FOOD SAFETY & STANDARDS ACTION PLAN 2018/19 - DRAFT

Directorate: Adults and Communities		Service Manager: Levine Whitham		
Division:	Regulatory Services	Budget: £350,000 (including Food Standards) £315k food & £35k		
		Trading Standards, excluding on costs.		
Team:	Food and Safety Team, and Trading Standards Team	Number of staff employed:		
		5.63 FTE Dealing with Food Safety and Hygiene, and Standards		
		(including Food & Safety Manager 0.4 and Business Support Officer		
		0.75)		

Service Objectives:

We have strong links to the Councils 5 Year Plan, which is indicated against each service activity below. The work of the Food Safety & Standards teams is essential in securing safe foundations from which the council can deliver its plan. Without the basics, such as safe places to eat and protection against disease and food related illness, it would be impossible to build a safe, healthy and vibrant place to live, work or visit. We are the prerequisite for a fit and resilient Borough.

Protecting public health via Food Safety; Income generation via the Primary Authority Scheme and Commercialisation; and Supporting local businesses in Slough.

Provide a value for money food safety service within the Food & Safety and Trading Standards Teams with excellent customer focus and well motivated competent staff to deliver our statutory obligations and the specific needs and priorities of Slough.

The timely delivery of specific work plans, evidence based initiatives and joint working with partners both within and beyond the Council to improving the quality of life in Slough and protect customers whilst supporting business growth and developments within the Town Centre.

Service Activity	Priority & 5 YP Outcome & Statutory Requirement	Targets	Key Actions	Anticipated Outcomes	Responsible Officer	Time Scale & Measures
Primary Authority (PA) & Compliance Support	3. Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work and stay 5. Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide opportunities for our residents Income generation	Maintain income targets Develop existing PA's and explore new PA opportunities, creating income in line with projected target.	Designated officers to work closely with PA businesses to: Develop partnerships with PA clients Provide specific advice in relation to management systems & procedures and controls adopted by the company nationally Issue 'formal PA advice' where procedures and controls are deemed suitable and compliant Handle referrals from other local authorities and central government bodies on behalf of that business Develop and publicise Inspection Plans Issue of advice and guidance to other Enforcement Authorities on the companies activities Maintain an accurate record of any advice and guidance Hold meetings with partner businesses on a regular timetable of mutual agreement, along with annual action plans where mutually agreeable. Respond to request within in line with Customer Charter and Pledge, or as agreed with the PA.	Improved standards, efficiencies and compliance within PA's, with less enforcement action taken by Enforcement Authorities (EA). Reduced, efficient and effective regulation by other EA nation wide, via the provision of PA support which has a national impact. Reduced regulatory burden on PA businesses.	Food & Safety Manager Trading Standards Manager All Food Safety & Trading Standards Officers	Monthly Reports on hours and income generation Quarterly Reviews Yearly overview of individual company Action Plans Number of PA's in Portfolio Virtual PA management team
Income Generation and Commercialisation	3. Slough will be an attractive	Maintain income target	Provide free signposting to comprehensive self help support and guidance to new business start ups and existing SME's in Slough.	Generate income Improved standards,	Food & Safety Manager	March 2019

