



**Minutes of the
POOSH Committee Meeting
Held on Thursday 18 September 2014
Hosted by BOHS**

5/6 Melbourne Business Court, Millennium Way, Pride Park, Derby DE24 8LZ

Present:

Ms Susanna Everton	AOHNP	(Chair)	SE
Ms Sharon Brunt	BOHS		SB
Mr Reg Sell	IEHF		RS
Mr Gerard Hand	IOSH		GH
Mr Richard Jones	IOSH		RJ
Mr Harry Hopkins	SARS		HH

Secretariat:

Mrs Anna McNeil	Secretariat	AM
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1. Welcome, apologies and membership update

Susanna Everton welcomed everybody to the meeting and the group thanked BOHS for hosting the meeting and providing lunch.

Apologies had been received from:

Mr Steve Miller	CIEH	JM
Mr Barry Holt	IIRSM	BH
Ms Carolyn Williams	IRM	CW
Mr Jeremy Harrison	IRM	JH
Mr Rob Vondy	HSE	RV
Ms Beverley Griggs	RCN	BG
Ms Karen McDonnell	RoSPA	KM
Mr Paul Madgwick	RSPH	PM
Mr John Cairn	Safety Groups UK	JC

2. Minutes of the POOSH committee meeting held on 7 May 2014

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 May were agreed as an accurate account. The minutes would be placed on the POOSH website.

Action: AM

Members were reminded to let the Secretariat know of any useful links that could be put on the POOSH website.

Action: ALL / AM

It was agreed to add invited speakers to future agendas.

Action: AM

RJ thanked all those organisations that have provided contact details already. IOSH would follow-up with those still outstanding.

Action: RJ

3. Matters arising from the minutes not covered by the agenda

There were no other matters arising not already included on the agenda.

4. Reports from member organisations

It was noted that the following reports had been circulated prior to the meeting:

AOHNP, BOHS, HSE, IEHF, IOSH, RoSPA, and SARS.

The following updates were received:

04.01 BOHS:

SB reported that BOHS were running the following conferences:

Abu Dhabi	October 2014
Cork	October 2014
International Hygiene Societies	April 2015

Regional events were open to all to attend

The Peter Isaac award information would be circulated to the POOSH Group to see if anyone would like to make a nomination.

Action: SB / AM / ALL

It was noted that that BOHS would supply speakers for the Health and Wellbeing event in March 2015. A press release had recently been issued and can be found on the BOHS website.

SB agreed to send the link to the latest journal to the secretariat for circulation to the group.

Action: SB / AM

04.02 SaRS

HH reported that the current SaRS strategy was based around the objective over the next five-year period and aimed to be in a position to apply for licensed body status within the Engineering Council. He added that SaRS continued to progress initiatives for the approval of academic and training courses appropriate to safety and reliability engineers and for the recognitions of safety engineers for offshore operation.

SaRS had submitted a joint bid with Strathclyde University to run the European Safety and Reliability Conference in Glasgow in 2016. A decision was due in the next week.

04.03 IEHF

RS reported that IEHF had been granted their Charter and would start operating as a Chartered organisation from 1st January 2015.

David O'Neill is retiring was Chief Executive and will be replaced by Stephen Barraclough. Stephen, who comes from a commercial information and intelligence role, was selected following an extensive selection process.

IEHF have their fifth meeting on the oil gas and chemical industries in Aberdeen on 14 / 15 October 2014.

DH added that there was a very useful manual handling application, developed with ergonomists, which members may wish to check out at www.ergo@wsh

IEHF professional membership stands at approximately 600, with total IEHF membership at approximately 1700. IEHF has 6 staff.

04.04 AOHNP

SE reported that ATOS no longer carried out the disability assessments for the government and Health Management was now doing this role. She added that the voting on the FOM / SOM Single Organisation had now been concluded and the memberships had declined the formation of a single organisation. It was noted that the FOM membership had voted in favour, but the SOM membership had not reached the 2/3rds vote required to proceed with the formation of a single organisation.

However it was noted that AOHNP would still work with all the various partner organisations and would work with the new national school for occupational health.

It was noted that SE would be representing the AOHNP at the next meeting of the Council for Work and Health (23 September 2014).

SE informed the group that AOHNP would be holding a Good Practice Forum in Holborn, London, on the theme of resilience in the workplace and all were welcome to attend. If members wished to attend they should contact SE for further details.

Action: SE / ALL

04.05 IOSH

RJ informed the group of senior staff changes at IOSH, including the appointment of a new Executive Director - Commercial. Its 'No Time to Lose' occupational cancer campaign was progressing well and would be launched in Westminster on 3 November 2014. IOSH is also co-organising a psychosocial risk initiative with Healthy Working Lives Scotland, in support of EU-OSHA campaign. This involves four regional launch events across Scotland (Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Inverness) and an overall reception and panel discussion in Holyrood on 19 November 2014.

IOSH has other forthcoming major events, including the Workingonsafety.net conference in Glasgow (30 September – 3 October 2014); its Food and Drink conference in Warrington (7-8 October 2014); and Rail Industry conference in London (27 November 2014). IOSH had attended multiple international events and further details are attached to the minutes. RJ agreed to send information to AM for circulation.

