Councillor Paul Thompson, Cabinet Member responsible for Finance and Corporate Services Health and Safety Consultative Group will consider the following items.

1. **KEY DECISIONS**
   
   No items

2. **OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION**

   2.1 Workers Memorial Day – Hartlepool Joint Trades Union Committee

3. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

   No items

4. **REPORTS FROM OVERVIEW OF SCRUTINY FORUMS**

   No items
HARTLEPOOL JOINT TRADES UNION COMMITTEE

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Secretary:- E Jeffries
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Cllr Paul Thompson
Finance & Corporate Services Portfolio
Hartlepool Borough Council

Dear Cllr Thompson,

Report to HBC Finance & Corporate Services Portfolio.

April 28th - Workers Memorial Day

Please see attached a updated report from Hartlepool Trades Union Council on arrangements for the Workers Memorial Day Service, Sunday 28th April 2013, 12.30pm, Christchurch TIC & Art Gallery, Church Square, Hartlepool with guest speakers including Billy Hayes, General Secretary, CWU; Matt Wrack, General Secretary, FBU and Gillian Muir, Solicitor, Thomp sons Solicitors.

HJTUC recognize the importance of the events and request that the Portfolio Holder give consideration to the following:-

a) The Authority considers promoting a minutes silence in Council Buildings and to Council staff at 12.30pm on Sunday 28th April 2013, in remembrance of ‘those workers who have lost their lives through industrial accident or disease.

b) The Authority gives consideration to authorising the lowering of flags on public buildings on Sunday 28th April 2013

c) The Authority gives consideration to allowing the sale of the Workers Memorial Day Remembrance forget-me-not purple ribbons on Council premises to staff and public.

d) The Authority gives consideration to assisting in promoting / publicising the event to the wider public

e) The Authority authorizes the use of Council Premises on Sunday 28th April 2013 for the service and for guests before / after the Workers Memorial Day Service & Wreath Laying Ceremony.

The Themes for this years Workers Memorial Day are within the overall theme of ‘Unionised Workplaces – Safer Workplaces’

The service is open to all family, friends, colleagues who wish to remember loved ones who have died or been injured, or made ill through their work.

Employees who have died through Industrial Accident or Disease whilst trying to earn an honest living for themselves and their families are not publicly remembered on any other day

Edwin Jeffries
Secretary.
WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY (28th APRIL 2013)

Report by Hartlepool Trades Union Council (HTUC)

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Hartlepool Borough Council Finance & Corporate Services Portfolio Holder on the arrangements for the Workers Memorial Day Remembrance Service & Wreath Laying Ceremony and other events to be held around Workers Memorial Day, April 28th 2013. 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 and to request that the Finance & Corporate Services Portfolio agrees to a) to e) as outlined in item 4 as recommended.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 International Workers Memorial Day takes place around the world on the 28th April each year. The slogan for the Day is “Remember the Dead, Fight for the Living.”

The purpose of Workers Memorial Day is two-fold. First, we remember the dead, because those who have died, been injured, or made ill through their work; deserve not to be forgotten. Secondly, we fight by campaigning for the living, so that people can go to work and provide for themselves and their family, without risk to their health and safety.

Each year more people are killed by work than in wars. Most do not die of mystery ailments, or in tragic incidents. They die because of a health and safety failure. Every year worldwide, over 2 million people are killed by their own, or someone else’s work - that’s about 5,000 per day.

A Workers Memorial Day Service and Wreath Laying Ceremony organised by Hartlepool Trades Union Council has been held in Hartlepool since 1999 and has been held on the official day of 28th April since 2000.

Yvette Cooper, Work and Pensions Secretary of State, announced on 28th January 2010 that the UK will give official recognition to Workers Memorial Day to commemorate thousands of people who have died, been seriously injured or made ill through their work.

It is only with enforceable and enforced legislation and the Employers working together with the Trade Unions to improve Health & Safety in all workplaces that we can ever hope to reduce the number of workplace accidents, injuries, diseases and deaths that, in the majority of cases, are avoidable.
In 2011/12 (UK) according to the Health & Safety Executive.

- **1.1 million** working people were suffering from a work-related illness
- **173** workers killed at work.
- **111,000** injuries to employees were reported under RIDDOR
- An estimated **212,000** reportable injuries leading to over 3 day absence occurred (Labour Force Survey)
- **27 million** working days were lost due to work-related illness and workplace injury.
- Workplace injuries and ill health (excluding cancer) cost society an estimated **£13.4 billion** (in 2010/11)

Society no-longer finds drink-driving or domestic violence acceptable. It is time for work-related ill-health, injury, and death to also become unacceptable rather than a tragic but accepted part of the world of work.

The HSE has in the past stated that about 70% of workplace "accidents" are due to the poor management of health and safety.

Worldwide, hundreds of thousands die in workplace “accidents” and millions die of occupational diseases every year. Employers working together with the Trade Unions is the remedy. Prevention is the only cure.

To remember those who died at work we organise the Workers Memorial Day Remembrance Service on 28th April (International Workers Memorial Day) of each year.

### 3.0 Workers Memorial Day 2013 Arrangements.

#### 3.1 Remembrance Service & Wreath Laying Ceremony (*Laying of a wreath*)

The service will take place on Sunday 28th April 2013, 12.30pm, Christchurch TIC & Art Gallery, Church Square, Hartlepool and the laying of the wreaths will follow at the Workers Memorial in Church Square, Hartlepool.