place where people choose to live, work and stay 5. Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide opportunities for our residents Income generation & effective use of resources	Develop commercialisation opportunities to generate income, in line with projected income target.	Grow and promote our offer of chargeable business support options for all types of businesses, both inside and outside Slough, including, but no limited to: Primary Authority Tailored business advice Assessment of labelling/brochures/website Pre-start up advice Pre-Inspection support visits Regulatory Health Check Training & Talks Training needs assessment Analysis of statutory defence Review of policy & procedures Audit of systems Support in achieving 5 FHRS Supply of SFBB material Buy with Confidence Assured Trader Schemes Funded projects from regional or national groups (TSSE/NTS) Generate income from charging for Food Hygiene Rating Scheme re-score visits and SFBB packs. Sent quarterly emails to all businesses due for inspection within the forthcoming quarter reminding them of their due food hygiene inspection date, and current FHRS, whilst offering a chargeable pre-inspection visit. Provide easy to access payment services, including telephone and online payments. Promote and advertise services, including working with other council departments, producing brochures, press	efficiencies and compliance within businesses. Reduced the amount of regulation required by the council via business paying for support and improving standards before statutory inspections are undertaken. Developed skilled workforce, with a range of business support abilities.	Trading Standards Manager All Food Safety & Trading Standards Officers	Monthly Reports on hours and income generation Number of businesses given chargeable business support. Number of businesses achieving 5 FHRS. Time spent on regulation, and number of planning inspections achieved. Number of hits on our website. Number of press released and publicity campaigns
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		releases, information on website and case studies. Benchmark where possible with other local authorities who have embarked on commercial enterprises to highlight best practice. Explore whole package offers, including licensing and planning teams.			
Interventions with food premises in Slough 3. Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work and stay 5. Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide opportunities for our residents Statutory Requirement Income generation & effective use of resources	100% of due food interventions, including approved premises in line with FSA CoP. All approvals to be issued within time limits as defines in FSA CoP. Deal with complaints and service requests in line with Customer Service Charter and Pledge Explore focused interventions and sector specific projects on high risk premises or where local intelligence suggests necessary Ensure all new food business registrations	Allocation of interventions based on risk priority. Make full use of Alternative Enforcement Strategies (AES) to applicable businesses in line with FSA CoP, including newsletter, SAQ's, targeted advice and other relevant advice. Stagger interventions & AES to support the service in achieving statutory requirements in FSA CoP. Secure improvements where there are evident concerns, taking enforcement action where compliance is poor; in line with the council's Enforcement Policy and business growth agenda. Recover costs for service of Hygiene Emergency prohibition Notices. Provide free signposting to comprehensive self help support and guidance to new business start ups and existing SME's in Slough. Offer chargeable business support options as detailed above. Publicise enforcement action taken against non compliant premises as a deterrent to other businesses and incentivise	Safer food businesses in Slough & increase in % of broadly compliant premises Reduced incidence of food poisoning Increase in proportion of premises achieving 3, 4 & 5 in the Food Hygiene Rating Scheme (FHRS) Consumers have greater information on local business hygiene standards, so they can make informed choices on where to eat and purchase food. Number of concerns raised and intel shared Number of businesses taking up chargeable business support	Food & Safety Manager Food Safety Team Leader All Food Safety Officers TS/NET/ Licensing acting as 'eyes and ears' Support material from the FSA	Ongoing until March 2018 Monthly and Quarterly review

		are risk assessed & inspected in line with risk and FSA CoP Offer business support options as detailed above. Where possible undertake joint food hygiene and standards visits to make efficiencies and reduce burden on business.	improvements. Publicise non compliant businesses who put public health at risk by tweeting 0 FHRS Publicise and award those businesses that do well, but tweeting 5 FHRS Added Value: - Use professional curiosity when visiting premises to identify concerns and share intelligence with relevant bodies - Raise aware of CSE and safeguarding when visiting premises, by handing out leaflets and information - Assessing compliance with Smoke Free requirements - Identify H&S matters of concern and take appropriate action where necessary - Assess pest activity and waste issues external to food premises and share intel with NET team	Number of joint food hygiene & standards visits undertaken		
Reactive Investigations, response to intelligence from other areas of work, Food Complaints & response to service requests	3. Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work and stay 5. Slough will attract, retain and grow	Respond to 100% of service request within 5 days and in line with customer charter. 100% of investigations proceeding to formal action to be reviewed by Team	Investigate service requests and where issues are identified use a full range of enforcement options to ensure compliance and safety. Take a minimum tolerance approach to serious incidents, whilst managing customer expectations in line with Customer Charter. Recover costs for service of Hygiene Emergency prohibition Notices	Safer food businesses in Slough. Reduced incidence of food poisoning. Consumers feel able to eat out and purchase food safely in businesses within Slough.	All officers	Ongoing until March 2019 Assess during 1:1 meetings and Case Reviews Number of businesses and customers
	businesses and investment to	Leader/Manager at monthly 121's	Promptly close service requests which are not serious or present health risks, managing customer expectation from	All complaints and		provided with regulatory

