

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

LOCAL JOINT PANEL - 16 JANUARY 2006

REPORT BY SECRETARY TO EMPLOYER'S SIDE

7(iii) EVACUATION CHAIR

'D' RECOMMENDATION - that the report be noted.

1.0 Purpose/Summary of Report

1.1 In the early 80's a number of Evacuation Chairs were purchased and installed at the Causeway and Bishops Stortford. These were purchased as standalone items and no ongoing training or maintenance and service agreement was set up.

1.2 The current chairs with the exception of one are no longer viable to use and it is not possible to make good the existing equipment.

2.0 Contribution to the Council's Corporate Objectives

2.1 Improve the health and sustainability of the organisation

3.0 Report

3.1 In order to comply with approved codes of guidance for evacuation arrangements under Health and Safety Regulations and in line with the Disability Discrimination Act a review has been undertaken to determine the needs required for compliance with relevant legislation.

i. Replace, upgrade and install new chairs to Causeway, Wallfields and Buntingford Service Centre. Current arrangements do not comply.

ii. Implement a two tier-training programme composed of 'Key Trainer Awareness' and certified 'Instructor training'. Once Instructor training has taken place the four certified

instructors can deliver ongoing and supplementary refresher training for any staff wishing to learn how to use the chairs.

3.2 Ongoing Review and Period

3.2.1 Programmes of employee user refresher training to be drawn up to ensure continued skills are maintained.

3.2.2 Annual Service care and maintenance agreement to ensure equipment is fit for purpose thus increasing life expectancy of chairs.

4.0 Current Status

4.1 Capital bid being submitted for January to apply for funding to carry out essential upgrade.

4.2 Training costs built into Corporate training estimates for 2006/07 budget.

5.0 Consultation

5.1 Not applicable.

6.0 Legal Implications

6.1 Not applicable.

7.0 Financial Implications

7.1 Not applicable.

8.0 Human Resource Implications

8.1 Not applicable.

9.0 Risk Management Implications

9.1 Not applicable.

Background Papers

None

Contact Officer: Peter Dickinson, Health & Safety Officer Ext. 1636