

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

POLICY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

29 September 2009

Report of the Director of Health and Housing

Part 1- Public

Matters for Recommendation to Cabinet

1 FOOD LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICE PLAN 2009-2012

Summary

The Council is required to produce a Food Safety Service Plan, which forms part of the Council's Policy framework. The Plan is reported for the Committee's approval and recommendation to Cabinet.

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 The Food Standards Agency (FSA) Framework agreement requires local authorities to produce a service plan. It is against this plan that local authorities are monitored and audited by the FSA.
- 1.1.2 The Framework agreement contains guidance on how the plan should be structured. This plan has been produced as a three year plan and will incorporate an annual review which will be presented to the Local Environmental Management Advisory Board.
- 1.1.3 The Plan reflects national priorities and standards and considers:
- service aims and objectives;
 - information on service delivery and work programmes;
 - quality assurance;
 - resource allocation; and
 - performance management information.
- 1.1.4 A full copy of the Plan has been included [**Annex 1**] with the agenda papers for this meeting.

1.2 Legal Implications

- 1.2.1 The FSA require the Council to produce a Food Safety Service Plan.

- 1.2.2 Under Part Four of the Council's Constitution for this Plan to be adopted the executive needs to refer the proposals to this Committee for consideration. The Policy Overview Committee will then commend the Plan to Cabinet with any appropriate amendments. From Cabinet, the Plan will go to Council for adoption.

1.3 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

- 1.3.1 The resources to implement the Plan are covered within existing budgets.

1.4 Risk Assessment

- 1.4.1 Failure to produce a Service Plan could result in criticism from the FSA and would feature in future audit reports on the Council's performance.

1.5 Recommendations

- 1.5.1 It is **RECOMMENDED** that the Committee **NOTE** the Food Law Enforcement Service Plan 2009 – 12 and **COMMEND** it to Cabinet and Council in accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework procedure rules set out in Part Four of the Council's Constitution.

Background papers:

contact: Jane Heeley

Nil

John Batty

Director of Health and Housing