

HSE update – 5th February 2016

HSE information

- Following the retirement of Jane Willis over the summer HSE has appointed a new Director for its Engagement and Strategic Interventions Directorate, Mr Selvin Brown, MBE. Selvin has joined HSE from the DWP where he was Deputy Head of the Communications Directorate and Programme Director for the Government Communications Service. Selvin has also held a range of high profile roles covering policy and strategy.
- HSE has also recently undertaken a number of face-to-face consultation events on the development of a new strategy for the health and safety system. These events have considered what has been achieved since the last 'Be Part of the Solution' strategy in 2009 and where we may need to up the pace. The new strategy covers the following areas:
 - Acting together: promoting broader ownership of H&S in GB
 - Tackling ill health: highlighting and tackling the costs of work-related ill health
 - Supporting small employers: giving SMEs simple advice so that they know what they have to do
 - Managing risk well: simplifying risk management & helping businesses to grow
 - Keeping pace with change: anticipating and tackling new H&S challenges
 - Sharing our success: promoting the benefits of GB's world class H&S system

DWP/DH Joint Unit:

- The Whitehall based Joint Unit was formed during the summer to focus on developing ways to support people with mild, long term health conditions to remain or re-enter the workplace. This is a cross government initiative, involving input from a number of other departments including, PHE and HSE. The project is currently considering a number of strands of work including workforce culture change, integrated healthcare and employment support as well as a strand on employers to encourage them to support employees with long term health conditions to remain in work/consider employing such workers.

HSE is providing expertise to assist the unit in its early thinking, planning and development around how to best target employers and engage with them to raise awareness and encourage behavioural change.