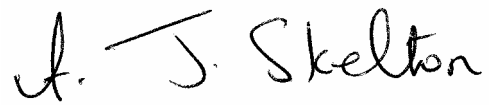
- 4.1 Not relevant to this report.

5. ASSESSMENT

- 5.1 The plan highlights that one of the main issues to be addressed is difficulty in keeping pace with planned inspections. Funding was secured in 2007/08 which enabled the use of specialist environmental health contactors to inspect medium and low risk premises. This approach will continue into 2008/09 and beyond and the plan highlights this.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no legal, financial or policy implications arising out of this report.
- 6.2 There are no implications regarding staffing, planning, crime and disorder, health and safety or environmental issues arising from this report.



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Background Papers:
None

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES ABOUT THIS REPORT OR WISH TO INSPECT ANY OF THE BACKGROUND PAPERS, PLEASE CONTACT STEVE POGSON ON THE ABOVE DETAILS.