

SAFETY ADVISORY GROUP
(Report of the Advisory Group)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Advisory Group met on 14th September 2005 and Councillors J W Davies, A Hansard and L M Simpson were present.
- 1.2 Also in attendance were P Corley, J Craig, P Duerden, S Jackson, N Martlew, Miss J Peadon, A Roberts and Mrs C Rowland.
- 1.3 The staff side representatives in attendance were K Lawson, T Northwood and C Sneesby.
- 1.4 Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs D E Collins and K Reynolds, S Richardson and Mrs G Smith.
- 1.5 The report of the meeting of the Advisory Group held on 15th June 2005 was received and noted.

2. MEMBERS INTERESTS

- 2.1 No declarations of interest were received.

3. BOMB THREAT PROCEDURE

- 3.1 The Advisory Group received a presentation by the Health and Safety Adviser on the Council's bomb threat procedure. Members received details of the procedures for dealing with bomb threats received via the telephone and through the post and for the evacuation of staff.
- 3.2 The Health and Safety Advisor undertook to inform Members should clarification be received the use of mobile phones during bomb threats. In the meantime, staff would be advised against their use at such times.

4. INSPECTION OF SUMMER ACTIVITIES PROVIDED BY THE LEISURE DEVELOPMENT TEAM

- 4.1 By way of a report by the Head of Personnel Services, Members were acquainted with the outcome of an inspection by the Health and Safety Advisor of the current measures to safeguard the welfare of children during holiday activities provided by the Council's Leisure and Countryside Services.

Members endorsed the findings that the procedures adopted were impressive and that the commitment and attention to detail of staff were commendable.

5. LEISURE CENTRES INCIDENT REPORT

- 5.1 The Advisory Group received a verbal report on two recent deaths at Leisure Centres. Members were informed that the paramedics who attended had endorsed the Council's first aid procedures.

- 5.2 The Advisory Group was informed that investigations were being carried out by the ambulance service into improving the 'First Responder' service.

6. DEFIBRILLATORS

- 6.1 The Advisory Group was informed that the outcome of an application to the British Heart Foundation for financial assistance with the purchase of nine defibrillators for use at various Council premises was not yet known.
- 6.2 In response to a question by a Member, the Health and Safety Advisor outlined the safety features of defibrillators and training that would be provided for the Council's first aiders on their use.

7. ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORTS

District Council Employees

- 7.1 The Group received and noted a report by the Head of Personnel Services giving details of 62 accidents/incidents, which had taken place since the last meeting.
- 7.2 In response to a question on the frequency with which employees were advised to exercise greater care, Members were informed that, in addition, all accidents/incidents were investigated and, where appropriate, further training was provided. Trends were monitored and action taken if required. Furthermore, with regard to incident No.1869, working outdoors meant that specific health and safety directions could not be provided.
- 7.3 In response to a query about incident No.1861, the Group was informed that the cause was attributable to the manufacturer and could not have been detected by the Council's employees. The matter since had been rectified.
- 7.4 With regard to incident No.1865, Members were acquainted with the training for employees involved in lifting bins. The Group discussed alternative approaches to training intended to improve safety awareness.
- 7.5 Following a question on incident No.1874, the Group was advised of measures in place to ensure the compatibility of equipment supplied by different manufacturers.

Leisure Centre employees

- 7.6 The Group received a report by the Leisure Centres Health and Safety Co-ordinator containing details of accidents, which had been reported at the Leisure Centres since the last meeting of the Group.

8. TRAINING

- 8.1 The Group were acquainted by means of a report by the Head of Personnel Services with training courses which had been held since the last meeting.

J W Davies