

**Title of Report: Outcome of OHSAS 18001 Surveillance Audit (Feb 2019)**

**Officer Presenting: Corporate Health and Safety Officer**

**Author: Corporate Health and Safety Officer**

## **1 Purpose of Report/Recommendations**

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to update Members on the outcome of the recent OHAS 18001 external surveillance audit and to seek Members continued endorsement for the Health & Safety systems and processes within Council.

## **2 Background**

- 2.1 Members are aware that Derry City and Strabane District Council achieved full accreditation to the OHSAS 18001 health and safety management system in September 2016.
- 2.2 In order to maintain this accreditation to the OHSAS 18001 standard, Council is subject to two external audit (surveillance visits) per year, based on a three year cycle.

## **3 Key Issues**

- 3.1 The latest external audit was completed on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019. The objective of this audit was to confirm conformity to the OHSAS 18001 standard, to evaluate the capability of the management system, to ensure conformity to statutory, regulatory and contractual requirements, to identify potential OFI's and to evaluate the effectiveness of the system to achieve the organisational objectives. The audit was completed by two auditors over a one day visit.
- 3.2 From a system review the following areas were scrutinised by the auditors:
- Management of documentation control;
  - OH&S Policy;
  - Health, Safety and Wellbeing objectives and targets for DCSDC;

- Management review;
  - Health and Safety Internal audit programme, remedial actions and timely closeout;
  - Incident investigation, sample risk assessment review, corrective and preventative action; and
  - Hazard identification and determining controls procedures.
- 3.3 The lead auditor discussed in detail, the five non-conformances raised during September 2018 audit, with Head of Environment and the Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer. Together, they reviewed evidence of action taken to address the non-conformances raised as part of the previous audit.
- 3.4 Further to this, the second auditor also completed a half day audit of the Streetscape team. This review covered Health and Safety related documentation and also a review of site works.
- 3.5 In summary, the outcome of the February 2019 surveillance audit was very positive. As a result of the audit two minor non-conformances and three opportunities for improvement were raised. Full details of the findings will be presented to this Committee in due course, when the formal report is received from Certification Europe.
- 3.6 The external auditors were impressed by the level of commitment shown by DCSDC to address the non-conformances raised as part of the September 2018 audit. Further to this, they were extremely complimentary of management and staff within the Streetscape team and their level of professionalism shown throughout the audit day.
- 3.7 The next surveillance audit is scheduled for September 2019.
- 3.8 Corporate Health and Safety will focus on the project of transfer to ISO 45001 standard in the coming months, and will update members on the outcome of the detailed gap analysis in due course. At this point, it would be the intention of the team to complete a migration audit to the new standard in September 2019, to coincide with the next scheduled external audit visit.

## **4 Financial, Equality, Legal, HR, Improvement and other Implications**

4.1 There are no implications arising from this report.

## **5 Recommendations**

5.1 Members are asked to note the contents of this report and to continue to endorse the health and safety systems and processes within Council.

## **Background Papers**