

Internal Health & Safety

To: Jill May

From: Chris Hodgson

CC: Nicola Cuskeran, Sylvia Holme

Date: 2 March 2022

Re: Monthly Update February

Accidents/Incidents: There have been two accidents reported to employees during January. One of which was relatively serious and also highlighted an issue. The issue is around first aid provision in Phoenix House. The current first aid provision is supported by a system, where first aiders are paid a token sum. Through the later stages of the pandemic (i.e. not during the lockdowns – when first aid provision was provided by colleagues from leisure) provision has proved to be problematic because of home working. While ‘we’ have put in place a system to monitor first aiders being on site – there is no compulsion for people to work on site – the first aid payment is a token.

We need to find a solution, my suggestion would be, we stop the first aid payment, it is quite an archaic system, to pay for training MDDC provides, colleagues in leisure have to do first aid training as part of their job, as do drivers of the waste and recycling vehicles, with no additional first aid payment. We then look at offering first aid training across the board, emergency first aid at work, as an example, encouraging more colleagues to become first aid aware. There is a plan to roll out first aid training to the loaders at Carlu Close, later this year. Or we make first aid training a part of peoples jobs, for example the caretakers or customer first?

It is worth noting that first aid provision at Carlu, Old Road and across Leisure is well supported.

There has been one accident reported to a member of the public. This was a serious incident, a member of the public, in an aqua fit class, at Lords Meadow Leisure Centre, experienced the ‘classic’ symptoms of a Heart attack, during the class. The prompt actions of the live guard and leisure team at LMLC, saved their live. The incident was reported to the HSE as a RIDDOR.

There have been two incidents of verbal abuse, housing services and waste and recycling.

Potential Items of Interest:

Fire; I anticipate a walkthrough of the fire strategy at Exe Valley will happen later in March, at which time we will, I hope, get some ‘sense’ with respect to the Fire Risk assessments and the works required.

Legionella compliance; no water sample failures have been reported, 4 months into the six

month schedule.

Covid: The government announced the removal of all formal Covid restrictions from the 24th February. While this is good news we still need to follow some basic controls in the workplace; adequate ventilation, sufficient cleaning and good hand hygiene. Covid infection rates remain high, locally circulating in the 30 – 44 age group. With case rates above the national average in Devon. The R rate is, 0.8 to 1 suggesting the virus is circulating less widely in the community.