	provide opportunities for our residents Statutory Requirement		the beginning. Where appropriate signpost customers to self help resources. Work in line with Enforcement policy, prosecution template and internal procedures. Outcome from QA - in line with procedures Full range of enforcement options used, as appropriate in line with the enforcement policy Explore alternative enforcement opportunities on a case by case basis. Explore standardised replies for common complaints, i.e. ill after eating out, to save time and ensure consistency Added value: - Work to support % increase in BC businesses	service requests dealt with in line with Customer Service Charter and Pledge		support
Food Hygiene Rating Scheme	3. Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work and stay 5. Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide opportunities for our residents	Continue to implement FHRS in Slough food businesses in line with FSA Brand Standard Increase in premises achieving 2, 3, 4 and 5 score in the FHRS Improved customer awareness of the Scheme, and better informed choices when eating out	Risk based interventions focusing on 0 & 1 FHRS scoring premises, to increase scores and hygiene standards, and their business potential Publicise the scheme monthly via tweeting 0 & 5 FHRS businesses, to increase peer pressure on low performing businesses to achieve higher scores. Publicity campaigns around key dates, such as Valentines and Christmas to raise awareness of FHRS. Provide free guidance to businesses on the scheme and how to achieve 5 FHRS. Added value: - Work to support % increase in BC businesses - Support compliance businesses and target those	Measurable improvement on risk ratings Consumers have greater information on local business hygiene standards, so they can make informed choices on where to eat and purchase food.	Food Safety Team Leader All Officers to support	March 2019 Monthly review Number of publicity actions to raise customer awareness.

Supporting the Town Centre	3. Slough will be an attractive	Attend Town Team meetings and walk	seeking financial gain from non-compliance - Peer pressure to improve ratings and threat of adverse publicity Identify poor preforming businesses within the town centre and offer support to improve their FHRS, and in turn	Improvement in FHRS scores within businesses	Food Safety Team Leader	March 2019
	place where people choose to live, work and stay 5. Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide opportunities for	arounds. Support businesses within the town in achieve good food hygiene and safety standards.	attractiveness to customers. Undertake sampling and ATP swabbing at poor performing premises and undertake focused training on improving hygiene standards where results are unsatisfactory. Offer a suit of chargeable business support options, along with free signposting aforementioned, to allow business growth.	in the town centre	All Officers to support	
Level 2 Food Hygiene Training Programme	5. Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide opportunities for our residents Income generation &	Offer food hygiene courses, minimum of 4 courses a year, to members of the public both inside and outside Slough. Offer courses to other service uses, such as the Councils Training & Development Team,	Develop a publicity campaign to advertise course, and where appropriate discounts to attract bookings. Undertake annual internal audit of course procedures to ensure in line with Highfield requirements. Evaluate course feedback and where necessary take appropriate action to ensure course delivery to high standard. Added Value: - self funding training reducing delivery costs to SBC	Improve food safety knowledge amongst food handlers, in turn improving food safety standards within businesses & increase in % of broadly compliant premises Supports businesses in regulatory compliance, including those with	Sandi Johal Support from all food officers Support material from training provider	March 2019 Quarterly review Feedback from candidates Number of candidates taught and pass rates

	effective was of	and other private	Desitive impact on BC 9/	anforcement nations		
	effective use of	and other private	- Positive impact on BC %	enforcement notices		
	resources	businesses.		served.		
		Maintain procedures required for an accredited training centre				
		Maintain the high standard of course delivery currently achieved. Provide quick and easy payment				
		methods.				
Imported Food Controls	3. Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work and stay 5. Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide opportunities for our residents Statutory	Intelligence and risk lead checks on 100% of imported food notifications. Continue to support and facilitate Onward Transmission (OT) arrangements with clearing agents in Slough, regarding high risk food imported and subject to BIP testing.	Duty officer to monitor and respond to all notifications of imported food on a risk based approach, taking appropriate enforcement action where necessary. Maintain close working arrangements with both MHMRC, Hillingdon, Stanstead and Felixstowe BIP, regarding the sharing of intel, OT's and location of ETSF's. Undertake verification of organic imported food and issue certificates to imported organic food were requested Control of onward Transmission referrals and notifications of Personal Imports Investigations into illegally imported Products of Animal Origin (POAO) and other restricted foods (NPOAO), both at ETSF's and inland.	Safe and complaint food imported into the EU via Slough. Food businesses in Slough, offering safe and complaint imported food.	Food & safety Manager All officers to support	March 2019 Quarterly Review Number of imported food consignments checked and notices serviced. Number of inland food investigations undertaken & notices serviced.
	Requirement		Work with clearing agents and importers regarding the safe and legal import of non EU foods, including signposting to			

