

Report for POOSH Dec 2011

CIEH activities

1. Löfstedt review – CIEH response to the review:

<http://www.cieh.org/WorkArea/showcontent.aspx?id=38100>

2. CIEH press release following publication of Löfstedt report:

<http://www.cieh.org/media/media3.aspx?id=39850>

3. CIEH working with Health Protection Agency and local authorities to produce guidance on tattooing. Madeleine Moon MP will be launching the guidance at the House of Commons when it is complete – ETA July 2012
4. Occupational Safety and Health Consultants Register (OSHCR) – CIEH preparing paper in consultation with other professional bodies for next Board meeting on competence (of consultants).
5. CIEH has met with Association of British Insurers to discuss insurance dimension to 'Elf 'n Safety stories. ABI Director willing to speak at POOSH conference.
6. Local Government Association has revived the Health and Safety forum which has lain dormant since the demise of Local Government Regulation.
7. CIEH has published guidance with the Health Protection Agency on fish pedicures –
http://www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1317131045549
8. Chair of POOSH Andrew Griffiths addressed a meeting of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Health and Safety held at the House of Commons. Notes of points made as follows:

POOSH - Presentation to APG on Health and Safety

Introduction

Professional Organisations in Occupational Safety and Health. Set up in 2000

Aims and Objectives

Promote the continuous improvement of the practice of occupational safety and health through

- Education
- Communication
- Cooperation between agencies

towards safe and healthy work environments.

Members

12 member professional bodies covering the range of occupational safety and health issues

- AOHNP - Association of Occupational Health Nurse Practitioners
- BOHS – British Occupational Hygiene Society
- CIEH – Chartered Institute of Environmental Health
- IEHF – Institute of Ergonomic and Human Factors
- IRM – Institute of Risk Management
- IIRSM – International Institute of Risk and Safety Management
- IOSH – Institution of Occupational Safety and Health
- RSC – Royal Society of Chemistry
- Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland
- RSPH – Royal Society for Public Health
- RCN Public Health Forum – Royal College of Nursing Public Health Forum
- SARS – Safety and Reliability Society

By invitation: RoSPA – Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents

Observer: HSE – Health and Safety Executive

Actions

Discuss OSH issues of common interest – identify areas and issues where we might be able to speak with one voice to support a particular initiative or point of view. Aim to engage with key players in OSH.

Share knowledge and expertise, work together – avoid duplication of effort. Share responses to government and HSE consultations – lots of them recently.

Examples

1. *Diana Kloss on Council for Work and Health* as it was being set up. One issue identified – little input on the issue of regulation of businesses to ensure one of the aims of the Council which is to ensure that “workers are not injured or made ill by the work that they undertake”.

HSE observer status but no input from LA regulators – responsible for huge number of businesses and workers. CIEH not represented (AG not in the chair at that time!).

Discussed how POOSH could be a sounding board for the Council

2. *Summit Meeting with Dame Carol Black* – National Director for Health and Work, who talked to us about the Responsibility Deal. Discussed concerns about mental health (stress) and the HSE. POOSH has been considering expanding the membership to include mental health organisations). Also the Fit Note – Dame Carol believed there is still a long way to go to make the system work well everywhere.

Also discussed how POOSH could help by compiling data and statistics (by employment sector)

3. *Summit Meeting with Geoffrey Podger*

All the chief executives and/or presidents of POOSH members came together to hold a summit with the chief executive of HSE Geoffrey Podger. Discussed the background and implications of the changes being introduced by HSE in the light of reductions in funding.

Conference proposal

Joint conference to examine the implications of the new regulatory environment – Lofstedt review, BIS consultation on Transforming Regulatory Enforcement. Part of the concern relates to the emphasis on business needs; the consultation appears to take the case for worker and consumer protection as read. Want to emphasise the need as we see it to keep the needs of workers and consumers at least as high as that of businesses.

Here to help

You can use us – as a sounding board. We are happy to provide briefings etc. We see professional organisations as being increasingly important as government is looking more and more to the third sector to plug gaps that are being left by reduced funding for statutory bodies and agencies.

All members of POOSH stand ready to help – part of our role in improving the practice of occupational safety and health.