



Consultations

- *Welsh Government on health and safety regulation in agriculture (WG)* – in our response, which was informed by members of the IOSH Rural Industries Group, we emphasised the need for good guidance, training and advice, underpinned by well-resourced regulation. Stressing the need to improve health and safety performance in this sector, we made clear that deregulation in health and safety was certainly not an option and can cost lives.
- *Proposals on revised Control of Asbestos Regulations (HSE)* – we supported the proposed additional measures for work involving friable asbestos containing materials (ACMs) or causing deterioration of non-degraded ACMs. We also raised concerns about ensuring the competence of those providing medical examinations and those offering notifiable non-licensed work services. We highlighted the need for effective communication and definitions of key terms.
- *HSE proposal for extending cost recovery (HSE)* – we recognised the benefits of a system that transfers costs from the taxpayer to those organisations that put people at risk; helps create a level playing field; and reinforces the business case for good health and safety. We were content with extending cost recovery for onshore boreholes, land use planning and initial advice to large projects requested by developers. However, we have raised a number of concerns about the particulars of the current ‘fees for interventions’ proposal and its implementation, including the potential to discourage reporting.
- *The future of the LBRO and extending the benefits of the Primary Authority Scheme (BIS)* – we think that replacing LBRO and extending the PA scheme could have benefits, but would need careful research and management. We have raised concerns in the case of fire safety that local and premise-specific issues, building control interfaces and devolution all need to be fully considered and addressed.
- *Transforming regulatory enforcement: freeing up business growth (BIS)* – in our response we have repeated our calls on government to reduce the non-regulatory demands on SMEs; clear up any confusion about what the law requires; and ensure consistent and high quality enforcement.

- *Proposed replacement for the licensing regime for adventure activities established under the Activity Centres (Young Persons' Safety) Act 1995 in England (HSE)* – we highlighted the fact that adventure activity licensing is useful, works well and should be kept, supported by better, more wide-ranging guidance. We raised concerns that abolishing it could cause less public confidence and use of adventure activities; more costs to business (users and providers); and lower standards (good replaced by bad).
- *Revision of HSG65 (refreshed) (HSE)* – we provided comments on the drafts of parts one, two and three of the new 'refreshed' HSG65. We generally welcomed the change to a more people- and outcomes-focused (rather than system- and process-focused) approach and more close alignment with the 'Plan, do, check, act' model. We were also positive about improved accessibility for SMEs and links to the new HSE web pages on 'Managing for health and safety'. We made a number of suggested text changes.

The IOSH responses are available at www.iosh.co.uk/condocs

IOSH research fund update

- IOSH will be holding a workshop in January for our research programme 'Health and safety in a changing world', bringing together the three funded teams and other selected participants. Feedback on possible gaps that could be filled by future commissioning will be incorporated into the next research programme funding round.
- We have granted funding for three second-stage applicants for our 2011 Annual competition. The next call for bids for the Annual competition will be in January 2012.

IOSH development fund update

- *Health and Safety National Occupational Standards development* – this project builds on previous work and looks at the gaps identified within a Sector Qualifications Strategy, and in consultation with pan sector stakeholders in health and safety, will develop National Occupational Standards (NOS) in these areas.
- *Teaching health and safety in undergraduate engineering courses* – this report presents the findings of a review into undergraduate engineering teaching material on health and safety principles and practice, and how it may be designed and packaged for students of all disciplines in the UK higher education sector.

Full and summary R&D reports are available at www.iosh.co.uk/researchreports and information on R&D funds at www.iosh.co.uk/researchfund and www.iosh.co.uk/devfund.

Public affairs

- *Löfstedt report* – IOSH was pleased to attend both launch events for this report in London and Brussels. We welcomed streamlining and simplification, but are concerned about proposed exemptions for the self-employed. We will be involving our members in the many consultations that ensue and will host a European Parliament event in Spring 2012 with Prof Löfstedt as a speaker.
- *Party conferences* – we attended the 3 main party conferences, meeting many parliamentarians and speaking with Cabinet Ministers, Ministers and Shadow Ministers, to promote the IOSH Li£e Savings campaign. We ran a successful ‘Who wants to save a million’ quiz on our Conservative conference stand, attracting over 200 visitors and being short-listed for a ‘best stand’ award.
- *Li£e Savings campaign* – we have produced new guidance, case studies, a leaflet (‘£10 note’ style) and CPD course on ‘making the business case’, aimed at employers and members (www.iosh.co.uk/lifesavings). We have attracted 44 signatures to the campaign EDM 1884 so far.
- *APPG presentations* – we presented our updated Li£e Savings campaign and our work on sustainability with the Global Reporting Initiative as a co-founder of the Center for Safety and Health Sustainability (www.centershhs.org).

Other activities

- *Meeting with CLOtC* – we were pleased to host a meeting at The Grange with the Chief Executive of the Council for Learning Outside the Classroom, IOSH staff and a representative of the IOSH Education Group to explore ways in which our organisations can work together to promote outdoor learning.
- *IOSH AGM and Annual Dinner* – our new President Subash Luhdra was inaugurated, with Gerard Hand becoming our new President-Elect.
- *IIG meeting* – we were pleased to share a summary report at the Inter-Institutional Group on Health and Safety meeting on ‘Teaching health and safety in undergraduate engineering courses’. This report has been instrumental in securing further HSE

funding for this project.

- *IIG workshop with HSE* – we were pleased to take part in this London event aimed at developing mutual understanding of current strategic health and safety issues, areas of concern and planned initiatives; and discussing key topics and opportunities.
- *GRI* – we continued our work to improve the OSH metrics in the Global Reporting Initiative's revised sustainability reporting guidelines (G4) with several POOSH members providing valuable support.
- *SHP-IOSH Awards* – we co-hosted another successful annual awards dinner at the Park Lane Hilton, London, with keynote speech from Dame Carol Black and Canadian comedian Stewart Francis acting as MC.
- *Biological dusts* – IOSH hosted a small workshop on 'Controlling exposure to biological dusts, preventing respiratory disease' involving IOSH staff, Health and Safety Laboratory and members of the IOSH Food and Drink Group representing major food retailers and bakeries.
- *ORR* – we met with senior representatives from the Office of Rail Regulation to discuss areas of common interest and explore the potential for ongoing bi-lateral meetings.
- *Membership milestone* – IOSH has recently achieved a milestone in membership figures passing the 40,000 mark.

Richard Jones
IOSH Head of Policy and Public Affairs
richard.jones@iosh.co.uk
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