

Committee: **Corporate Overview Scrutiny Committee**

Date of meeting: **22nd October 2021**

Report Subject: **Health & Safety Annual Report
1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021**

Portfolio Holder: **Councillor Nigel Daniels, Leader/Executive Member**

Report Submitted by: **Andrea J Prosser, Head of Organisational
Development**

Reporting Pathway								
Directorate Management Team	Corporate Leadership Team	Portfolio Holder / Chair	Audit Committee	Democratic Services Committee	Scrutiny Committee	Executive Committee	Council	Other (please state)
22/09/21	30/09/21	12.10.21			22/10/21	10.11.21		

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to give members of the Corporate Overview Scrutiny opportunity to scrutinise and challenge the Authority's Health and Safety and Fire Safety at work performance for 2020/21.

2. Scope and Background

2.1 It is recommended by the Health and Safety Executive for Local Authorities such as BGCBC to report on their Health and safety at work performance as an Employer.

2.2 The report attached as appendix 1 also includes details of BGCBC's fire safety performance. This report is presented every financial year and identifies both good performance and areas of concern with recommendations to address these concerns.

2.3 This report also contains a section of the Health and Safety response to the emergency Covid-19 pandemic.

3. Options for Recommendation

3.1 Option 1

- That Corporate Overview Scrutiny support the annual review of the performance of Health and Safety and Fire Safety performance and the recommendations made.

3.2 Option 2

- That Corporate Overview Scrutiny make suggestions/amendments to the annual review of the performance or further actions / recommendations detailed in the report on Health and Safety and Fire Safety performance

4. **Evidence of how does this topic supports the achievement of the Corporate Plan / Statutory Responsibilities / Blaenau Gwent Well-being Plan**

BGCBC has statutory responsibilities for the Health and Safety/fire safety at work of employees and others. The report identifies the level of compliance with these statutory duties.

5. **Implications Against Each Option**

5.1 ***Impact on Budget (short and long term impact)***

This report presents no direct impact on budget.

5.2 ***Risk including Mitigating Actions***

Any areas of concern in the report are risks to the Authority and the recommended actions will mitigate the risks.

5.3 ***Legal***

The Authority has statutory duties under both Health and Safety at Work and Fire Safety legislation and a duty of care to employees and others.

5.4 ***Human Resources***

There are no direct HR implications arising from the report.

6. **Supporting Evidence**

6.1 ***Performance Information and Data***

Included within the report.

6.2 ***Expected outcome for the public***

Managing health and safety and fire safety risks protects users of BGCBC facilities and the general public.

6.3 ***Involvement (consultation, engagement, participation)***

Health and Safety have worked in partnership with the trade unions in supporting the response to the Covid19 pandemic. This Corporate Health and Safety group will be consulted on this report.

6.4 ***Thinking for the Long term (forward planning)***

The recommendations would be of benefit long term as preventing accidents and ill health has long term implications.

6.5 ***Preventative focus***

6.6 ***Collaboration / partnership working***

There has been partnership and collaborative working in responding to the pandemic and fulfilling the requirements with partner organisations through service level agreements.

6.7 ***Integration (across service areas)***

Complying with Health and Safety and fire safety legislation involves all service areas working together to manage any risks.

6.8 ***Decarbonisation and Reducing Carbon Emissions***

6.9a ***Socio Economic Duty Impact Assessment***

The report does not include any 'strategic decisions' as defined by the Socio-economic Duty. Therefore, a Socio-Economic Duty Assessment was not required.

6.9b. ***Equality Impact Assessment***

The review of performance has been applied on an equal basis.

7. **Monitoring Arrangements**

7.1 Health and Safety performance is monitored by the Corporate Health and Safety group and annually by the Corporate Management Team and Corporate Overview Scrutiny. Any emerging risks are managed using the Councils risk management processes.

Background Documents /Electronic Links

- *Appendix 1 – Health & Safety Annual Report 2020-2021*