

Meeting:	Employees Consultative Forum
Date:	01.11.06
Subject:	Stress Strategy Group/Wellbeing Report.
Key Decision: (Executive-side only)	No
Responsible Officer:	Myfanwy Barrett, Director of Finance and Business Strategy.
Portfolio Holder:	David Ashton, Deputy Leader with portfolio responsibilities for Finance and Business Matters
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	Wellbeing report

SECTION 1 – SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS:

For Information

REASON:

A response to a request by Members of the Employees Consultative Forum with respect to widening the remit of the Stress Strategy Group.

SECTION 2 – REPORT

The Health and Safety Partnership Board met on the 28th of September and considered the paper attached at appendix 1. It was decided that Health at Work Group should continue to lead on work related illness issues incorporating stress and that Myfanwy Barrett, Andrew Trehern and Paul Najsarek meet and discuss the proposals of the wellbeing paper and agree strategic direction. Paul Williams has been tasked to present key health at work issues to the Health at Work Group and stress will be one of those key issues.

Benefits

Tackling stress as part of a wider remit with respect to work related illness will enable the council to take a strategic view of work related health issues. By prioritising all areas with respect to ill health we should make better use of resources and reduce the incidence of work related ill health that leads to absence and diminished service to the public. Further benefits include;

- Improving the council's management of health, safety and welfare across all services
- Assisting the council in meeting the duties laid down in health and safety statutes

Risks

Failure of the council to make progress in effectively managing this issue in terms of work related ill health could lead to prosecutions and or compensation claims. Specific risks to implementation are;

- Mistaken priorities leading to increase work related illness
- Missing links between areas of occupational health concern
- Lack of understanding with respect to occupational health leading to increased risk.

Equalities issues

Under the Race Equality Scheme the Health and Safety Service has conducted an Equality Impact assessment which is currently being consulted on. The feedback and recommendations arising from those will be incorporated into future work. And improve service delivery.

SECTION 3 - STATUTORY OFFICER CLEARANCE

Chief Finance Officer	<input type="checkbox"/> yes
Monitoring Officer Jill Travers 20.10.06	<input type="checkbox"/> yes

SECTION 4 - CONTACT DETAILS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

Contact:

P Williams, Health and Safety Service Manager x2362

Background Papers:

Well-being proposal: Health workplace, healthy workforce, improved business delivery – paper to Health and Safety partnership Board on the 28th of September 2006.

IF APPROPRIATE, does the report include the following considerations?

1.	Consultation	NO
2.	Corporate Priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Making Harrow Safe, Sound and Supportive.	YES
3.	Manifesto Pledge Reference Number	