

HSE Report for POOSH: 16 June 2009

The new HSE Strategy was launched on 3 June 2009. The goals are very similar to those in the consultation version with some differences elsewhere. The relevant teams in will follow up all comments received during the consultation with organisations concerned. There is various material on the HSE website about the Strategy. The website has recently been revamped into a different format.

Some internal reorganisation has taken place within HSE. Giles Denham has returned to Department of Health leaving Jane Willis as Director of Cross-cutting Interventions Directorate. Some policy making has been devolved to other parts of the organisation. Sector-facing teams under Marcia Davies and Local Authority Unit are now reporting to Kevin Myers.

There are four strategic HSE groups looking to coordinate activity across the organisation focusing on the themes in the strategy – leadership and competence, worker involvement, health and avoiding catastrophe – with possibly an additional one focusing on SMEs.

Slips, trips and falls continue to be a key theme of the “Shattered Lives” campaign – recent posters have included health and education. There is continued targeting of tradesmen who may inadvertently disturb asbestos during refurbishment and other work. There are also plans for media activity as part of work to promote worker involvement later in the year.

HSE has undertaken work as a possible preliminary to a new MSD Directive covering manual handling and DSE equipment. Current expectations are for a revised text to come from the Commission in the autumn.