Action: RJ / AM

04.06 HSE

It was noted that Dr Richard Judge had been appointed chief executive of HSE and would take up his role in November 2014. It was also noted that an independent panel report had concluded that FFI was effective and should stay. The scheme, designed to shift the cost of regulating workplace health and safety from the public purse to businesses that break the law, had proven effective and should stay. There was discussion among the group on the merits of the regulator also being commercial

It was also noted that HSE would launch its new asbestos campaign at the end of September 2014 with the launch of a new web app and the promotion and distribution of 200,000 asbestos safety kits in B&Q TradePoint stores. The kits have been developed for the campaign and contain information that will help drive behaviour change.

5. Consultants' Register

It was noted that GH was on the consultants' register. He reported that he had received 17 enquiries, however they were from organisations wishing to sell him products. He added that he did not find membership of the consultants' register useful. RJ added that it was not appropriate that someone could set up as a specialist without the appropriate qualification and the consultants' register was a step towards removing this anomaly.

It was agreed that this item should be removed from future agendas.

Action: AM

6. Website update

It was noted that the minutes and member organisations' reports received for the last meeting had been uploaded to the website.

7. Request from NIOCCSA to join POOSH

It was noted that a request had been received from Rudy Maritz, Chairman of the Management Board of the National Institute of Organisational Compliance Consultants of Southern Africa to join POOSH. This request had been circulated to POOSH Group members for consideration.

After discussion it was agreed that the POOSH constitution did not allow POOSH to set up this sort of association. It was agreed that the Secretariat would respond accordingly.

Action: AM

8. BOHS Proposed Campaign on Occupational Lung Disease

SB thanked the group for the opportunity to inform them of the proposed BOHS campaign on occupational lung disease.

The campaign was created to support two for the Royal Charter objectives, namely to promote public and professional awareness, good practice and standards; and research and advance education in the science of occupational and environmental health and hygiene in particular by operating a professional Faculty.

The need for raising awareness was to ensure a conversion of the 'need' for ill-health prevention into the 'demand' for real, practical solutions. In order to work towards this, BOHS plans to lead on an awareness-raising campaign, which aims to reduce the incidence of ill-health from occupational disease. It has been decided that the focus will be specifically on occupational lung disease and the first phase of the campaign will target the construction industry.

SB reported that the construction industry had been selected because it was a high-risk and growing sector with 39 fatal injuries in 2012-13, and over 500 workers believed to die from exposure to silica dust, and another 5500 occupational cancer cases in the construction industry every year.

It was noted that occupational hygienists can help employers by anticipating and recognising hazardous agents in the workplace, evaluating the degree of risk, and advising on cost-effective control measures.

The control methods were prevention, engineering, work practices and PPE, and it was agreed that SB would consider the hierarchy of control methods as listed in COSHH and Management Regulations.

Action: SB

It was noted that employers would be targeted and would be given the right information to protect their workers. SB agreed to review the IOSH toolkit on inhalation exposure.

Action: SB

The deliverables were discussed and the following noted:

- The good business case would demonstrate why good occupational hygiene was good for business.
- Management standard – guidance documents would set out standards to be met in order to ensure effective and efficient control of exposures
- Case studies and good practice examples would bring the management standards to life showing how 'good' looks in practice
- An information hub for new and existing guidance and case studies would be created

Partnership working was discussed and it was noted that POOSH member organisations would be asked to endorse the campaign.

SB agreed to contact the IOSH Construction Group Chair, Paul Haxell. SB also agreed to contact the National Audit Office for current statistics.

Action: SB

It was hoped that the campaign would be launched at the BOHS Conference on 28 April 2015 (Memorial Day).

It was agreed that this item should be on the next POOSH agenda.

Action: AM

9. Attendance statistics

Attendance statistics from the last two years had been circulated to the group. It was noted that RSPH had not attended during that period. It was agreed that the Secretariat should contact RSPH to see if they still wished to be a member of POOSH. If so, it was hoped they may be willing to host a meeting in 2015.

Action: AM

It was also agreed that REHIS and RSC should be removed from the distribution list. These organisations receive minutes for information only and do not supply a representative to attend meetings or submit a report for circulation.

Action: AM

10. Voting for POOSH Chair 2015

It was noted that SE would cease being Chair of POOSH for 2014 and that a new Chair was required.

After discussion, SB informed the group that she was willing to take on the role of POOSH Chair for 2015 on behalf of BOHS. SE nominated the application and RJ seconded. All were in favour and SB was duly elected Chair of POOSH for 2015.

Thanks were extended to SE for chairing POOSH during 2014 and for all the effort she had put into the role.

11. Secretariat funding

It was reported that BOHS had very kindly agreed to fund the POOSH Secretariat for three meetings (including this meeting). Thanks were extended to the BOHS Board for this generosity.

12. Potential speakers for future meetings

Consideration was given to future speakers and the following noted:

ISMA (International Stress Management Association) – Caroline Raymond. RJ agreed to contact Caroline Raymond to find out who would be an appropriate person to invite to speak to POOSH.

Action: RJ

UBM – Heather Beach. SB agreed to approach Heather Beach and invite her to a future POOSH meeting.

Action: SB

Lawrence Waterman – Construction / Battersea Power Station

It was agreed to consider inviting Lawrence Waterman to a future POOSH meeting.

Action: AM

Fiona Walsh. It was agreed that Fiona Walsh should be invited to present to POOSH in late 2015.

Action: AM

13. Dates for meetings in 2015

Meeting dates in 2015 were confirmed as follows:

Tuesday 27 January 2015

Wednesday 13 May 2015

Thursday 24 September 2015

The Secretariat agreed to contact member organisation to secure venues for these meetings.

Action: AM / ALL

14. Any other business

It was agreed that the British Safety Council should be invited to join POOSH.

Action: AM