### DEPARTMENT / DIVISION / SERVICE AREA:
Environment Health

### DESCRIPTION OF SAVING:
**Food Safety Team Funding**  
Transfer of funding from General Fund to Public Health Grant

### DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE:
This Team undertake work on:

- Registration of food premises
- Inspection of food premises in the borough to regulate hygiene standards and minimise the potential for food poisoning.
- Legal action to improve or close food premises that present a risk to health.
- Approval of product specific premises for example premises dealing in products of animal origin.
- Control of imported food.
- Investigation of food poisoning incidents.
- Investigation of complaints relating to food standards and hygiene.
- Sampling of food and related products required to further one of the activities above or from time to time as part of national or regional initiatives to survey standards compliance.
- Receipt of infectious disease notifications from medical practitioners.
- Investigation of the circumstances surrounding infectious disease outbreaks with the aim of identifying the source, minimising spread and deseminating advice regarding prevention.
This proposal is to part fund the work of the food team from the Public Health Grant, to the extent that this work furthers both the aims of the Council and public health imperatives.

### 2 Version control / history of amendments

| Doc. Name | EHTS 001 |
| Doc. location: | |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author:</th>
<th>Owner:</th>
<th>Approving body:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gavin Dennett – Environmental Health and Trading Standards Manager</td>
<td>Anne Bristow</td>
<td>Cabinet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Version:</th>
<th>Amended by:</th>
<th>Approved by:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13/10/14</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>GD</td>
<td>First Draft</td>
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Options for Approval status include: Working (still under development); Draft for Review (issued for review); Approved (has been signed, or passed for approval by the approving body).

### 3 Final approvals required for this document

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Approved (Yes/No)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mathew Cole</td>
<td>Director Public Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roger Hampson</td>
<td>Finance Group Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anne Bristow</td>
<td>Corporate Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cllr. Laila Butt</td>
<td>Portfolio Holder</td>
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4  Budget changes proposed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>In-Year Budget Change</th>
<th>Cumulative Total Savings</th>
<th>Detailed Breakdown of Savings</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£ 000’s</td>
<td>£ 000’s</td>
<td>Employees £000’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015/2016</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016/2017</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017/2018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Indicate source as applicable: GF (Revenue) / DSG (Dedicated Schools Grant) / HRA (Housing Revenue Account) / CAP (Capital)

If your proposal will affect more than one source of funding, please give details below:

5  What savings will be achieved?

Staff related savings
- Current number of posts – 2.5
- Number of posts to be deleted - N/A
- Grades of posts to be deleted – N/A
- % reduction of staff in service area – N/A
- Amount of salary saving – 100K

Non-staff related savings
- Utilities – including heating/lighting - N/A
- Supplies and services – N/A
- Buildings and premises – N/A
- Transport – N/A

Third party payments/income
- Commissioning/contracts – N/A
- Charges to the HRA/DSG – N/A
- Increase fees & charges – N/A
- Grants/additional funding streams – 100k provision of funding for food and infectious disease work from the Public Health Grant
6 What is timeframe for achieving these savings?

The saving would be made in financial year 2015/16.

7 Impact of savings

Achieving Council priorities and performance targets/standards

- The work of the Food Team is critical in achieving the Council’s priority to improve health and wellbeing through all stages of life.

Customers and service users

- The services included are both statutory duties on the Council and the mandated public health responsibility for Health Protection.

Strategic and support services

Outline any back office and support service impacts from the implementation of this saving, include (if applicable):

- Legal/assurance/risk – n/a
- ICT – n/a
- Assets/buildings – n/a
- HR – n/a
- Finance – n/a
- Policy and communications – n/a
- Elevate – n/a

Equalities and diversity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Impact Yes/No</th>
<th>Protected Equality Group</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Men, Women &amp; Transgender People</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>People from Black &amp; Minority Ethnic Groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Disabled People</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Old &amp; Young People</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Lesbian, Gay &amp; Bisexual people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>People with different Religions &amp; beliefs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Pregnant Women &amp; New Mothers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>People who are socio-economically disadvantaged</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Partners

- Maintenance of a robust inspection, investigation and regulation provision for the control of food hygiene and the prevention of disease spread impacts positively on partners including the NHS Trust and the Food Standards Agency and other Council services.
- The aim of the food hygiene work is to prevent and minimise the spread of food poisoning and food borne diseases, this has a positive impact on the health of
residents and by implication their recourse to acute medical services funded publicly in the NHS budget.

- Food hygiene work is a statutory function for local authorities and the serious implications should work in this area go undelivered have lead central government to provide oversight powers to the Food Standards Agency in this area. Were we to fail to deliver on this work the Agency would be charged with leading government intervention at the Authority, this would have both reputational and financial implications for the Authority. The Agency would certainly seek to recover the costs of remedial measures within the Authority. The agency routinely monitor the work of local authorities via statistical returns and undertake audits of local authorities where they have concerns regarding food hygiene regulation. These audits in themselves are disruptive and costly for authorities.
- Other council services, for example education and adult social care, are impacted positively by work on infectious disease control. Officers work with the legal framework to restrict and control activities that increase the risk of the spread of infectious disease among children and the elderly in school and care home environments.

8 Risk assessment

- As this proposal involves the reallocation of funding from the Public Health Grant to fund this activity there is no increased risk at this time.
- In future if the funds available from the public health grant diminished or should the funding priorities of the Director of Public Health change any shortfall in funding for food hygiene and infectious disease control work would need to be alternatively funded.

9 Other costs

- **Redundancy costs** – N/A
- **Transfer costs to other departments / third parties** – 100K Public Health
- **Gainshare payments** – N/A
- **Set Up costs** – N/A
- **Disposal/closure costs** – N/A
10 Miscellaneous comments to support savings proposals

Local Authorities including London Borough of Barking and Dagenham have been given further responsibilities for Public Health as part of the Government's 2012 Health and Social Care Reforms.

This was a move widely welcomed by local authorities in that it provided for local decisions on the best ways to support improvements in public health to be taken in light of a deeper understanding of local conditions.

Regulatory Services concerned with food preparation and sale have been specifically sited in guidance from bodies such as the Kings Fund as being a significant contributor to improving public health.

The expenditure of public health grant on such services can therefore be shown to be in line with the mandated responsibility for Health Protection as outlined in the Public Health Outcomes Framework and for consideration for prioritising the use of public health funding.