

# Agenda Item

**Executive Committee**

**7 February 2007**

**07/7000**



## Adoption of Revised Asbestos Policy

### Summary

To comply with the Council's Policy Register, the Asbestos Policy is due for updating and revision and needs formal adoption by East Devon District Council

### Recommendation

**Adopt the revised and updated Asbestos Policy**

#### a) Reasons for Recommendation

To ensure that the Council's Policy Register is complied with and that any amendments to the current Policy are incorporated

#### b) Alternative Options

Retain the existing Policy, which would not comply with the Register

#### c) Risk Considerations

There are no risks associated with the adoption of this Policy

#### d) Policy and Budgetary Considerations

There are sufficient budgetary allowances to comply with the Policy

#### e) Date for Review of Decision

None

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### 1 Main Body of the Report

1. The Council's existing Asbestos Policy was written in April 2000. It was re-written in May 2004 to comply with The Control of Asbestos at Work Regulations 2002. It now requires to be updated as part of EDDC's commitment to maintaining its' current Policy Register.
2. The May 2004 version has been considered at length, particularly the various roles and responsibilities for officers of the Council. These have been simplified and clarified in Section 6. The main responsibilities now fall to Corporate Directors (6.1), Asbestos Co-ordinators (6.2) and Premises Managers (6.3). References to Commissioning Officers (6.5 in the old Policy) and Supervisors (6.7 in the old policy) have been removed.
3. The 'Permit to Work' system, which has been operating successfully for some time, has also been considered and subsequently amended to provide a better layout of the item concerning asbestos. (See Appendix C, page 22). An additional copy of the form is attached to ensure a full audit trail through Property Services.

4. References to the Asbestos Register (Section 8) have been amended to take account of the different approach used by Housing Services, regarding the Council's housing stock. There is reference now to the fact that there is only one Asbestos Register, which is held by Property Services. This, in turn, has led to amendments in Section 9 regarding monitoring and review of the Asbestos Register.
5. The revised policy has been approved by SMT and is now brought to the Executive Committee for ratification and adoption.

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### **Legal Implications**

There are no legal issues requiring comment.

### **Financial Implications**

Any costs associated with the policy are already being met from existing officers' time and resources. The only extra costs would be if asbestos is actually found.

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

Consultation has taken place with the Health & Safety Adviser and an independent asbestos adviser. Relevant information from the existing approved Policy has been incorporated,

### **Background Papers**

- Asbestos Policy, dated November 2006 and May 2004, is available upon request.

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Brian Kohl, extension 2235  
Property Services Manager

Executive Committee  
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