

Foundation certificate courses held

THE Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH) foundation certificate in health and safety in the workplace course is aimed specifically at persons who have not previously received any health and safety training, and covers the following topics:

- Health and Safety at Work
- Health and Safety Law
- Accident and Ill Health Prevention
- Risk Assessment
- First Aid
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Workplace Health, Safety and Welfare
- Work Equipment
- Electricity
- Fire Prevention
- Hazardous Substances
- Ergonomics and Workstation Design
- Manual Handling
- Noise

The overall aim is to develop a level of understanding of the basic principles of health and safety. The course is run locally by the inspectors in the Commercial Group and is usually held over two half days.

A multiple choice test at the end leads to a nationally recognised certificate.

The fee is presently £40 (incl. VAT) and for further information on the course, or to register your interest, then please contact this department.

IN 2005-06, no formal health and safety improvement notices or prohibition notices were served, or were any health and safety prosecutions taken against any business by Charnwood Borough Council.

This means that any non-compliance with health and safety legislation was addressed informally through the use of letters and revisits to businesses to assess their progress with any contraventions identified.

However, this does not mean that Charnwood Borough Council do not serve improvement or prohibition notices, or take health and safety prosecutions against businesses.

The decision to use these methods of formal action is based on the principles set out in Charnwood Borough Council's Health and Safety Enforcement Policy. This document states the Council's general policy with respect to health and safety law enforcement and is based on the principles of proportionality, consistency, targeting and transparency.

The policy is available to see at the

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Southfields Council Offices or on the Council's website at www.charnwood.gov.uk, or request a copy by e-mail on occupational.health@charnwood.gov.uk.

Any comments on the health and safety policy would be welcome and taken into consideration.

Accident reduction

In 2005-06, in Charnwood there was 21% reduction in the number of reportable accidents under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) 1995, with the total number reported being 67 (2004-05 – 85).

This is of course assuming that all incidents that are reportable under RIDDOR are actually reported.

Last year's newsletter informed you of the priority programmes issues which health and safety inspections now concentrate on.

The priority programmes due to accident statistics are workplace transport, slips, trips and falls, falls from height, musculoskeletal disorders and stress.

The highest number of incidents reported to Charnwood is a slip, trip or a fall with 22 of the 67 incidents being in this category, although this has

reduced from the previous year by four.

Manual handling injuries accounted for 12 incidents, a reduction of 20%. Falls from height 7, a reduction of 42% and workplace transport remains the same at two incidents per year.

The priority programme topics account for 64% of the incidents that are reported under RIDDOR. Although there has been a reduction overall in the number of reported incidents, they are priority topics on a health and safety inspection and topics that you need to make sure you have addressed.

Have your say!

CHARNWOOD Borough Council is committed to service improvement.

To help us in this process, we encourage your views, comments, ideas and suggestions about the newsletter and the service that is

currently provided by the Commercial Group.

Further information can be found at www.charnwood.gov.uk/democracy/haveyour say.html

This includes details on the Corporate

Complaints Procedure when you feel that we have:

- Made a mistake in the way we have provided a service
- Failed to provide a service
- Failed to act in a proper manner

● Provided an unfair service

By giving us your feedback you will help us to know what we are doing right, help us improve what we do, and help us to resolve your complaint quickly and effectively.