

**Summary case for occupational health and safety support provision**

Targets

They are (in full) that by 2010 we will have:

- I. a 20% reduction in the incidence of work-related ill health;
- II. a 20% reduction in ill health to members of the public caused by work activity;
- III. a 30% reduction in the number of work days lost due to work-related ill health;
- IV. everyone currently in employment but off work due to ill health or disability is, where necessary and appropriate, made aware of opportunities for rehabilitation back into work as early as possible; and
- V. everyone currently not in employment due to ill health or disability is, where necessary and appropriate, made aware of and offered opportunities to prepare for and find work.

Occupational Health Statistics Bulletin 2002/03

- Self-reporting household survey – 2001/02 – estimated 2.3 million individuals in GB were suffering from an illness that they believed was caused or made worse by their current or past work. This prevalence estimate includes long standing as well as new cases.
- An estimated 32.9 million working days (full-time equivalent) were lost in 2001/02 through illness caused or made worse by work. On average, each person suffering took an estimated 22.9 days off in that 12-month period. This equates to an average 1.4 per worker.
- The estimated annual working days lost from SWI01/02 was higher than estimated by SWI95, as was the average number of days taken off.
- An estimated 350,000 workers (33%) suffering from an illness attributed to their current work were classified as lower managerial and professional. This group, along with those classified as lower supervisory and technical, carried the highest prevalence rates: 4.9% and 4.7% respectively.

Cost of work-related ill health

	Preliminary cost estimates for 2001/02 only	
	Ill-health <sup>1</sup> (£billion)	“never returns” <sup>2</sup> (£billion)
<b>Costs to individuals</b>	2.46 to 2.47	3.53 to 10.91
<b>Costs to employers</b>	1.47	
<b>Costs to economy</b>	4.02 to 4.75	3.24 to 10.02
<b>Costs to society</b>	5.52 to 6.24	5.33 to 16.50

<sup>1</sup> These are believed to substantially under-represent the true costs of ill health.

<sup>2</sup> Refers to workers who withdraw permanently from the labour force because of occupational health and safety failures.

### Safe and Healthy Working

Initial estimated overall total for 2002/2004 = **£1,995,099\***. Table shows breakdown.

<b>Estimated Costings for <i>Safe and Healthy Working</i>*</b>	<b>2002/2003</b>	<b>2003/2004</b>
National Co-ordinator + clerical support	£18,000 + £3,653	£36,000 + £14,250
Marketing	£200,000	£200,000
Publication	£15,000	£25,000
Website development	£20,000	£10,000
Distribution of regional funding to cover costs of workplace advisers	£625,995	£515,851
Telephone helpline	£53,350 (+ £50,000 non recurring costs)	£128,000
Evaluation	£10,000	£70,000 (inc. HSE's contribution of £50,000)
<b>Total</b>	<b>£995,998</b>	<b>£999,101</b>

\*However, it should be noted that these figures do not take account of staff resources contributed by Health Scotland for marketing, training and publications; development and implementation of training programme for workplace advisors, regional and local marketing and setting up the database to collate all the data.

#### Worker Safety Advisor (WSA) Pilot

- During the pilot the 9 WSAs made 380 visits to the 105 workplaces. Each WSA undertook an average of 42 visits.
- Based on the salary and expenses actually paid – WSA working full-time - £24,533. For 9 WSAs = £220,797
- The average cost per visit was £261.
- The average expense per workplace £143.