



**Briefing note for meeting of the National Occupational Safety and Health Committee (NOSH)
to be held at 11.00 am on Friday 7th February 2014,
at the offices of BDO Stoy Hayward, 55 Baker Street London W1U 7EU**

- Item 1** **Welcome.** Members attending might be asked to introduce themselves.
- Item 2** **Apologies for absence.** Charlotte Henderson will read out the list.
- Item 3** **Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd October 2013.** (Annex 1)
The Office has no points of accuracy.
- Item 4** **Matters arising and review of actions.** (Annex 2)
- Item 5** **Report from RoSPA.** (An oral report will be given)
- Item 6** **Discussion of the Triennial Review of HSE.** Members views are invited on the analysis, conclusions and recommendations of the Temple Review (www.gov.uk/government/publications/triennial-review-report-health-and-safety-executive-2014).
RoSPA's initial statement can be accessed at:
www.rospa.com/news/releases/detail/?id=1273 .
- Item 7** **Work of NOSH in 2014/15.** – See discussion note (Annex 3).
Views are invited on this plan.
- Item 8** **The future of Corporate Manslaughter and Section 37 prosecutions.** – Members' views are sought on issues raised at a recent workshop on this issue (see my draft 'Parting Shot' for February – below).
- Item 9** **Accident Investigation.** – An update will be given on progress with HSE's revised guidance.
- Item 11** **Recent/current HSE consultations.** – Members' views are sought of recent consultations (www.hse.gov.uk/consult/live.htm).
- Item 12** **Safety Groups UK – update.** (visit www.safetygroupsuk.org.uk) Mike Nixon will give an update, including on the Alan Butler Awards, the HR@W campaign, and a major state of play stock-take exercise that is now underway.
- Item 13** **Progress with the "History of OS&H" project - by Sheila Pantry.** Sheila will deliver an update, including on the latest version of the concise history seminar of OS&H regulation that has been written by David Eves CB.
(See: www.aitisol.co.uk/prototypes/history/index.html)

Item 14 **Reports from members** – Reports from members are invited.

Item 15 **Any other business** - None has been notified so far.

Item 16 **Date of next meeting:** 17th June 2014, BDO London (TBC)

BTL items:

Parting Shots (<http://www.rosa.com/occupational-safety/resources/partingshots/date.aspx>)

- November “Risk managing home safety”
- December “ Proportionality and prudence”
- January “Investigation re-think?”
- February (draft) “ Directing Directors” (Annex 4)

Annex 2: Review of Actions from the meeting held on 2nd October 2013

Item	Action	
Item 3 - Minutes of the Meeting 18/06/13	Minutes of the meeting to be corrected as notified	<i>Completed</i>
Item 5 – Report from RoSPA LASER Alliance	Committee members asked to promote the LASER centres and events and to visit their local centre	All Committee
	Send out information about LASER via SGUK to local Safety Groups	<i>Completed</i>
	Cassius Francis agreed to produce an information leaflet on LASER	<i>Completed</i>
	Regarding an article on LASER, Denclan Gibney agreed to put the suggestion to SHP	DG
Item 6 – Managing for Health and Safety	Gill McElvogue agreed to find out the HSE's plans for evaluating the guidance	GM
Item 8 – HSE Myth Buster Panel	Roger Bibbings to write to Judith Hackitt regarding insurance.	RB
Item 13 – History of OS&H	Committee members asked to contribute information and data	All Committee
	Gill McElvogue agreed to look at the HSE's forward look for possible events at which the website launch could take place.	GM
Item 14.a Report from Members, Gill McElvogue, HSE	Gill McElvogue agreed to check the timetable for completion of the HSE's review of guidance.	GM

Annex 3: Plans for NOSHC in 2014/15

Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents
National Occupational Safety and Health Committee

Plans for NOSHC in 2014/15

This note sets out proposals for taking forward the work of the Committee in the coming year.

Background

As colleagues may know, after 14th February I will be retiring from my current role as RoSPA's Occupational Safety Adviser but I will be continuing to work for 30 (possibly up to 45) days a year for RoSPA, handling various tasks. One of these will be to help colleagues, Karen McDonnell and Rob Burgon, to take over the running of NOSHC.

I have been giving this matter some thought and have consulted colleagues and NOSHC chair, Teresa Budworth, about a possible way forward for the next 12 to 18 months.

Proposal

In essence my suggestion is as follows:

We continue in 2014 with 3 meetings a year (February, June and October) with the existing membership under Teresa's chairmanship.

