



Section A – Statement of Intent

South Derbyshire District Council acknowledges and accepts its responsibilities under the provisions of the Health and Safety at Work Act (1974) and other relevant legislation.

The Council is committed to protecting the health, safety and welfare of all our employees and others who may be affected by the Council's activities, so far as is reasonably practicable.

To achieve this aim, the Council has a number of objectives to demonstrate commitment to health and safety. This includes ensuring, so far as is reasonably practicable that:

- Provisions of health & safety legislation relevant to the Council's activities are adhered to.
- All offices, buildings, sites, and other places of work owned or controlled by the Council are maintained in a safe condition including safe means of access/egress.
- Facilities for welfare are provided which meet the legally required standards.
- Safe plant and equipment is provided and maintained, including adequate protective clothing.
- Arrangements are in place for the safe use, handling, storage and transport of articles and substances.
- Suitable and sufficient risk assessments are carried out for all Council operations and activities and reviewed at appropriate intervals, or when existing systems or equipment change.
- Effective risk control measures and safe systems of work are in place.
- Employees receive the instruction, information, training and supervision they need to work safely.
- Adequate resources and competent advice are made available to ensure that the Council's health and safety responsibilities are met.

The Council is committed to the continuous improvement of our safety performance and to promote a positive health and safety culture across the workforce. To achieve this we will:

- Develop and implement a robust health and safety management framework, based on risk assessment and the HSE's framework (HSG65)
- Formally set targets and goals within an Annual Corporate Health & Safety Action Plan, which is regularly updated and publicised.
- Ensure effective communication and consultation with employees on all health and safety matters.
- Systematically review and refine our Health & Safety policies, procedures and arrangements.
- Set minimum standards and performance indicators for health and safety.
- Report progress and performance to our Elected Members, Safety Committee, Trade Union representatives and employees.

This policy will be reviewed annually to reflect any changes in legislation and in the Council's operations and activities.

Signed:.....
Date: 11th February 2010

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Ward', written over a horizontal line.

Chief Executive

Review Date: 11th February 2011