
Health, Safety and Wellbeing August 2016 update

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Purpose

1. To present a summary of health, safety and wellbeing performance and risk profile as at the end of July 2016, information to support the committee's due diligence responsibilities and an update on priority actions since the May 2016 Audit and Risk Committee meeting.

Executive summary

2. Auckland Council is committed to being a high performance council, where our elected and appointed members, employees, contractors, volunteers and the people who use our council facilities and services are safe and all major risks are reduced and managed effectively.
3. The main priority for council right now is preparation for the ACC Worksafe Safety Management Practices (WSMP) audit, which will take place in October this year. The outcomes of the pre-audit assessment programme conducted throughout May, June and July are informing our audit objectives and longer term continuous improvement programme.
4. Since the last report in May, work to embed the new legislation into health and safety processes has continued including officer training for elected members across the region. In addition, the business case for additional investment in Health, Safety and Wellbeing was approved which enables the FY 17 programme of work to progress.
5. A presentation will be delivered to the committee at the 8 August meeting that covers the following:
 - a summary of council's current health and safety performance and targets, including an overview of any notifiable incidents, key risks and actions that are being taken to address these risks. Three critical risks for council right now are driving risks, quad bike use and staff safety as a result of serious threats and abuse.
 - an update on the key milestones and deliverables for implementing a strong health, safety and wellbeing culture to ensure council effectively meets its responsibilities as a PCBU (person or organisation conducting a business or undertaking). This will include an update on regional roadshows and staff recognition, the pre-audit assessment programme and business case deliverables.
 - Information on the six aspects of due diligence and work that is being undertaken to support council officers to meet their duties and responsibilities.
6. Overall, since the last report in May, significant work has occurred to advance the strategic goals for 2016 – 2017 particularly in the areas of health and safety leadership, contractor management, proactive reporting and developing a new risk based approach across the organisation.
7. However, the number of serious incidents and notifiable events are too high. The good practice foundation needed across the organisation will take time to achieve, despite there being some very good practice in some business units. Therefore, the focus in the next six months will be to take action to mitigate as many critical risks as possible. The current focus on proactive return to work programmes for staff who have been injured will also continue.

Recommendation/s

That the Audit and Risk Committee:

- a) receive the update report and presentation on Health, Safety and Wellbeing.
- b) refer this report to the Finance and Performance Committee for its consideration.
- c) refer this report to all Local Boards for their information.

Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

Signatories

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