	Income generation & effective use of resources		information and advice on our website and elsewhere. Issue of export certificates to businesses inside and outside Slough, regarding the export of foods outside the EU. Annual review of internal procedures, including keeping abreast of know and emerging issues and rapid changes in import controls. Added value: - Slough community, the rest of the UK and other EU countries are protected against illegal and hazardous imports from third countries			
Sampling	3. Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work and stay Statutory Requirement	Participating in National and Regional sampling programmes to investigate emerging food concerns, and to ensure food is safe Undertake sampling as part of a suite of interventions to improve food hygiene and food standards and focus on high risk and local needs	Regional sampling to be agreed at Berkshire Food Liaison group. Explore funding avenues from external organisations e.g. Food Standards Agency Undertake appropriate APT (adenosine triphosphate) testing in local businesses on cleaning practices, giving immediate results during interventions and projects to increase awareness of effective cleaning. Timely follow up on 100% of sampling results, including investigation into unsatisfactory results where necessary. Explore joint sampling initiatives with Food Standards Officers where appropriate Undertake imported food sampling where intelligence suggests necessary	Contribute to local and national sampling intelligence, which will support improved both hygiene and food standards levels in Slough and nation wide. Safer food locally and nation wide.	Julie Snelling All officers to support	March 2019 Quarterly review Number of samples taken

Notifications & control, and Public Health place peop live, stay Statu	ttractive e where ple choose to work and utory uirement Ir N N (I	nvestigation of nfectious Notifications ncluding suspected ood poisoning outbreaks in line with Public Health England PHE) protocols Support Public Health nitiatives	100% of notified infectious disease cases investigated in line with PHE Protocols. Appropriate action taken where food handlers, or high risk groups are involved, including exclusion from work until clear of infection. Where source can be identified, take appropriate action to prevent reoccurrence, including enforcement. Link in with the Public Health team to support initiates where possible, including obesity.	Reduced incidents of infectious disease. Increased intelligence on sources of infectious disease, locally and nation wide	Food Safety Team Leader All Officers to support	March 2019 Quarterly reviews
Inspections and work. an at place peop live, visit 5. Slo attra and g busin invest provi oppo our restant.	ttractive e where ole choose to work and Tough will act, retain grow nesses and stment to ride jobs and ortunities for residents Itory irement 8	Farget: 100% of high isk businesses 100% of Medium Risk Premises to be inspected. To be monitored monthly Farget: 100% of low isk businesses to be inspected Farget: 100% of unrated premises to be inspected and intel led - Sampling on Takeaway meals in Takeaway meals or:-traceability, colours, GM oil, meat isk fish speciation, and allergens at catering premises. Project to establish which food	Allocation of interventions based on risk priority. Make full use of Alternative Enforcement Strategies (AES) to applicable businesses in line with FSA CoP, including newsletter, SAQ's, targeted advice sessions and other relevant advice. Inspections based on risk; - 100% inspection of A, B, C and all other non complaint food businesses - Identified poor performing businesses targeted with appropriate interventions and re-rating the risk To tackle Food Fraud Secure improvements where there are evident concerns, taking enforcement action where compliance is poor; in line with the council's business growth agenda, providing 'incubation periods' where suitable. Provide free regulatory advice for new businesses starting up.	Safer food businesses in Slough & increase in % of broadly compliant premises Increased awareness among traders of their legal responsibilities in respect of Food Standards. Working alongside our colleagues in Food Safety the aim will be to provide consumers with greater information on food standards and local business hygiene standards in order that they can make informed choices on where to eat and purchase food.	Trading Standards Manager/ Food Standards Lead Officer Food Safety Team Leader All TS Food Officers FS/NET/ Licensing acting as 'eyes and ears' Support material from the FSA	Ongoing until March 2019 Monthly and Quarterly review

operators are	Alternative interventions to low risk premises, including	
gathering the	newsletter, SAQ's, targeted advice sessions and other	
appropriate	relevant advice.	Working in partnership
documentation to		on local, regional and
verify the	Publicise enforcement action taken against non compliant	national basis.
authenticity of their	premises as a deterrent to other businesses and incentivise	
food products.	improvements.	Better understanding of
·	·	compliance levels in take
Calculate amount of	Enhance advice for businesses on SBC web site	away sector in relation
traders brought into		to food standards.
compliance.	Involvement in targeted sampling projects for compliance	
· ·	with a wide range of food legislation (e.g. compositional	
	standards, compliant labelling, health nutritional	
	information, additives, allergens, colourings, GM Oil and	
Target: Participation	traceability etc.), with further follow up enforcement as	
in national/regional	required.	
sampling	'	
programmes as	Undertake sampling as part of a suite of interventions to	
directed by TSSE or	improve food standards and food hygiene focus on high	
the Public Analyst.	risk and local needs and intel lead information.	
Including Internet		
sellers within the	Participating in National and Regional sampling	
Borough.	programmes to investigate emerging food concerns, and to	
	ensure food is safe	
To work		
collaboratively with	Offer chargeable business support options as detailed	
TSSE to undertake	above.	
the Food Standards		
that have been	Publicise enforcement action taken against non compliant	
identified as a	premises as a deterrent to other businesses and incentivise	
regional national	improvements.	
problem	protoniono	
prosiciii	Enhance advice and signposting for businesses on SBC web	
Ensure all new food	site.	
business registrations		
are risk assessed &	Focused interventions and sector specific projects on high	
are risk assessed &	1 ocasea micerventions and sector specific projects on high	

