

COMMUNITIES AND PLACE OSC

REPORT TO CABINET

10 SEPTEMBER 2019

Food and Feed, Safety and Standards Service Plan 2019/20

John Riddle, Cabinet Member: Planning, Housing and Resilience and Phil Soderquest, Head of Housing and Public Protection presented the report to the Committee at their meeting on 30 August 2019.

The Committee welcomed this very good report and highlighted the following issues:

- whilst they acknowledged that the Administration was working with officers to resolve potential issues arising from Brexit, they noted that there were implications for ensuring that food safety standards for goods to be exported to the EU would have to comply with their standards. Such goods would therefore need to be certified as such - a chargeable service that the Council could provide;
- Members sought clarification regarding the figures in the table at 4.2 on whether there was a commonality regarding the complaints across each heading or whether they were separate incidents;
- the Committee were advised that there was no legal requirement for food retail premises to display its food hygiene rating, although it is available via the FSA website. Members felt that retailers would be better motivated to improve standards if they were legally obliged to exhibit their rating, and
- the publication of this report should encourage the Council to reaffirm its willingness to prosecute where there are serious failings in food hygiene or standards.

The Committee thanked staff for their hard work and **agreed** that, subject to the comments above, the Cabinet be advised that it supported the recommendation in the report.

COUNCILLOR JEFF REID

CHAIRMAN