
Health & Safety Policy

South Oxfordshire
and
Vale of White Horse District Councils



Change Record	
Policy Title	Health and Safety Policy Statement
Version Number	9
Owner(s)	Health and Safety Team
Author(s)	Health and Safety Advisor
Change details	Complete re-write of policy
Approved by	Health & Safety Team, Unison and SMT
Approved Date	27 October 2021
Effective date	1 January 2022
Renewal date	1 January 2025

1.0 STATEMENT of INTENT

- 1.1 South Oxfordshire District Council and Vale of White Horse District Council (the councils) recognise our responsibilities to our employees and will do all that is reasonably practicable to ensure their health, safety and welfare at work.
- 1.2 The councils will so far as reasonably practicable, ensure that the health and safety of other persons is not put at risk by our activities, services, and undertakings.
- 1.3 The councils give matters of health and safety equal importance to those of economy and productivity and seek improvement in health and safety performance year on year.
- 1.4 The councils believe that injuries and ill-health suffered at work can be prevented through effective management control and intervention.
- 1.5 The councils will provide safety information, instruction and training to our employees.
- 1.6 The councils will monitor the implementation and effectiveness of these arrangements and the safety performance of the councils.
- 1.7 The councils will manage accidents and near misses in accordance with legislation and best practice.
- 1.8 The councils will manage our operations and staff in accordance with current statutory requirements.
- 1.9 The councils provide competent resource in the field of health and safety to provide guidance to councillors and staff.
- 1.10 The councils will consult with all employees on matters of health and safety.
- 1.11 The councils will review this Health and Safety Policy on a three-yearly cycle.
- 1.12 The councils will promote a drug and alcohol-free workplace and encourage employees to report potential drug and alcohol issues in their respective workplaces.
- 1.13 The councils will develop and implement a health and safety management system following the Health and Safety Executive's guidance.
- 1.14 This Health and Safety Policy applies to all council employees and all councillors.
- 1.15 Disciplinary action (including dismissal, where appropriate) may be taken against any employee found to be in breach of their personal responsibilities either under safety legislation or under the councils' Health and Safety Policy.



Mark Stone
Chief Executive

Date:
11/11/2021