

REPORT TO: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
(18TH DECEMBER 2006)

REPORT ON: WORK-RELATED DEATHS: A PROTOCOL FOR LIAISON

REPORT BY: HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & TRADING STANDARDS

REPORT NO: 715-2006

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report is to inform members that the Health and Safety Executive, the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service, the Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland (ACPOS) and the British Transport Police have published a joint working protocol on work-related deaths in October 2006. Approval is sought to adopt the Protocol within Dundee City Council.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee supports the Protocol, which emphasises the need for a collaborative approach to the investigation of work-related deaths in Scotland. The Environmental Health and Trading Standards Department will aim to work in accordance with the Protocol's recommendations when investigating any work-related deaths in premises for which Dundee City Council has health and safety enforcement responsibility.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 None.

4.0 SUSTAINABILITY POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None

6.0 BACKGROUND

6.1 Enforcement of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 (HSW Act) and related legislation is generally shared between the Health and Safety Executive and local authorities. A general guide to the allocation of the main activities is detailed in the annex of the Protocol.

6.2 The Environmental Health and Trading Standards Department's Officers enforce the HSW Act and various regulations made under the Act in the types of premises allocated to local authorities as described in the annex. This includes the investigation of work-related deaths within these premises and reporting the outcome to the Procurator Fiscal.

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

- 7.1 The Chief Executive
Depute Chief Executive (Support Services)
Depute Chief Executive (Finance)

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 Work-related deaths: A protocol for liaison. This document can be accessed via <http://www.hse.gov.uk/scotland/workreldeaths.pdf>

Albert Oswald
Head of Environmental Health & Trading Standards

December 2006