

**AGENDA ITEM 6
TERMS OF REFERENCE**

(8) SAFETY COMMITTEE

1. The overall purpose of the Safety Committee is to promote cooperation between the council and its employees in developing and carrying out measures to manage health and safety risks and to secure the health and safety of employees, service users, contractors and any others who may be affected by the work of the Council.
 1. To promote the development of a safety culture throughout Bolsover District Council.
 2. Reviewing the adequacy of and effectiveness of Bolsover District Council's Corporate Health and Safety Policy and any task specific or local health and safety policies, practices, procedures or safe systems of work.
 3. Reviewing accident and industrial disease information and trends, to identify unhealthy or unsafe conditions and practices, along with recommendations for remedial action.
 4. Review of health and safety information, risk assessments, audit reports, safety inspections and other monitoring information, making appropriate recommendations for remedial action.
 5. Analysis of information, reports and correspondence from enforcing authorities (Health and Safety Executive, fire service etc.).
 6. Consideration of reports from safety representatives.
 7. To receive and discuss health and safety reports.
 8. To approve new health and safety policies and procedures and amendments to existing policies and procedures.
 9. To review arrangements for health and safety information and training.
 10. To review the impact of proposed or new legislation, codes of practice or legal judgements.
 11. To consider any other health and safety matters raised by committee members.

MEMBERSHIP

12. The Committee shall comprise representatives of Management and Employees holding office for a period of one year and eligible for reappointment or re-election.
13. The composition of the Employers Side of the Committee shall be 5 elected Members with voting rights. The Head of Human Resources and Payroll, Health and Safety Officer and Head of Paid Services shall attend in an advisory capacity without voting rights; together with such other officers of the Council as may be appropriate having regard to matters to be discussed.
14. The Employees Side of the Committee shall comprise 5 representatives selected by the local branch of the Trade Union representing the employees.
15. The Union Side shall submit the names of their representatives forming the Employees side to the Committee to the Chief Executive Officer of the Council not later than the beginning of each meeting.
16. The Committee shall appoint a Chairman and Vice Chairman from among the Committee. When the Chairman is appointed from one side of the Committee the Vice-Chairman will be appointed from the other side. These Officers will also act as Chairman of their respective sides of the Committee.
17. The Head of Democratic Services will act as Secretary to the Joint Committee.
18. The Members of the Committee shall hold office for one year and shall be eligible for re-appointment. Any vacancy that occurs shall be filled as it arises by the relevant side.

ADVISORS

19. Either side shall have the right to have in attendance upon them, persons with a specialised knowledge, in a consultative or advisory capacity but without the right to vote. Such attendance shall be notified to the Secretary of the Employers' Side who will arrange for notices of meeting, agendas and minutes to be forwarded to such representatives unless requested otherwise.

PROCEDURE

20. Regular meeting shall be convened during working hours at 3 monthly intervals and held at Sherwood Lodge, Bolsover.
21. Meetings may be called by the Chairman at any item at the request of either side, such requests to be submitted through their respective Chairmen.
22. Employees will be granted time off with pay to attend a reasonable number of meetings and will be entitled to payment in the event of meetings continuing beyond normal working hours.
23. The Employees Side shall submit to their respective secretaries items which they wish to be included on the agendas of regular meetings, and they will be responsible for forwarding this information to the Head of Democratic Services not later than 14 days prior to a meeting.
24. In the event of a scheduled meeting being due and there being no items from either side, following consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, the meeting may be cancelled and Members advised accordingly.
25. The agenda for business of regular meetings shall be circulated by the Chief Executive Officer to each Member and to any consultative or advisory representative not later than 10 working days before a meeting. The matters to be discussed at any meetings of the Committee shall be stated on the agenda with a notice summoning the meeting provided that any other business may be considered if admitted by a majority vote of each side. Nominated Trade union Officers shall be provided with 6 copies of the agenda and reports to circulate to their Members as appropriate and to their full-time Trade Union Officials.
26. Two Members of the Employers' Side and two members of the Employees' Side of the Committee shall together constitute a quorum.
27. An individual employee wishing to raise with the Committee any question within the function shall do this through his/her appropriate representative on the Committee.