ENVIRONMENT, TRANPSORT & SUSTAINBILITY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 63

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Official Feed and Food Controls Service Plan

2018/19

Date of Meeting: 20th March 2018

Report of: Executive Director of Neighbourhoods Communities

& Housing

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Ward(s) affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT:

1.1 To agree the Official Feed and Food Controls Service Plan.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.1 That the committee agrees the Official Feed and Food Controls Service Plan 2018/2019 set out in the appendix to this report.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- 3.1 The Food Standards Agency's Framework Agreement on Local Authority Food Law Enforcement requires the production and publication of a service plan. Every local authority is required to develop an annual food enforcement service plan, which provides the basis on which local authorities are monitored and audited by the Food Standards Agency.
- 3.2 To ensure local transparency and accountability, it is a requirement that the Official Feed and Food Controls Service Plan is submitted to the relevant member forum for approval.
- 3.3 The attached plan (Appendix A) is an integral part of the organisation of Safer Community services.
- 3.4 In accordance with the standard outlined in the Framework Agreement the food service is a mix of enforcement, intelligence based work, investigation and education. Key performance targets are completion of 98% of programmed food safety interventions, 90% of service requests responded to within 5 days and 96% of food businesses being deemed 'Broadly Compliant' ie having a Food Hygiene Rating Score of 3 out of 5 or better.
- In addition, areas of current good practice, and opportunities for further improvement, have been identified, both in Food Safety and Food Standards, in section 6.3 of the Service Plan. The targeting of resources to these areas of work aims to provide a balanced mix of services, which is most likely to benefit the business sector,

consumers and other stakeholders. The service will continue to focus enforcement action on the poorer performing businesses.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

4.1 The plan and activities detailed within it are legally required to comply with the Food Law Code of Practice.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION

5.1 The planning process is governed by the national Food Safety Framework Agreement and so follows the same format each year. In past years draft plans have been circulated to the Brighton & Hove Food Partnership, the Brighton & Hove Citizens panel and Regulatory Services Peer Review.

6. CONCLUSION

6.1 That the committee agrees the Official Feed and Food Controls Service Plan 2018/2019 set out in the appendix to this report.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

7.1 The costs associated with implementing and enforcing the proposed Official Feed and Food Control Service Plan 2018/19 will be met from the Food Safety revenue budget within Safer Communities services. The proposed 2018/19 net budget for the Food Safety service is £0.562m, subject to agreement by Budget Council on 22nd February 2018.

Finance Officer Consulted: Mike Bentley Date: 02/02/18

Legal Implications:

7.2 The Food Standards Agency places a requirement on local authorities to develop and submit a service plan. Local authorities are audited and assessed by the Food Standards Agency on the basis of their food law enforcement service as provided for in their Service Plans. The Food Safety Act 1990 (Code of Practice) places a requirement on local authorities to operate an inspection rating scheme, which determines frequency of intervention of food premises. The Official Feed and Food Controls Service Plan 2018/19 identifies the planned number of interventions for that period.

Lawyer consulted: Elizabeth Culbert Date 02/02/18

Equalities Implications:

7.3 An Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken. See 2.4.5 of appendix 1 for profile of the ethnicity of food business proprietors where notified during the year 2016/2017. The service is mindful of the greater assistance food business operators require where their first language is not English. Written information, translation and

interpreting services are employed where necessary to assist businesses to comply with regulatory requirements.

Sustainability Implications

7.4 None

Any Other Significant Implications:

Public Health Implications:

7.5 The Food and Feed Service Plan is seen as key to protecting public health in the City. It is in line with the stated outcome to 'reduce health inequalities and long standing public health issues' as part of the priority of tackling inequalities which states that 'we will continue with high profile enforcement of food and health and safety rules, maintaining our excellent record of environmental health improvements.'

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Draft Official Feed and Food Controls Service Plan 2018/2019

Documents in Members' Rooms

1. None

Background Documents

1. None