Karen will formally take over the role of Secretary of NOSHC and will carry out associated duties (with my assistance where necessary etc).

Charlotte Henderson will continue to organise meetings, correspondence, info circulation, minutes, run the Committee web area etc

We will continue to run a standard type of agenda, including: the report from RoSPA; reports from members; responses to CDs/submissions of evidence; review of current developments etc. (For the February meeting I have suggested a round table with invited contributors putting forward their views on the way ahead on accident investigation. We will also be discussing the Temple review)

The main part of the agenda however at each meeting would be given over to a major RoSPA enquiry into what needs to be done to further improve UK OS&H performance. This would be based on 1) a call to the main OS&H system stakeholders (as well as to the wider public, via social media possibly) to submit evidence on key issues (see below) and 2) invitations to key people to attend meetings of NOSHC to discuss this (perhaps 2 or 3 per meeting). (The idea would be to run this part of each Committee meeting rather like a Parliamentary Select Committee, taking evidence, perhaps even inviting in the media.)

Key contributors would be invited to condense their cases into 10 to 12 'Parting Shot' pieces to be published in the March to January/February editions of RoSPA's 'OS&H'. Hopefully a virtual 'core

group' of NOSHC members could also be formed to guide the process and help stimulate/ elicit contributions.

In February 2015, together with Karen, Rob and 'core group' colleagues, I would then help to write up the results in a synoptic fashion, crafting a clear report on the state of play in UK OS&H with solid and well argued medium and longer term recommendations on the way ahead. This might be aimed not just at DWP/HSE but at many others, including, of course, RoSPA itself).

Aims

The aims of the review therefore would be to:

- Enable NOSHC to act as a focus for developing OS&H leadership;
- Get the national focus back onto performance improvement after too long arguably spent by ministers on the question of 'burdens';
- Provide a vehicle for serious discussion with the key OS&H players (including consideration of ongoing issues emerging from the Temple review);
- Provide a basis for publicity and discussion pieces;
- Provide intelligence on new initiatives and new thinking;
- Provide an education for all colleagues about the wider OSH policy landscape; and
- Have a powerful influence over the way the UK OS&H system continues to develop.

Issues

Examples of the kind of issues on which NOSHC might invite key stakeholders/individuals to give their ideas include, inter alia:

- Enhancing ministerial leadership and accountability for national OS&H performance;
- Enhancing UK OS&H policy governance (refreshing the HSE board, HSE KPIs, a new OS&H stakeholder forum, biennial Select Committee review etc);
- Strengthening the legal framework and enforcement (HSE, LAs, smart solutions with others?);
- Linking prevention and compensation and enhancing the role of insurers;
- Funding OS&H;
- Reducing non-regulatory OS&H 'burdens';
- Developing a comprehensive national data strategy;
- Building a joined up OS&H research system;
- Developing meaningful targets (for health as well as safety) ;
- Strengthening director leadership (including OS&H leadership competence standards);
- Developing the H&S management systems approach (certification? a new 'Highway Code' for H&S);
- Building workforce involvement and getting behavioural safety in perspective;
- Extending access to professional advice ('H&S advice for all', meeting the needs of SMEs etc, technical support services (occupational health, occupational hygiene, etc);
- Learning from accidents and incidents;
- Extending supply chain influence in a positive way;
- Meeting unmet OS&H training needs;
- Extending local OS&H outreach (safety groups etc);
- Developing the OS&H role of trade associations ;
- Promoting business to business H&S learning;
- Cutting serious injury rates in construction, agriculture, waste;

- Teaching safely, teaching safety in Britain's schools and colleges;
- Tackling occupational cancer;
- Reducing manual handling injuries;
- Fresh action on stress and violence;
- Tackling slips and trips;
- 'Re-booting' occupational road risk;
- Further reducing injuries to the public;
- Using OS&H to help build Safe Communities and wider risk literacy; and
- Education, education, education ...

This list of issues is only indicative and would need to be refined (with the help of the core group) in the eventual call for evidence to be developed with NOSHC member input. A very short discussion paper could be produced or alternatively the Review and the challenges it was seeking to address could be summarised in an initial '*Parting Shot*' article.

Comment

This is an ambitious plan and the Committee would need to make it manageable and ensure it did not morph into a Robens Mk 2! It would also need to build on discussion and plans that are emerging from implementation of many of the recommendations in the Martin Temple Triennial Review of HSE, just published.

Conclusion

Members' views are invited on this proposal.

Roger Bibbings

Occupational Safety Adviser

15th January 2014

