

Copeland Borough Council

Joint Consultative and Safety Panel      27 October 2005

Health and Safety Report

**1 ACCIDENT ANALYSIS – see attached summary**

**2 PARTNERSHIP WITH THE HSE**

The Health and Safety Executive is in the process of launching a new national partnership to ensure that Councils carry out both their duties as enforcers, and the management of their own internal health and safety, appropriately.

Demonstrating competent management of our in-house health and safety will require us to demonstrate all the relevant elements, including health and safety operational procedures, risk and COSHH assessments, lone working and emergency procedures, recorded monitoring and safety inspection details, health and safety training records and a Health and Safety Action Plans. It is also important that records of regular Unit meetings should record any health and safety issues raised at meetings.

It is anticipated that the HSE will carry out random visits as part of the new initiative, to ensure that we are managing Health and Safety as an Authority and an Employer. It is essential that we can provide evidence to support our management procedures in this way.

Failure to carry out our legal obligations would result in Notices being served. This must be avoided at all costs for obvious reasons

**3 HEALTH AND SAFETY REPRESENTATIVES**

Following the initiative to recruit health and safety representatives from the workforce, most services have now nominated their representatives. Now that the main holiday period is over, the Group will hold its first meeting soon to discuss its activities. It is expected that training of Safety Representatives will be an early priority. Training would usually be to an IOSH standard – a recognised national qualification.

The representative meetings will be chaired by the Executive Director with specific duties to champion health and safety. The Health and Safety Officer will provide technical advice and support.

The Health and Safety Representatives will not be accountable for the management of Health and Safety within their Unit – that duty remains with Unit managers.

**4 HEALTH AND SAFETY ACTION PLAN**

A draft Authority Action Plan is being prepared and will be circulated for consultation in the near future.

**5 HEALTH AND SAFETY OFFICER**

A permanent Health and Safety Officer has been appointed and will commence duties from 1<sup>st</sup> November.

The current Health and Safety Advisor will provide support and assistance for an agreed period.

**6 SICKNESS ABSENCE**

Arrangements are being made to improve the quality, accuracy and usefulness of monthly absence statistics. This is an important factor in the management of health and safety and will provide a better basis for tackling health issues in the organisation, in addition to the accident prevention work which is often seen as the main focus of activity.

B H Lennon  
Health and Safety Advisor

COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

JOINT CONSULTATIVE & SAFETY PANEL 27 OCTOBER 2005

Accident analysis April –September 2005

April		( Grounds)	Stepped into hole sprained ankle
May		(I T Section)	Strained right wrist manual handling
		( Refuse)	Back pain pulling bin
		( Refuse)	Dropped bin cut to right leg
June		(Grounds)	Bee sting right hand
		(Pools)	Walked into chair bruised back
		(Waste Man)	Sprained left elbow manual handling
July		(Refuse)	Pulled muscle in back missed step
		( Leisure)	Electric shock water in socket
		(Refuse)	Grazed left arm caught on bin
		(Reception)	Cut left thumb and finger manual handling
		(Admin)	Cut to head walked into sign
(3)	*	(Refuse)	Lifting bin back strain
August	*	(Refuse)	Dislocated left shoulder dragging bin
		( Build Con)	Grazing to left arm excavation collapse
(8)		(Refuse)	Cut to face by piece of wood when loading
September		(Refuse)	Pain in back loading bin
		(Refuse)	Dust in eyes when loading bin
		(Street Clean)	Sprained fingers lifting bin
(6)		(Refuse)	Back sprain lifting bin

(-) same period 2004

\* Reported to HSE for three days or more absence, total 23 days lost