

# City of London Corporation Committee Report

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| <b>Committee(s):</b><br>Port Health & Environmental Services Committee (For Decision)<br>Health & Wellbeing Board (For Information)                                   | <b>Dated:</b><br>02/06/2025<br><br>11/07/2025  |
| <b>Subject:</b><br>Commercial Environmental Health Service Plan 2025-26   | <b>Public report:</b><br>For Decision  |
| <b>This proposal:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>delivers Corporate Plan 2024-29 outcomes</b></li> <li>• <b>provides statutory duties</b></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing Excellent Services</li> <li>• Vibrant Thriving Destination</li> <li>• Dynamic Economic Growth</li> <li>• Diverse Engaged Communities</li> </ul> |
| <b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>  | No   |
| <b>If so, how much?</b>   | N/A  |
| <b>What is the source of Funding?</b>   | N/A  |
| <b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>   | N/A  |
| <b>Report of:</b>   | Katie Stewart, Executive Director Environment  |
| <b>Report authors:</b>  | Peter Brett, Commercial Environmental Health Team Manager  |

## Summary

This report seeks approval for the Commercial Environmental Health Service Plan 2025-26 (Appendix 1).

National Codes of Practice allow local authorities flexibility over how to deliver their regulatory functions for food and occupational health and safety. Service plans set out how and at what level regulatory controls will be provided, in accordance with those Codes of Practice.

Our service plan sets out how and at what level regulatory controls will be provided and Committee approval of the plan is expected by the Food Standards Agency (FSA) and Health & Safety Executive (HSE).

## **Recommendation(s)**

Members of the Port Health & Environmental Services Committee are asked to:

- Approve the Commercial Environmental Health Service Plan 2025-26 (Appendix 1).

Members of the Health & Wellbeing Board are asked to:

- Note the Commercial Environmental Health Service Plan 2025-26 (Appendix 1).

## **Main Report**

### **Background**

1. As an enforcement authority, the City Corporation has obligations for the delivery of certain food and health and safety controls arising from existing legislation, statutory Codes of Practice and related guidance. The Framework agreement sets out requirements for the planning, management and delivery of the requisite local authority enforcement services.
2. To ensure local transparency and accountability and to show our contribution to the authority's corporate plan, both the FSA and the HSE advise that service plans and performance reviews should be approved at the relevant level established for the authority. Our service plans are presented to your Committee annually.
3. The FSA's expectation is that we will deliver a programme of interventions that meets the requirements of the current Food Law Code.

### **Current position**

4. The Commercial Environmental Health Team (the Team) continues to prioritise high risk and non-compliant establishments to ensure that City businesses in a variety of sectors, operate and remain safe for their customers.
5. In the first quarter of this reporting year (Q1 April – June inclusive) the team will focus on reducing the number of new/unrated food establishments requiring an initial inspection. Further new establishments that register during the remainder of the year will be programmed in as required.
6. The new food standards delivery model is now implemented. Plans for a corresponding new food hygiene delivery model have been postponed but the FSA continues to develop programmes aimed at reforming controls and enforcement.

7. The detailed programme of work for the team (not just food safety and health & safety) are outlined in our Commercial Environmental Health Service Plan 2025-26 (Appendix 1).

## **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

8. Strategic Implications - The Service Plan links to several objectives in the City Corporation's revised Corporate Plan 2024-29:
  - Providing Excellent Services
  - Vibrant Thriving Destination
  - Dynamic Economic Growth
  - Diverse Engaged Communities
9. Financial implications - None. The Service Plans will be met from within existing local risk budgets.
10. Resource implications - None.
11. Legal implications - Failure to plan and implement a programme of official food controls and health and safety interventions could result in sanctions by the FSA or HSE, in extremis taking over the operational control of the City Corporation's Food Authority and health and safety enforcing authority functions.
12. Risk implications - Potential reputational risk to the City Corporation if the above happens.
13. Equalities implications – None following a test of relevance.
14. Climate implications - None.
15. Security implications - None

## **Conclusion**

16. The Service Plan outlines a programme of work objectives and how these will be delivered by the Commercial Environmental Health Team. The team will ensure that their work is risk-based, supportive of businesses where they are, or seek to be compliant, providing protection to workers, consumers and the public.
17. The City Corporation will continue to meet its obligations to central Government and its agencies as outlined in the various Codes of Practice.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – Commercial Environmental Health Service Plan 2025/26

## **Background Papers**

None.

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