

Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents
Occupational Safety
Activity report

This note provides a summary update on some of the main items in RoSPA's current occupational safety work programme.

H&S Journals

RoSPA's three H&S journals, 'OS&H', 'Bulletin' and 'Safety Express' are continuing to be produced to quality and budget. We would welcome feed-back, particularly on 'Safety Express', and ideas for increasing uptake.

RoSPA Awards, Conferences etc

Building on the 2012 Awards round we are helping the Awards team to draw lessons from the 2012 review and with updating of the awards process, including the on-line system. Follow up actions are in hand with Finning UK, winners of the 2012 Sir George Earle Trophy (see below) to create an online learning legacy. The winners of the RoSPA/BHSF SME Assistance Trophy were the Mineral Products Association. They are keen to get closer on cycling safety.

National Occupational Safety and Health Committee

RoSPA's NOSH now includes several new members from key trade associations. We are having one more 'corresponding week' to elicit views on a simple question ahead of the main meeting on 4th October at which there will be further discussion on the Government's H&S reform programme, including the response to public consultation on a number of changes recommended by the Lofsted review. Our key issue project is still following through on team leadership (see also below). We will review all initiatives to date and draw them together.

Managing Occupational Road Risk

This remains a key issue for RoSPA. We are continuing to do presentations, answer queries and I have been helping ETSC with European work. RoSPA's BNFL Scholarship Panel (see below) have agreed to fund a review of MORR policy and practice to date via ULC and TRL. The idea here is to help to re-boot the policy discussion at the end of 2013. I attended the ETSC events in Brussels on 25th April and in Malaga on 7th June. Duncan Vernon is attending the ETSC seminar in Lisbon on 18th October. We are still circulating info to ORSA and ScORSA.

Accident investigation

Sheila Merrill and I have tried to explore ideas with John Kingston and Andy Weyman on how to apply ECFA to home accidents. The idea here is to feed into the work we are doing to get home safety built into Public Health which is being reorganised via Local Authorities. I feel this important but it is hard to see a way forward without funding.

Team leadership

This is a key theme being led by NOSH. Teresa Budworth has agreed to take over leadership on NOSH. The draft workbook and guidance for the new RoSPA Leadership and Engagement Academy Programme' (LEAP) has been put together as a potential project to be led by Howard Fidderman. We are also considering the case for a set of core actions and good practices for team leaders and supervisors to sit alongside INDG417. I am also committed to preparing a list of resources.

BNFL RoSPA scholarship

We had 25 entries in the 2012 round and four bids were eventually successful: effectiveness of fire safety interventions (to be extended); drowning data applications (together with RNLI); and two MORR policy review projects to be merged (see above). We also agreed to stay in touch with Puspah Pant's funded project which has looked at child accident prevention in Nepal. Next year's round, to be launched next month, will look exclusively for bids related to safety and risk education.

Safety Groups UK

The SGUK work programme (to which RoSPA provides support) is continuing apace. The AGM was held on 14th June at Denby. Fund raising continues. The next SGUK project, which was launched successfully at NEC, involves rolling out the 'Health Risks, Do you Know Yours?' (HR@W)

programme developed in Scotland via Groups in England and Wales. There was a champions' training day for HR@W at Denby on 15th June. A new group in North Oxfordshire has agreed to affiliate. Next two new groups to be re-established will be Devon and Cornwall but we lack resources. SGUK is seeking support from the USHA and other H&S organisations including CIEH, APIL, SH&SL etc. Help is being sought during Charlotte Henderson's maternity leave. Other volunteers are coming forward.

Policy/consultation

We are contributing to HSE consultation on ACoPs, RIDDOR and exemption of the self employed. Views from the Workplace Team would be appreciated on some of the detail here. We understand that Minister Grayling at DWP has asked Prof Lofstedt to review progress with his review and progress with H&S reform. We are tracking FFI and the new HSE Challenge Panels. We are seeking to make a contribution to Lofstedt project on risk literacy. We are continuing to press the case for a new approach to coordinating help to SMEs following up the meeting we had with Lord Young at No 10.

Public speaking/articles/media

We are continuing to deliver here via speaking engagements, including to Groups, and doing regular broadcast interviews on aspects of H&S management and follow up to Lofstedt etc. We are adopting a balanced tone to deal with trivialisation of H&S etc. but continuing to question the evidence base about the extent of excessive risk aversion alleged by the Government.

Other work

1. We have developed project proposals for an SGET 'Learning Legacy' linked this year to Finning's focus on employee led simplification, team safety dynamics and 24/7 safety and sent letters to the CEOs of over 40 SGET winners..
2. We are continuing to participate in OHSCR and calling for review on impact etc. We support the idea of developing a complaints procedure. The consensus however seems to be that it is too early to review.
3. We have secured Professor Lofstedt to deliver the next Allan St John Holt Memorial lecture on 23rd October at Mount Pleasant in London on the theme of '*Towards a more risk literate society*'.
4. I am continuing to produce my monthly column '*Parting Shot*'. The next for December will be on the need for OS&H professionals to engage wider the wider public health agenda.
5. We are still tracking HSE's project to revise its guidance inventory.
6. We are talking to several volunteers who are offering to help with aspects of our work.
7. We are facilitating a new network to preserve the history of OS&H. This work is being led by Sheila Pantry OBE. We would like to develop plans to formalise the new group of volunteers which is beginning to map OS&H history and existing resources. An approach has been made to Geoffrey Podger and Jane Willis is looking at this.
8. I am helping colleagues to find the way ahead in relation to H&S in schools.

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