

Health and Safety Commission Paper		MISC/05/03	
Meeting Date:		Open Gov. Status:	Open
Type of Paper:	Misc	Paper File Ref:	CCID/HSC/1
Exemptions:			

HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMISSION

Progress on the Review of the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995 (RIDDOR)

A Paper by Jonathan Russell

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Cleared by Jonathan Rees on 18 January 2005

Issue

1. The current position on the review of RIDDOR.

Timing

2. Routine. The purpose of this paper is to enable Commissioners to have an early sight of where the review has reached before a paper covering a formal CD is presented to the Commission for their agreement in March/April 2005.

Recommendation

3. That Commissioners note the current position and that a further short update will be issued as a "below-the-line" paper for their next meeting on 8 February 2005 following a Public Forum on 20 January 2005 (see paragraphs 5 and 6).

Background

4. The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) are currently reviewing RIDDOR following a commitment made by the Commission in the Revitalising Health and Safety Strategy Statement June 2000 to undertake a fundamental review of the health and safety incident reporting regulations.
5. A paper was put to the HSE Board on 1 December 2004 setting out four options for action that had emerged from the review at that time. After discussion, the Board decided that a formal Consultation Document (CD) should be issued, but before the HSC's agreement to the publication of a CD was sought, an Open Forum meeting

should be held to discuss HSE's plans for the CD. These would include bold statements of intent rather than worked up proposals for regulatory change.

6. This Forum is to take place on 20 January at the Institute of Civil Engineers. 20 key HSE stakeholders (see Annex 1) will have an opportunity to express their views on a draft CD (Annex 2) and the options for change (see Section 5 of Annex 2) that could be made to RIDDOR, ranging from doing nothing to revoking RIDDOR.

Argument

7. The main objective of the Open Forum, which will be chaired by Jonathan Rees, will be to reach a degree of consensus amongst the stakeholders represented on the proposed way forward for the review and to identify the statements/options that HSE can develop further before seeking the Commission's agreement to a formal CD.
8. As mentioned in paragraph 3 above, a short update on the outcome of the Forum will be sent to Commissioners as a "below-the-line" paper for their meeting on 8 February 2005.

Consultation

9. The proposals in Section 5 of the CD have been developed through discussion within a cross-HSE Working Group and with HSE Board members following the Board meeting on 1 December 2004.

Environmental Implications

10. None

Action

11. Commissioners are asked to note the current position and to be aware that a short update on the outcome of the Open Forum will be issued for the meeting on 8 February 2005.