

Report title: Annual Health and Safety Report 2023/24

Meeting	Corporate Governance and Audit Committee
Date	27 September 2024
Cabinet Member (if applicable)	Councillor Tyler Hawkins
Key Decision Eligible for Call In	No
<p>Purpose of Report To provide health and safety performance data and provide assurance regarding the maintenance and monitoring activities of the Corporate Safety Team.</p>	
<p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is recommended that the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee receive, note and discuss any areas of interest or concern. <p>Reasons for Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The report provides an overview of review and performance monitoring activity, of the Council's health and safety risk management systems and policies, undertaken by the Corporate Safety Team over the past 12 months to ensure that the organisation has clearly set out its commitments to manage health and safety matters effectively. 	
<p>Resource Implication: Outline the resource implications associated with implementing the recommendations set out in the report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	
<p>Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name</p> <p>xxxx 2024 Rachel Spencer-Henshall</p> <p>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance? N/A</p> <p>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning? N/A</p>	<p>Give name and date for Cabinet / Scrutiny reports N/A</p> <p>Give name and date for Cabinet reports N/A</p> <p>Give name and date for Cabinet reports N/A</p>

Electoral wards affected: All (with regards to Corporate Safety Team outputs)

Ward councillors consulted: - The work the Corporate Safety Team is mainly focussed on seeking assurance that the organisation is effectively structured to manage health and safety risks, including having competent workforce, adequate communication procedures and suitable documentation. Whilst there is no formal consultation with councillors, the portfolio holder is sighted on performance and other health and safety information via the Corporate Joint Consultative Group.

Public or private: Public.

Has GDPR been considered? No personal data is presented within the report.

1. Executive Summary

The report presented for the attention of the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee provides an overview, of the review and performance monitoring activity, of the Council's health and safety risk management systems and policies, undertaken by the Corporate Safety Team.

2. Information required to take a decision

For the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee to note and discuss any areas of interest or concern.

3. Implications for the Council

3.1 Council Plan

The report attached demonstrates that the work of the Corporate Safety Team supports the Council Plan, and the Council's subsequent delivery of cross-council priorities as follows:

- Address our financial position in a fair and balanced way:
 - Deliver budget savings agreed in the 24/25 Annual Budget as fairly and inclusively as possible. The Corporate Safety Team provide advice to senior management and operational teams on a pragmatic and affordable basis.
 - Delivery of health and safety training via E-learning platforms to reduce costs rather than face to face.
- Strive to transform council services to become more efficient, effective, and modern:
 - The development and use of data, to constantly benchmark against national standards.
- Continue to deliver a greener, healthier Kirklees and address the challenges of climate change:
 - The Corporate Safety Team consider, within guidance, the health and wellbeing of Kirklees staff and visitors.
 - Utilisation of technological options to avoid any unnecessary journeys.
- Continue to invest and regenerate our towns and villages to support our diverse places and communities to flourish:
 - Provide advice to project management teams so that health and safety is considered at all stages of the construction project.

3.2 Financial Implications

By ensuring compliance with health and safety legislation this reduces the risk of fines by enforcement agencies and civil claims by employees and/or members of the public in civil claims.

3.3 Legal Implications

The competence level of health and safety staff and monitoring activities undertaken by the Corporate Safety Team assists the organisation to proactively manage health and safety, by reducing the risk of prosecution by enforcement agencies.

- 3.4 **Other (e.g. Risk, Integrated Impact Assessment or Human Resources)**
- **Risk**
The Corporate Safety Team maintain a Corporate Health and Safety Risk Register which is updated on a six-monthly basis. This also feeds into the Corporate Risk Register.
 - **Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)**
IIAs have been completed for the Corporate Health and Safety Policy and associated Guidance. This has been approved and published on the Council's IIA system.
- 4 **Consultation**
N/A
- 5 **Engagement**
N/A
- 6 **Options**
- 6.1 **Options Considered**
For the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee to note and discuss any areas of interest or concern.
- 6.2 **Reasons for recommended Option**
The option and recommendation are relating to an annual report only. Therefore, there are no decisions required.
- 7 **Next steps and timelines**
An updated annual report will be presented in 12 months.
- 8 **Contact officer**
Sean Westerby, Corporate Safety and Resilience Manager (07850 559698, sean.westerby@kirklees.gov.uk)
- 9 **Background Papers and History of Decisions**
Previous annual reports presented to the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee have been received, noted and discussed.
- 10 **Appendices**
Annual Corporate Health and Safety Report.
- 11 **Service Director responsible**
Rachel Spencer-Henshall, Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director for Public Health and Corporate Resources.