	inspected in line with risk and FSA CoP Offer business support options as detailed above.	risk premises or where local intelligence suggests necessary Added Value: - Assessing compliance with all consumer protection legislation - Identify matters which may be relevant to other services			
Becoming an enabling authority – providing self help and links to guidance and support Promotion of Food Hygiene issues and involvement in joint projects with other partners Community engagement 3. Slough will an attractive place where people choose live, work and stay 5. Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses an investment to provide opportunities our residents	number of users accessing the council website for information and self help Increase enquires to the team via foodandsafety@slou gh.gov.uk Provide free signposting to	Publicise and direct users to councils website and dedicated email on all correspondence to businesses. Review and update information on council website on an annual basis, and when new information becomes available, ensuring its user friendly and information easily accessible. Work with the Town centre manager to support local shops Undertake monthly tweets of businesses with 0 & 5 FHRS. Participate in the FSA national food safety week campaign. Publicise enforcement action taken against non compliant premises as a deterrent to other businesses and incentivise improvements. Issue releases where necessary, such as product recalls, local enforcement against poor performing premises, local food hygiene award winners. Other initiatives undertaken, including sector specific initiatives, joint projects and visits with licensing and TS Explore social media to profile work of the service and to reach food businesses, such as Facebook & use Whatsapp	Reduced demand on service from enquires which can be resolved via self help Improved consumer access and awareness of food hygiene and standards Quicker response times to enquires made to the service via foodandsafety@slough.gov.uk	Food & safety Manager All officers to support	March 2019 Quarterly review of information on website Number of website hits Feedback from website users

		Increased community engagement initiatives Promote channel shift via all communications with stakeholders, to the trading standards dedicated council website, whilst being sensitive to the needs of 'at risk' persons and isolated stakeholders. All press releases and forms to direct readers to website. Aim is to reduce avoidable contact whilst promoting existing digital options.	to ease burden on businesses when sharing information Explore opportunities to engage with the community, such as campaigns at focused groups, schools, and libraries; Monitor website hits and advice requests received, for decide in requests, and increase in website hits. Added Value: - Improve awareness and compliance of food safety and standards issues - Supports Income generation			
Safeguarding & intelligence sharing	1. Slough Children will grow up to be happy, healthy and successful 3. Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to	All officers to use their professional curiosity when making face to face contact with service users, and refer concerns in a timely manner, 100% of the time.	Use the 'Concern Card', and assess effectiveness of this avenue to rapid reporting All staff to undertaken SBC online training for safeguarding adults and children on a annual basis Safeguarding to be on the agenda and discussed at team meetings, 121's, and appraisals. All officers to be vigilant and aware of safeguarding issues when making any face to face service user contact, and	Improve the safety of children and vulnerable people in Slough. Improved life's of people in Slough	Food & Safety Manager All officers to support	March 2019 Monthly review and feedback to Head of Service in CP&BC monthly meetings

	live, work and stay	trained in safeguarding and following the SBC safeguarding principles. Continue to share intel and concerns with other partners such as TVH, HMRC, Immigration & RBFRS	follow the corporate safeguarding principles if any concerns are raised. Holistic approach to all operations which involve potential victims with safeguarding issues.		
Looking Ahead		Horizon scanning; providing a forward thinking service and fulfilling statutory obligations	Keep abreast of developments from the Food Standards Agency on the future of the Delivery of Official Food Controls and align our service provision accordingly. Identification and registration (where appropriate) of primary producers of food (as identified in FSA National Enforcement Priorities). Continue to participate in the Food Standards Agency's Regulation Our Future work. Keep abreast of the future of the Delivery of Official Controls in light if the ROF and Brexit agendas and align our services accordingly. Implement new Acrylamide Regulations, following national guidance. Provide information to businesses via council website. Building links with other teams within the Council to ensure that changes in business ownership and nature and identified and acted upon in a timely fashion.	Food & Safety Manager, Food team Leader and Enforcement Team Leader	Ongoing