

## Agenda Item 16

Executive Board

19 July 2006

SC/01



### Lone Worker Policy for East Devon District Council

#### Summary

The Council is asked to approve the Lone Worker Policy which set out how we assess the risks to employees working on their own and what systems we use to monitor them whilst working alone.

#### Recommendation

That the Lone Worker Policy be approved.

#### a) Reasons for Recommendation

The Council has a duty of care for its employees. This policy gives guidance to managers on how to exercise that duty for their lone workers.

#### b) Alternative Options

The alternative is not to have a Lone Worker Policy., However this would mean that the Council was not fulfilling its legal objectives.

#### c) Risk Considerations

If control measures were not put into place, the Council could risk employees being injured or killed. This may result in bad publicity, litigations and fines.

#### d) Policy and Budgetary Considerations

This policy supports the Council's Health and Safety policy. There are no unbudgeted cost implications.

#### e) Date for Review of Decision

June 2008

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### 1 Main Body of the Report

It is a legal requirement under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, for employers to assess the risks faced by their employees. One of the main risk affecting council employees is lone working. This policy offers guidance on how that risk can be minimised.

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#### Legal Implications

The legal implications have been set out in the report and accompanying documents and there is nothing further requiring comment.

#### Financial Implications

There are no apparent direct financial implications.

## **Consultation on Reports to the Executive**

This policy has been discussed at:

- Central Joint safety panel
- Strategic Management Team
- Corporate Management Team
- Middle Managers Forum

The final version of the policy reflects their feedback

## **Background Papers**

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