

Senior Management Team Minutes		SMT/M/09/07	
Meeting Date:	29 <sup>th</sup> June 2009	FOI Status:	Open
Type of Paper:	Minutes	Trim Ref:	2009/305436

**Open Minutes of the SMT meeting held  
on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2009,  
at the Novotel, Southwark Bridge Road, London.**

**Present**

Geoffrey Podger	Kevin Myers	David Ashton	Steve Dennis
Gordon MacDonald	Alex Brett-Holt	Gaynor Coldrick	Eddie Morland
Mike Weightman	Jane Willis	Kerr Wilson	

**Apologies**

Sally Sykes	Patrick McDonald	Kevin Allars
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Bill Gunnyeon

**Also attending**

Laurence Monaghan (all items); Marcia Davies, Tim Galloway & Phil Papard (item 3)

**Minutes** Elaine Harbour

**1 Agenda Item 1: Minutes and action notes**

1.1 The minutes from the 3 June meeting were agreed as drafted

**3 Agenda item 3: New powers for inspectors to enable market surveillance (Paper SMT/09/60 - open)**

3.1 Kevin Myers and Marcia Davies introduced the paper which included the following comments:

- a. The new overarching and direct-acting EU Regulation (Accreditation and Market Surveillance) (RAMS) is already in force. HSE is an enforcement agency under RAMS but does not have all the powers required to act as a Market Surveillance Authority (MSA).
- b. The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) as the competent authority have offered to legislate on behalf of other enforcing authorities to provide HSE (and other MSA's) with the necessary powers.
- c. HSE cannot opt out of RAMS so the choices available are either for BIS to implement or for HSE to do it.

3.2 The SMT thanked Marcia for her paper and the discussion included the following comments

- a. The SMT agreed that this was both a proper and important area of work for HSE to be involved in and the new legislation should not result in any additional work
- b. The SMT agreed that BIS's proposal to legislate is the most effective solution given the significant level of resource involved from HSE's legal and policy teams in implementing our own regulations

**4 Agenda Item 4: Proposed Commission regulations to replace the Biocidal**

## **Products Directive (Paper SMT/09/61 – partially closed)**

- 4.1 Jane Willis introduced the paper and made the following comments:
- a. The paper seeks agreement to a proposed voting line on the Biocidal Products Directive which will replace the current inconsistent regime.
  - b. HSE would lead on behalf of the UK and it is expected that the Swedish presidency will aim to make significant progress on the Regulation
  - c. HSE propose to consult but would seek to reduce the consultation time to 10 weeks to allow the feedback to inform the UK negotiation position in early Autumn
- 4.2 The SMT thanked Jane for the paper and the discussion included the following comment:
- a. The SMT agreed that policy officials should invite specific stakeholders (particularly relevant SME fora) to participate in the consultation
  - b. The paper should consider what process and procedures may be proposed and how we should challenge them when negotiating

## **5 Agenda Item 5 – Degree requirements for trainee inspectors (SMT/09/62 - open)**

- 5.1 Gaynor Coldrick introduced the paper and made the following comments
- a. The paper is in response to HSE Board discussions about degree requirements for trainee Inspectors
  - b. HSE has had a strong response when advertising to graduates resulting in a higher percentage of A & B ranked candidates
  - c. The evidence suggests that those Inspectors recruited without a degree have not progressed as well with the new training arrangements and have required additional support.
- 5.2 The SMT thanked Gaynor for her paper and the discussion included the following comments:
- a. There would be an increase in external recruitment sift costs if the requirement for a degree was dropped and the paper to the Board should include more detail on actual recruitment costs
  - b. Removing the degree requirement for external recruits would potentially compromise the standard of the organisation
  - c. HSE should continue to support those internal candidates who do not hold a degree
  - d. The paper should include feedback on the experience from the recruitment of the construction fixed term appointments

## **6 Any Other Business**

### HSE and the new NSC

The SMT discussed the trading relationship between HSE and the new Nuclear Statutory Corporation and agreed that there would be one contract drafted with Service Level Agreements. Since there are no current metrics/benchmarks the contract would be reviewed after 1 year

### FoI

HSE have received a number of FoI requests relating to expenditure for the top 5 earners in HSE. We may consider publishing the information requested on the internet but for now continue to provide the information in a balanced way.