

Corporate Health and Safety Policy Statement

2025 – 2027

Chesterfield Borough Council is committed to protecting the health and safety at work of our employees, councillors, customers and contractors. We aim to adopt best practice in managing health and safety at work. This includes setting high standards and ensuring effective health and safety leadership, good governance and improving health and safety standards at all our premises and across all of our activities.

Everyone who works for the Council is expected to take both collective and personal responsibility to help us fulfil our health and safety commitments and we expect our councillors, partners, contractors and suppliers to help us meet this commitment.

The Council Leader and Chief Executive are both committed to leading the Council to achieve high standards in health and safety at Cabinet and Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) level. We recognise that strong, visible leadership is an essential part of achieving the vision, culture and outcomes we need.

The Council is committed to:

- Meeting its legal obligations under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 and other applicable legislation.
- Following the best practice guidance outlined in the Health and Safety Executive's (HSE) publications 'Managing for Health and Safety', HSG65, 'Leading Health and Safety at work', INDG417(rev), and other applicable codes of practice and HSE guidance.

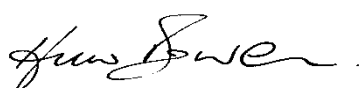
To achieve this, all reasonable steps will be taken to make sure:

- A positive health and safety culture is maintained
- Adequate resources are available for health and safety
- Competent advisors are employed to give guidance and assistance on health and safety activities and specialist advice is available when needed
- Employees receive the instruction, training and supervision they need to work safely
- Activities, premises and equipment meet current legal requirements, standards and best practice
- Adequate, clear information on health and safety is effectively communicated to all colleagues, including employees, councillors, contractors and to those who use our services and facilities

- Employees and their H&S representatives are encouraged to be actively involved in health and safety in the workplace
- All employees and contractors are competent to carry out their work safely and with minimal risk to themselves or others
- Continuous improvements to health and safety arrangements, risk control systems, procedures and physical safeguards will be planned and implemented
- Health and safety performance will be measured and analysed, and the results will be used to improve Health and Safety arrangements. This will include:
 - Ensuring that all accidents, incidents, near misses and hazards are reported and investigated
 - Periodically auditing the Council's health and safety management system and its performance, to check the practical application of this policy.

We believe that:

- Attention to health and safety is common sense and good business sense. It is not something that is just the job of the Health and Safety (H&S) officer. We all have a role to play
- All work activities should place H&S at the forefront of the managers and employees' minds and when planning work and new projects
- Nothing is so urgent that we cannot take the time to do it safely
- We should never knowingly walk past an unsafe or unhealthy act or condition. All employees and other workers are legally obliged to report unsafe working conditions.



Huw Bowen – Chief Executive



Tricia Gilby – Council Leader