

## Introduction

This briefing paper should be read in conjunction with the latest revision of the corporate H&S Policy. It summarises the main/key changes following the 2018 review of the corporate health & safety policy;

### **1. Format of Policy**

The latest revision includes the three (Statement, Responsibilities and Arrangements) required sections of a H&S policy. These are in a more traditionally recognised format with a hyperlinked contents page, that hopefully makes the policy easier to navigate.

### **2. Formation of a Strategic H&S Board/JCP**

There is currently no formal forum for setting, monitoring and reviewing any corporate/strategic health & safety plans/objectives. This has now been addressed and is expected to encourage/lead to a more connected, proactive and effective H&S approach/culture within Sandwell.

### **3. Identification of a corporate H&S lead Director/H&S Champion**

Though eluded to in previous versions of the policy, this role is now clarified and assigned to the Executive Director for Resources. This is the person who will also chair the Strategic H&S Board/Sit at JCP

### **4. Consultation & Communication**

Clarification of the formal H&S consultation and communication process. Though formal executive H&S forums (JCC) will be attended less frequently (from monthly to quarterly) by the H&S officers, this should ensure a more meaningful/effective consultation and communication process overall with the addition of the strategic H&S board/JCP.

### **5. Roles & Responsibilities**

This revision clarifies and expands on the health & safety roles and responsibilities of the CEO, Directors, Service Managers, Managers and employees.

### **6. Monitoring/Auditing of H&S**

Previous version set unrealistic targets (given current resources) stating the H&S unit will carry out an annual audit programme across the authority (no corporate H&S management audits were completed in 2018). This will now be done at relevant regular intervals based upon the level of risk in each service area

### **7. Arrangements**

These have been expanded upon and are now listed in alphabetical order for ease of reference.

### **8. Directorate Statement of intent template**

The model template for each Executive Directorates "statement of intent" has also been reviewed to reflect/mirror the changes to the corporate H&S Policy.