

To: Mr R Betts, Portfolio Holder for Environment and Climate Change

From: Melanie Henbest, Food and Safety Team Manager

Director: Eleanor Hoyle, Director of Planning, Housing and Environmental Health

BRIEFING NOTE: EXECUTIVE - NON-KEY DECISION

Summary of Issue: Approval of the Food and Safety Service Plan 2022/23 outlining the planned activities for the service in line with the Food Standards Agency's COVID-19 Recovery Plan.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the service plan be approved.

1 Background

Local Authorities are required to produce a Food Service Plan setting out how the authority intends to deliver and resource official food controls in its area. The plan must be submitted for approval by members or relevant senior officer.

2 Main Issues

The last service plan to cover the period 2021-2024 was considered and agreed by the Street Scene and Environment Services Advisory Board on 31/8/21. The plan included the expenditure on a catch-up inspection programme to restore the Food and Safety service to pre-pandemic levels.

The Food Standards Agency recently issued version 3 of the COVID-19 Local Authority Covid plan Q & A document requiring a documented and approved service plan for 2022/23 in place by the end of June 2022.

The service plan has been updated and will run until the end of the financial year 2022-2023, at which point the Food Standards Agency should be in a position to provide information on the new food hygiene delivery model.

3 Legal Advice

The matters set out in this briefing note are considered routine or uncontroversial and a legal opinion has not been sought.

4 Public Sector Equality Duty

No impact, no changes to service delivery are proposed.

5 Consideration by Overview and Scrutiny

We do not consider that this matter needs to be considered by O&S/ SSC before a decision is made.

6 Communications

The Service plan is published on the Council website.

7 Conclusion

Preparing a revised service plan to cover the period 2022-2023 meets with Food Standards Agency expectations and fulfils Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council's responsibilities in relation to food safety.

8 Annexes

Food and Safety Team Service Plan 2022-2023