

<b>APPROVAL OF FOOD LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICE PLAN 2017 - 2021</b>
<b>Councillor Irene Walsh, Cabinet Member for Communities and Environment Capital</b>
<b>March 2017</b>
<b>Deadline date: N/A</b>

Cabinet portfolio holder: Responsible Director:	Cllr Irene Walsh, Cabinet Member for Communities and Environment Capital John Harrison – Corporate Director: Resources
Is this a Key Decision?	NO If yes has it been included on the Forward Plan : N/A
Is this decision eligible for call-in?	NO
Does this Public report have any annex that contains exempt information?	NO
Is this a project and if so has it been registered on Verto?	NO

## R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S

The Cabinet Member is recommended to approve the Regulatory Services Food Law Enforcement Plan 2017 – 2021.

### 1. SUMMARY OF MAIN ISSUES

- 1.1 This report seeks approval from the Cabinet Member for Communities and Environment Capital for the Food Law Enforcement Plan 2017 - 2021. The Plan sets out Peterborough City Council's response to requirements set out in a Framework Agreement by the Food Standards Agency (FSA). The Plan outlines the food law function, the anticipated demand for service, reflects on the previous year's performance and outlines current and future priorities.

### 2. PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

- 2.1 This report is for the Cabinet Member for Communities and Environment Capital to consider exercising delegated authority under paragraph 3.4.3 of Part 3 of the constitution in accordance with the terms of their portfolio at paragraph (f).

### 3. TIMESCALE

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	<b>NO</b>	If Yes, date for relevant Cabinet Meeting	<b>N/A</b>
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#### **4. DETAILS OF DECISION REQUIRED**

- 4.1 The decision maker is asked to approve the Food Law Enforcement Service Plan, providing both accountability and transparency regarding the food law function.
- 4.2 Peterborough City Council delivers a shared regulatory service in conjunction with Rutland County Council and this is reflected within the service plan.
- 4.3 The service plan sets out the aims and objectives for the service and how these align to corporate objectives (Appendix 1 section 1.0). The service contributes to the strategic priority of creating strong and supportive communities by safeguarding the health and welfare of residents and people that work in or visit the city. The service also contributes to the delivery of substantial and sustainable growth by enabling new and existing businesses to grow in a way that is legally compliant and in an environment that promotes fair trading.
- 4.4 The risk profile of food businesses and the environment in which they operate is detailed in section 2 of the plan, this determining the frequency of inspection.
- 4.5 Methods of service delivery are covered in section 3.0 of the Plan. A variety of methods are used in line with the statutory code of practice to determine whether a food business is complying with the law. These may include inspections, monitoring, coaching, training and analysis of samples. Other food law enforcement activities may include: investigating complaints, providing advice to businesses, liaising with other authorities, taking samples for analysis or examination, investigating cases of infectious or food related disease, responding to incidents, taking enforcement action.
- 4.6 The service plan summarises the staffing levels and performance for 2015/16, and the projected performance for 2017 - 2018 (Appendix 1 section 4.0).
- 4.7 The plan outlines how the quality of our work is monitored through internal monitoring, and how we maintain the integrity of our database (Appendix 1 section 5.0).
- 4.9 The final sections within the service plan detail service development activities: what was achieved last year and priorities for the next five years.

#### **5. CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 In preparation of this plan, consultation has taken place with the wider Regulatory Services Team.
- 5.2 The plan has been prepared in conjunction with Rutland County Council due to the function being a shared service.

#### **6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES**

- 6.1 The service plan confirms the arrangements that are in place for the delivery of the food law enforcement service for 2017 - 2021. The primary outcome being approval of the service delivery proposals and recognition of the ongoing work to ensure the team can meet its statutory obligations.

#### **7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS & ANY RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 7.1 The FSA have in place a framework agreement which sets out their expectations from local authorities in their delivery of official controls on food and feed law. It outlines planning and delivery requirements based on statutory codes of practice, and these provisions are required to be reflected in the local authority's service plans to ensure local transparency

and accountability.

## **8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 8.1 None. The Food Law Enforcement Service Plan is considered to be the best mechanism to comply with the framework agreement, and the FSA expect local authorities to produce and publish a plan.

## **9. IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 There are no additional implications for legal, finance or HR arising from this service plan. It should be noted however that there is increasing demand for this service, and this demand is likely to result in the need for additional investment, unless the regulatory landscape changes in the future. Any capacity bids will follow the corporate approval and procurement process.
- 9.2 The service plan does not refer to any increased media and communications activity.
- 9.3 The service plan also reflects on and addresses the introduction of a new bespoke database, a new digital front door (public point of contact) as a result of the corporate ICT strategy, the impact upon the team, and how the team will respond to this.
- 9.4 There are no anticipated impacts on other service areas that will arise from this plan. The plan endorses a continuing approach to food law enforcement that is already in place.

## **10. DECLARATIONS / CONFLICTS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS GRANTED**

- 10.1 None.

## **11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985) and The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

- 11.1 The Framework Agreement on Official Feed and Food Controls by Local Authorities (published on the FSA website [www.food.gov.uk](http://www.food.gov.uk))

## **12. APPENDICES**

- 12.1 Appendix 1 - Regulatory Services Food Law Enforcement Plan 2017 – 2021