

# **PERFORMANCE PORTFOLIO (Health & Safety Consultative Group)**

## **DECISION RECORD**

25 April 2012

The meeting commenced at 10.45 am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

### **Present:**

Councillor Hilary Thompson (Performance Portfolio Holder)

Trades Union Representatives  
Edwin Jeffries and Derek Wardle

Officers: Joanne Machers, Chief Customer and Workforce Services Officer  
Stuart Langston, Health, Safety and Wellbeing Manager  
Denise Wimpenny, Principal Democratic Services Officer

### **4. Worker's Memorial Day** (*Chief Customer and Workforce Services Officer*)

#### **Type of decision**

Non-key

#### **Purpose of report**

The purpose of the report is to update Hartlepool Borough Council Performance Portfolio Holder on the arrangements for the Workers Memorial Day Remembrance Service & Wreath Laying Ceremony on 28 April and other events on 27 and 28 April 2012 commemorating Workers Memorial Day To highlight the ongoing requirement for partnership working to aid the improvement of Health & Safety to reduce the number of workplace accidents, injuries, diseases and deaths, that in the majority of cases are avoidable, across the employment sector as a whole.

#### **Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder**

The Trades Union representative provided background information regarding the purpose of the event together with an update on events due to take place as part of Workers' Memorial Day on 28 April 2011. These included a Students Service of Remembrance on Friday 27 April at 11.00 am at Hartlepool College of Further Education. Speakers at the service would

include Stephen Hughes MEP and Iain Wright MP. A dedication ceremony for the “Tree of Remembrance erected in the college in 2011 would take place following that service. The new Workers Memorial Day DVD, commissioned by Hartlepool Trades Union Council and written, researched and edited by Gary Kester, Hartlepool College of Further Education would be incorporated into the presentation.

In relation to the programme for Workers Memorial Day on Saturday 28 April, the day would commence with the laying of a wreath at the Tree of Remembrance at 8.45am at the College of Further Education followed by a Health and Safety Seminar at 9.30 am. A Remembrance Service and Wreath Laying Ceremony would be held at 12.30 pm at Christchurch TIC and the Art Gallery. Speakers at the service and the seminar would include the General Secretary of BFAWU, UNITE Regional Co-ordinating Officer, representatives from UCATT, Thompsons and Browell Smith and Co, Solicitors.

The Workers Memorial Day DVD, which would form part of the presentations on both days, was presented at the meeting.

The Portfolio Holder expressed her thanks to everyone who had contributed to planning the event acknowledging the level of work involved. The Portfolio emphasised her support for the event and reiterated the Council’s continued commitment to health and safety in the workplace. The Committee commented on the importance of publicising the event and the DVD, the increase in the number of accidents in the workplace in the current year and raised concerns regarding the impact of the relaxation of health and safety regulations recently introduced by the Government.

The Portfolio Holder advised that as this would be her last Portfolio Meeting she would like to take the opportunity to thank officers and colleagues for their continued support in her role of Portfolio Holder.

### **Decision**

That the information given be noted.

The meeting concluded at 11.20 am.

**P J DEVLIN**

**CHIEF SOLICITOR**

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