

## **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SERVICE PLAN - YEAR 2008/2009**

- 2.3.1 Central government guidance from the FSA and HSC requires the inclusion of some specific areas of the Division's work to be included within relevant service plans. The following items are not covered within the overall service plan and therefore to satisfy the guidance have been provided within this annex.

### **DEMANDS ON THE SERVICE**

- 2.3.2 Enforcement of Food Standards and Animal Feeding Stuffs legislation is the responsibility of the Surrey County Council Trading Standards Department and is outside the scope of the service of the commercial team.

### **3. SERVICE DELIVERY**

#### **3.1 Food and Health and Safety Planned Inspections Programmes**

- 3.1.1 The current profile of food premises by risk rating in Runnymede and the anticipated number of inspections to be undertaken during the year 2008/2009 is as follows:

Risk Category	Number of Premises	Inspection Frequency	Number of Inspections Due 2008/2009
A	11	6 months	20
B	52	12 months	46
C	278	18 months	175
D	87	24 months	43
E	245	36 months	33
Unrated	2		2
Total	676		319
Number of inspections outstanding from 2007/2008			0
Estimated total number of inspections due 2008/2009			319

The FSA has introduced amendments to the traditional inspection scheme which took effect in April 2008. The existing 'programmed inspections' being superseded by a system of official and un-official interventions. The authority will no longer have to submit a yearly planned inspection programme to the FSA instead the FSA intend to collect future performance data direct from the local authority at the end of year facilitated by a new monitoring software system which will go on stream during the 2008/09 period.

- 3.1.2 The current profile of premises by health and safety risk rating in Runnymede and the anticipated number of programmed inspections to be undertaken during the year 2008/2009 is as follows:

Risk Category	Number of Premises	Inspection Frequency	Number of Inspections Due 2008/2009
A	0	12 months	0
B1	10	18 months	3
B2	41	24 months	17
B3	125	36 months	Alternative intervention strategy review after 3 years
B4	201	60 months	Alternative intervention strategy review after 5 years
C	666		Alternative strategy
Un-rated	335		Risk rating to be carried out
Total	1378		A – B2 = 20
Number of inspections outstanding from 2007/2008			A – B2 = 5
Estimated total number of inspections due 2008/2009			A – B2 = 25

The Council, in line with current HSC guidance, continued to implement a topic based inspection programme based on the priority areas of slips, trips and falls, workplace transport, stress, falls from heights and musculo-skeletal disorders. For 2008/09 the Council intends to continue with its focused inspections of registered care homes within the Borough. Alternative intervention strategies for lower risk premises have been implemented and include for example; monitoring incident reports, seminars and use of questionnaires.

- In addition it is estimated that around 50 premises will require visiting to check compliance following adverse reports after initial inspection
- 40 visits are intended to catering and hotel premises to support the HSE slips and trips campaign.
- 30 new businesses will open and require intervention of one type or another
- A variety of outdoor/temporary events at show/fairs/sporting venues will be visited

### **3.2 Food Complaints/accident and H&S complaints**

3.2.1 The number of food complaints and complaints relating to food hygiene practices investigated fall for the second year running totalling 106 for 2007/08 compared with 153 reported 2006/2007. It is estimated that a similar number of complaints will require investigation in 2008/2009.

3.2.2 For the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008, there were 73 accidents notified to the authority under the Reporting of Injuries and Dangerous Occurrence Regulations of which 4 were investigated. In the same period 118 Requests for Service/complaints were received from businesses/employees related to Health & Safety issues in the workplace.

### **3.3 Home Authority/Lead authority Principle**

3.3.1 The authority endorses and supports the LACORS Home Authority Principle. There is one Home Authority arrangement in place with Kerry Foods Ltd a second with Centrua Foods Ltd was ended when Centura relocated from its base in Dashwood Lang Road Addlestone in January 2008.

3.3.2 A similar scheme for health and safety, the 'Lead Authority Partnership Principle' is very resource hungry and it is for this reason that no formal partnerships have been established in Runnymede

### **3.4 Food Sampling**

3.4.1 The Authority recognises the important contribution sampling makes to the protection of public health and the food law enforcement functions of the Authority. The Authority will actively participate in:

- EU coordinated control programmes
- LACORS/PHA voluntary coordinated sampling programmes
- Coordinated programmed surveillance sampling with other members of the Surrey Food Liaison Group

In addition, the Authority where necessary, and in accordance with its Food Sampling Policy, will submit samples for analysis or examination which arise from the investigation of food contamination and food poisoning incidents, as a result of inspection and/or complaint work. The number of informal food samples submitted for analysis/examination in 2007/2008 was 107.

3.5.2 For the year 2008/2009 it is intended that the following LACORS /HPA studies will be undertaken.

- April 08 – Mar 09 inclusive: Microbiological Examination of ready-to-eat speciality meats from markets and specialist shops.
- May 08 – Oct 08 inclusive: Microbiological Examination of Egg mix and environmental samples from restaurants and takeaways
- Oct 08 – Mar 09 Ready-to-eat shelled nuts from retail premises

3.5.3 The Authority also participates in the Surrey Food Liaison Group quarterly sampling programme which involves the sampling of a food product selected from a pre-determined group wide food basket.

3.5.4 Unless otherwise directed as part of a nationally coordinated sampling programme, analysis and/or examination of all food samples is undertaken by one of the 'Official Food Control Laboratories in the UK'.

### **3.5 Control and Investigation of Outbreaks and Food Related Infectious Disease**

- 3.5.1 In the event of an outbreak of food poisoning the Authority follows the procedures set out in the Surrey Outbreak Control Plan and the Environmental Protection Division will act in conjunction with the Health Authority and if necessary, under the direction of the Consultant in Communicable Disease Control (CCDC).
- 3.5.2 Notifications of food related infectious disease are investigated in accordance with the Environmental Protection Division Infectious Disease Procedures. In 2007/2008 the division received 85 food related infectious disease notifications. It is estimated that a similar number of notifications will require investigation in 2008/2009.

### **3.6 Food Safety Incidents**

- 3.6.1 The authority is expected to respond to all alerts as appropriate and in accordance with:
- The divisions documented procedure
  - Food Safety Act Code of Practice
  - Instructions issued by the FSA
- 3.6.2 Out of hours contact arrangements are in place whereby the Head of Environmental Protection or the Principal Environmental Health Officer can be contacted by the Food Standards Agency.
- 3.6.3 The resource implications are very much dependent on the category of any particular food alert. Food alerts requiring action can potentially involve a considerable amount of work whilst Food alerts for information involves very little. All work relating to food alerts is undertaken by officers of the Commercial Team and resources are considered adequate. In the event of a large scale warning support staff would be utilised from other areas of the department.