Agenda item 11

For information - Health & Safety update

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Summary

This standing report to the Council Matters Committee provides updates on the following:

- 1. Health & Safety (accidents and incidents)
- 2. Liability claims
- 3. Property claims
- 4. Risk management

1. Health & Safety

Accidents and incidents

Alongside Mendip District Council and Somerset County Council, we have been included in further correspondence relating to the accident that has been reported near Lower Innox.

Care of their solicitors, the person reporting the accident is still looking for confirmation of which organisation is responsible for the path where the accident happened; and a resolution on this is yet to be reached.

We haven't heard anything more about the accident that happened at the Old Showfield on the same day that our Apple Day event was taking place.

Lastly, a mature Cypress tree in Victoria Park was damaged in the storms over the weekend of Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 February. The outcome of this was that a large branch fell into and damaged the metal fencing around the children's picnic and play area; and damaged the timber fence of a neighbouring property in Weymouth Road.

We are already in contact with the homeowners in Weymouth Road; and we are also having the trees in this part of the park independently re-surveyed following the storm.

2. Liability claims

Existing claims

The accident along the riverside path between Weylands and Welshmill that was reported in December 2017 remains open and remains with Zurich on behalf of FTC.

New claims

The Council hasn't received any new liability claims since the last Council Matters meeting on 6 November 2019.

However – and as reported in November - if the accident mentioned above is found to have happened on a path that we look after, a new claim is expected.

3. Property claims

The Town Hall Steward resolved our claim in respect of the accidental damage to one of the pillars and the joining wall of the car park at the Town Hall; and the necessary repairs have now been completed.

4. Risk management

Site risk assessments for Weylands and the nearby riverside path were formally approved at the last Council Matters meeting on 6 November 2019.

We'll review the site risk assessments and tree risk assessments for Victoria Park in light of the recent storms (and in line with the findings of the expert survey that is being prepared)

We're also updating the site risk assessments for Birchill Lane and Weylands to reflect the Wild about Trees planting that has happened.