Cheltenham Borough Council

Social and Community Overview and Scrutiny - 8th June 2006

Food Safety Service Plan

Report of the Cabinet Deputy Public Protection

1. Executive Summary and recommendation

1.1 The issue

- **1.1.1** The requirement for the Council to produce a Food Safety Service Plan is contained within the provisions of statutory guidance issued under the Food Standards Act 1999.
- **1.1.2** The Food Service Plan is the Council's expression of its commitment to securing continuous improvement in the exercise of all its functions, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

1.2 I therefore recommend that:

1.2.1 The cabinet notes the performance against the 2005/2006 plan and gives approval to the revised plan for 2006/2007.

1.3 Summary of implications

1.3.1 Financial The plan will be delivered within existing resources

1.3.2 Legal A food Safety Service Plan is a statutory requirement

upon the council

1.3.3 Human Resources None arising from this report

1.4 Implications on corporate and community plan priorities

- **1.4.1** The Service Plan works towards corporate and community priorities by:
 - stating how our statutory role in respect of food safety legislation will be fulfilled
 - playing a major contribution towards safeguarding the health of the community and reducing health inequalities
 - ensuring that the food service is customer focused and is committed to undertaking customer consultation and promoting partnerships with local

businesses.

- By seeking to achieve improvements which will enhance the quality and safety of food produced and sold in the Borough
- By delivering a complimentary programme of education and enforcement which endeavours to ensure that businesses within the district are operated and maintained at the highest standard

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- 1.5 Statement on Risk (note to report author refer to Corporate Risk Register or Service Risk Assessment)
- **1.5.1** Maintaining adequate levels of inspection and delivery statutory duties Score 12

2. Introduction

2.1 The Food Safety Service Plan is a statutory plan required by the Food Standards Agency (FSA) in a structured format and on an annual basis. Service plans provide the framework against which local authorities will be monitored and audited by the FSA.

To type bullet points, apply the Bullet list style

3. Background

- 3.1 The Food Standards Agency has a key role in overseeing local; authority enforcement activities. The Agency is proactive in setting and monitoring standards and in ensuring that auditing is effective and undertaken consistently.
- 3.2 Service plans are seen as an important part of that process to ensure national priorities and standards are addressed and delivered locally.

4. Consultation

4.1.1 Users of the service are consulted on an ongoing basis throughout the year. A copy of the food service plan is also placed on the council's website.

Background Papers	Framework Agreement on Food Law Enforcement
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Accountability	Councillor Mrs Anne Regan
Scrutiny Function	Social and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee