



South Cambridgeshire District Council

Health and Safety Policy - General Statement of Intent

South Cambridgeshire District Council is fully committed to the health and safety (wellbeing) of our employees and others, who may be affected by our activities. We will make provisions for Health, Safety and Welfare according to the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (HSWA) and subsequent regulations made under the Act.

We will provide according to the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 - so far as is reasonably practicable:

- Safe plant and machinery
- Safe systems of work
- Safe handling, storage and use of substances
- Information, instruction, training and supervision so that employees are competent in their job
- Control and maintenance of the workplace
- Safe access and egress
- A safe working environment

South Cambridgeshire District Council recognises that employees are a vital asset to the organisation, and is committed to the prevention of injury and ill health. We have adopted the Health and Safety Executive Occupational Health and Safety Management Standard HSG65 (Also known as OHSAS 18001) as our mechanism for achieving this. In doing so, we will strive for continual improvement in our management of Health and Safety.

South Cambridgeshire District will:

- Recognise that safety is of paramount importance and an integral part of all service activities
- Be committed to the systematic identification of hazards, control of risk and compliance with applicable legal requirements and other requirements to which it subscribes
- Communicate and consult with employees on matters relating to the health and safety, policies, guidance and performance monitoring
- Establish and maintain an effective health and safety management structure with individual posts having clearly defined safety responsibilities and competencies
- Provide adequate financial, human and physical resources to provide a working environment that protects the health and safety of our employees and those using our facilities.

However, successful implementation will rely heavily on the co-operation of those who actually carry out the work and take the risks, to act responsibly and to do everything they can to prevent personal injury to themselves, other employees and those affected by our activities.

Individual directors and senior managers have defined responsibilities for the management of health and safety. Their performance and that of the organisation as a whole will be regularly monitored as part of HSG 65 (OHSAS 18001). Details of the management structure and the arrangements for implementing the policy are contained in the South Cambridgeshire District Council health and safety policy (Organisational arrangements section).

The overall responsibility for this policy, and health and safety rests with me as Chief Executive. I will be assisted by the Champion of Health and Safety (Director, H&ES) and the Corporate Health & Safety Team in ensuring that the policy is implemented, developed, monitored and reviewed.

Jean Hunter
Chief Executive
19 November 2013