**Officiates** – Revd Rosalyn Hall and Revd Chris Collinson.

**Guest speakers:**

- Billy Hayes, General Secretary, CWU*
- Matt Wrack, General Secretary, FBU*
- Gillian Muir, Solicitor, Thompsons Solicitors*

Wreaths will also be laid by Individuals and Organisations to remember all those who have died, been injured, or made ill through their work.

Individual flowers will also be made available for anyone present to lay a flower at the Workers Memorial in Church Square in memory of a loved one.

‘HBC Sing’ will be performing their own arrangement for ‘It could be you...’, a poem by Michael Houlihan to accompany a reading of the poem during the service. (Michael Houlihan is a retired building worker and UCATT member). ‘HBC Sing’ will also perform “All in the April Evening” by Sir Hugh Roberton

Employees who have died through Industrial Accident or Disease whilst trying to earn an honest living for themselves and their families are not publicly remembered on any other day.

The service is open to all family, friends, colleagues to remember loved ones who have died or been injured, or made ill through their work.
The themes for the 2013 International Workers Memorial Day and are under the banner of ‘Unionised Workplaces – Safer Workplaces’

The Café Area, Christchurch TIC & Art Gallery, will be available from 12 noon for people to congregate. Tea / Coffee etc will be available.

A lone Scottish piper will be playing in Church Square from 11.45am and will ‘pipe’ guests and attendees from/to Christchurch at 12.20pm to take their seats in time for the minutes silence at 12.30pm at the start of the service.

Iain Wright MP, Shadow Minister for Competitiveness and Enterprise will give a ‘reading’ at the service.

Following the formal service the Wreath Laying Ceremony will take place at the Workers Memorial in Church Square. (Individual flowers will be made available for anyone present to lay a flower at the Workers Memorial in Church Square in memory of a loved one).

The Café Area, Christchurch TIC & Art Gallery will be open after the service for people to congregate. Tea / coffee and a light buffet will be available.

3.3 Memorial Service for Students – Hartlepool College of Further Education.

Following the success of last year’s service and the dedication of the Tree of Remembrance by Stephen Hughes MEP it has been agreed to invite other colleges and schools within Hartlepool to send a delegation of students, to join in with the students from HCFE, to the service in 2013.

The memorial service for students in 2013 will be held on Monday 29th April, 11.00am, in Hartlepool College of Further Education. Speakers will include Barry Tupper, Vice-President, IOSH and Mick Laffey, Senior Litigation Solicitor, Thompsons Solicitors. Following the service a wreath will be laid at the ‘Tree of Remembrance’.

Hartlepool College of Further Education ran “Poetry & Design Competition/s” for students of the College on behalf of Hartlepool Trades Union Council for Workers Memorial Day in 2010 and a Design Competition for the cover for the ‘Order Of Service’ in 2011 and 2012. The competition for the design of the cover for the ‘Order of Service for 2013’ is currently underway and an updated report will be given as appropriate on the winning entry.

3.4 Radio Hartlepool

HTUC is currently working with Radio Hartlepool to promote the service including a periodic presence on a mid-morning show, inclusion in the What’s Happening Guide, and to have a dedicated broadcast (Sunday Radio Show) on Workers Memorial Day.

As part of the broadcast (pre-recorded) it is the intention to give anyone who may have lost a loved one, friend, colleague through a work related ‘accident’ the opportunity to have their say and to chose their, or their loved ones, favourite piece of music to be played. It is also intended to synchronise the timing of the broadcast with the service at Christchurch.

3.5 Sponsors and Partners

This year’s service and events, organised by Hartlepool Trades Union Council and sponsored by Thompsons Solicitors, UNISON, Unite No2 Branch and CATUC, are held in partnership with Hartlepool College of Further Education and Radio Hartlepool. Supported by Hartlepool Borough Council, Hartlepool Joint Trades Union Committee, Vela Group, Cleveland Fire Authority, Cleveland Fire Brigade, Northern T.U.C, NESHEP and Hartlepool Economic Regeneration Forum.
4.0 Recommendations:-

The Finance & Corporate Services Portfolio agrees to:-

a) Promoting a minutes silence in Council Buildings and to Council staff at 12.30pm on Sunday 28th April 2013, in remembrance of those workers who have lost their lives through industrial accident or disease.

b) Authorising the lowering of flags on public buildings on Sunday 28th April 2013.

c) Allowing the sale of the Workers Memorial Day Remembrance forget-me-not purple ribbons on Council premises to staff and public.

d) Assisting in promoting/publicising the event to the wider public.

e) The use of Council Premises on Sunday 28th April 2013 for the service and for guests before / after the Workers Memorial Day Service & Wreath Laying Ceremony.

The Themes for this years Workers Memorial Day are all under the auspices of ‘Unionised Workplaces – Safer Workplaces’”

*The service is open to all family, friends, colleagues who wish to remember loved ones who have died or been injured, or made ill through their work.*

Employees who have died through Industrial Accident or Disease whilst trying to earn an honest living for themselves and their families are not publicly remembered on any other day.

**Remembrance the Dead & Fight for the Living**

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