

CABINET – 17TH SEPTEMBER 2020

Report of the Scrutiny Commission

ITEM 9 ANNUAL HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT 2019-20

Purpose of Report

To consider the comments and recommendations of the Scrutiny Commission in relation to the Annual Health and Safety Report 2019-20.

Recommendation of the Scrutiny Commission

That the Cabinet be informed that the Commission welcomes and supports the recommendations set out in the report of the Head of Strategic Support.

Reason

The Commission, having carefully considered and asked questions on the report felt the Cabinet should approve the recommendation set out.

Meeting Discussion

- i. The data presented on incidents of injury were wide ranging and did not result in serious impact to Officers. Officers were provided with appropriate training, tools and PPE to reflect their role to reduce the risk of injury.
- ii. It was noted that the perceived reduction in accidents and incidents over the past year could in part be due to a vast increase in Officers working from home and some services operating at a reduced capacity due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- iii. Officers working from home had continued to report accidents and injury and each case was assessed individually. If the role undertaken by an Officer required a specific work act, and this was related to the accident or injury sustained, then it would be recorded as a work-related accident or injury. It was highlighted that Officers working from home were encouraged to continue to report any accidents or injuries and that the respective Manager was also kept informed.
- iv. One recorded accident or injury was anticipated to result in an insurance claim against the Council, although the progress of this claim was unknown at the time of the meeting.
- v. Officers working from home were encouraged to check and verify their home insurance policy as part of the comprehensive home working assessment, and subsequently disclose their working practices and environment to their insurance company where applicable.

- vi. It was acknowledged that health and safety practices were appropriately adapting to accommodate for new working arrangements.

Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

Scrutiny Commission Procedure Rule 11.12 sets out the procedure by which a report of a Scrutiny Committee should be considered by Cabinet.

Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions and Scrutiny

The information in the Cabinet report is not affected by the recommendation of the Scrutiny Commission.

Report Implications

The following implications have been identified for this report.

Financial Implications

There are no further financial implications associated with the recommendation of the Scrutiny Commission.

Risk Management

There are no specific risks associated with the recommendations of the Scrutiny Commission.

Key Decision:	No
Background Paper:	Scrutiny Commission Minute 51 2020/21, 14th September 2020
Officer to Contact:	Sally Watson Democratic Services Officer (01509) 634969 Sally.watson@charnwood.gov.uk