Executive Report

HEALTH & COMMUNITY SAFETY PORTFOLIO

COUNCILLOR GEOFF BLACKWELL – PORTFOLIO HOLDER TERRY CHILCOTT – LEAD OFFICER

1. KEY ISSUES – PROGRESS REPORT

1.1 Health & Safety

Shellfish Purification Centre, Seascale

A shellfish purification centre at the old telephone exchange in Seascale has recently received approval to operate by the Council. The business was formerly a lobster packing operation and the shellfish purification operations are an extension of the same business. The Council's environmental health section worked closely on the matter with the Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science, which is a highly regarded and reputable consultancy. The business is much needed in this area and should help local shellfish gatherers to remain in business as previously locally gathered shellfish had to be sent far afield for purification.

Tobacco Smoking

In February there was the launch of the Smoke Free North Cumbria Alliance (SFNCA). The SNFCA is concerned mainly with tackling the problem of secondary (or passive) smoking in public areas including all local authority and NHS premises. The alliance comprises many organisations including, in particular, Copeland BC, Allerdale BC, CarlisleCC, Eden DC, the 3 Primary Care Trusts for West Cumbria, East Cumbria and North Cumbria, Trading Standards, Customs and Excise and "Healthy Schools". The SFNCA is part of a national initiative stemming from the government's white paper on public health. The Council's contribution to the work of the alliance is a limited amount of officer time from the Environmental Health Section.

Health and Safety Training for Residential Care Home Proprietors

The Council's environmental health section recently ran a half-day training seminar for proprietors of 8 residential care homes in the borough. The seminar was a pilot project and, because it was felt to be very successful, it is planning to run more to cover the rest of the establishments in the borough of which there are about 40.

2. EXECUTIVE DECISIONS RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL

None

3. EXECUTIVE DECISIONS REPORTED FOR INFORMATION ONLY

None