



**Agenda  
item:**

<b>Report for:</b>	<b>Strategic Planning and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>
<b>Date of meeting:</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> June 2020</b>
<b>Part:</b>	<b>1</b>
If Part II, reason:	

<b>Title of report:</b>	<b>Food Service Plan 2019/20</b>
<b>Contact:</b>	Julie Banks- Portfolio Holder for Community and Regulatory Services  Author/Responsible Officer  Emma Walker, Group Manager (Environmental and Community Protection) Paul O'Day, Team Leader, Environmental Health Rebecca Connolly. Lead Officer, Food, Health & Safety Bill Buckley, Interim Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Delivery)
<b>Purpose of report:</b>	To provide Members with sufficient information to approve the Food Service Plan 2020/2021
<b>Recommendations</b>	For Information only.
<b>Corporate objectives:</b>	Resources and Value For Money; Optimise Resources and Implement Best Practice.
<b>Implications:</b>	<u>Financial</u> None.
<b>'Value for money' implications</b>	<u>Value for money</u> Supports the Council in achieving Value for Money for its citizens.
<b>Risk implications</b>	Risk Assessment completed for each service area as part of Service planning and reviewed quarterly. Key risks are recorded on the Council's Risk Register which has been Updated recently. The key risks relate to not achieving statutory targets and failing to protect the public/businesses from Environmental Health Risks : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If statutory targets are not achieved the service can be Taken over and managed by the Government.</li> <li>• Potentially the public &amp; businesses put at risk</li> <li>• Legal action taken against the Council</li> <li>• Reputational damage to Council</li> </ul>

Equality Impact Assessment	
Health and safety Implications	None
Consultees:	
Background papers:	
Historical background <i>(please give a brief background to this report to enable it to be considered in the right context).</i>	
Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	AES- Alternative Enforcement Strategy ECP - Environmental and Community Protection EHC – Export Health Certificate ETSF – External Temporary Storage Facilities FAFA – Food Alert For Action FTE – Full time equivalent FSA – Food Standards Agency FHRS - Food Hygiene Rating System LGA – Local Government Association. ROF - Regulating Our Future PA – Primary Authority PHE – Public Health England POAO - Products of Animal Origin

## 1. Background

- 1.1. The Service Plan is dedicated to the food law enforcement functions undertaken by the Environmental Health Service, Environmental and Community Protection (ECP), Neighbourhood Delivery Directorate. The Service Plan includes details of works carried out under food safety legislation.
- 1.2. Following on from an informal intervention/ communication by the Food Standard Agency in 2019, it was recommended that the plan was presented to members after its Annual Review in March 2020.
- 1.3. The scope of the service plan covers specific areas relating to:
- Food safety and hygiene enforcement
  - Infectious disease investigations

1.4. The Food Service Plan expresses the Council's commitment to the development of the food service and the requirements set by the Food Standards Agency (FSA) who monitors and audits local authorities' activities on food law enforcement. The Service Plan helps to ensure that the national priorities and standards are addressed and delivered locally.

1.5. The FSA, in the Framework Agreement, requires that the Food Service Plan be suitably approved, whether this is by Senior Officers or by members. The format of the service plan is dictated by the Framework Agreement and must cover the following areas:

- Service aims and objectives
- Background
- Service delivery
- Resources
- Quality Assessment
- Review

## 2. Purpose of the Food Service Plan - Service Aims and Objectives

2.1.1 The service plan outlines the work the council will undertake to ensure they carry out their statutory obligations as the competent food authority within Dacorum. This involves intervention planning and implementation that is undertaken in line with the regulators code in a proportionate, accountable, consistent, transparent and targeted manner.

2.1.2 The Food Safety service plays a fundamental role in ensuring that the residents of Dacorum have an informed choice of where they can safely purchase food and drink. The Food Service also assist food businesses by providing advice on a range of food safety matters that can aid economic growth and prosperity.

2.1.3 The council aims to ensure that the food team is adequately resourced to deliver the food service within Dacorum despite increasing demands and difficulties recruiting permanent staff in recent years. All officers are appropriately trained and authorised to carry out a wide range of statutory functions.

2.1.4 The Food team, working together with other council departments and the public, ensure we have up to date information regarding the food businesses operating within our district. Ensuring this information is up to date enables us to focus on high risk premises and allocate our resources where they are needed most in order to protect the wider public health.