

Update from Professor Richard Taylor – IIG joint working with the HSE

I sent an email to you all on the 2nd March updating you on progress in setting up the working groups covering the three topics that we have agreed to look at jointly with the HSE and asked for any further thoughts on membership. I thought it would be helpful if I now updated you on the membership of the three groups and the proposed way forward. The membership of the groups is still open to further nominations (or corrections/adjustments) and one or two member institutions may wish to consider strengthening their input. However, any further names/changes should be proposed by the 16th April so that the groups can begin work with a view to outlining developments at the next IIG meeting on the 25th June. Jane Willis will be confirming names of HSE participants in the next week or so.

1 Competence Group

John Carpenter (ICE) has agreed to chair this group. The current proposed membership is:

- Allan Bain (SARS)
- Deborah Seddon (EC)
- Hazel Harvey (IOSH)
- Andy Mackiewicz (ICChemE)
- John Brazendale and /or another HSE member
- Brian Wimpenny (IMechE)
- Reg Sell (IErgHF)
- IET nominee - to be advised

John Carpenter will be contacting members shortly to define objectives and a proposed work programme, but broadly the intention is initially to take the document (circulated previously) on the competences that might be expected at various stages in the career of an engineer (originally developed by John in the context of civil engineering) and broaden it so that it is relevant to other engineering disciplines. The group will also recommend how the document could be best used and what more may need to be done.

2 Business Case Group

Richard Jones (IOSH) has agreed to chair this group. The current proposed membership is:

- Dick Taylor (IET)
- Andy Mackiewicz (ICChemE)
- Harry Hopkins (SARS)
- POOSH nominee – to be advised
- HSE nominee - to be advised

The intention is that the group will assemble and review the current material available on making the business case (including the Occupational Health case) and draw together an outline of the key points that might be made and how these can best be presented to defined stakeholders/audiences. The HSE and IIG can then determine how the work might be taken forward with a view to having a document which can be widely agreed and 'owned'.

3 Risk Communication Group

I agreed to chair this group unless anybody else wishes to volunteer! The current proposed membership is:

- Andy Petrie (IET)
- Luise Vassie (IOSH)
- Nicola Stacey (IMechE)
- Paul Thomas (HF)
- HSE nominee - to be advised

I will be contacting members shortly to propose objectives and ways forward, but as agreed at the 20th January meeting, the intention is to provide a short paper which identifies developments in this area (such as the recent Engineering Council Risk Guidance; points emerging from the upcoming Hazards Forum discussion meetings; the current undergraduate teaching project proposals; recent IOSH initiatives in this area and developments following the Löffstedt recommendations) and then try to identify where further actions may be appropriate and how these could be taken forward.

It was emphasised in the earlier discussions that we will try to minimise meetings and the plan will be to approach the topics on a step-by-step basis. The initial output will therefore be reviewed by the IIG and the HSE before further commitments are made which may require more significant levels of resource.

Dick Taylor
4th April 2012