

Health and Safety Executive Board			HSE/12/M01
Meeting Date:	25 <sup>th</sup> January 2012	FoI Status	Open
FoI Exemptions			
Trim Reference:	2012/103543		
<b>Minutes of HSE Board Meeting – 25<sup>th</sup> January 2012</b> DoubleTree by Hilton, London			

**Attending**

Judith Hackitt – Chair	Richard Taylor	Hugh Robertson	David Gartside
Geoffrey Podger	Sandy Blair	Frances Outram	Robin Dahlberg
Nick Baldwin	Paul Kenny	Liz Snape	John Spanswick

**Also attending**

Sue Johns, Rukhsana Dumbrell, Kevin Myers, Steve Dennis, Peter McNaught, Jane Willis, Dave Bench, Sarah-Dean Kelly, Stephen Williams.

**Minutes** Rukhsana Dumbrell

<b>Open Session</b>	
<b>5</b>	<b>Minutes</b>
5.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The minutes were cleared with no comments.</li> <li>b) There were no matters arising</li> </ul>
<b>6</b>	<b>Chief Executives Report</b>
6.1	<p>Geoffrey Podger presented his Chief Executive’s report. In particular he drew attention and paid tribute to the quality of the evidence that David Ashton, David Snowball and Paul Stollard gave to the Scottish Affairs Committee.</p> <p>He also referred to the outcome of the internal review, prompted by the Board, on deaths resulting from illegal activity and explained how this would be recorded from April 2012. The Board welcomed the proposal as set out in his report.</p> <p>Board members noted the high number of fatalities in construction, whilst recognising the reported data being from a slightly longer than normal period.</p>
<b>7</b>	<b>Chair of the Office for Nuclear Regulation Report to the HSE Board</b>
7.2	<p>Nick Baldwin presented his report. He confirmed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) All of the operational programmes and stakeholder engagements were on target.</li> <li>b) The delivery of ONR’s transition and transformation activities were also broadly on target.</li> <li>c) The Minister had approved the ONR strategy, discussed by the HSE Board at its meeting in October. It had been published on 13 January 2012.</li> </ul> <p>In discussion, the ONR Chair agreed to provide a note of the outcomes from the regional briefings that were currently taking place (paragraph 6), and respond to a request for an update on safety reference levels for disposal facilities.</p>

<b>Action Point 5</b>	To provide a note on the outcome of the regional community briefings.
<b>Action Point 6</b>	To provide an update on the progress of developments of safety reference levels.
<b>8</b>	<b>Health &amp; Safety Statistics 2010/11: Key facts and trends</b>
<b>8.1</b>	<p>Dave Bench introduced the paper. The following comments were made in discussion:</p> <p>a) It was confirmed that the Labour Force survey was a reliable source of longitudinal data.</p> <p>c) To consider other ways of presenting international data that might allow confidence in making comparisons, if it is practicable to do so.</p> <p>d) The data does not provide a total estimate of people killed whilst at work. The fatalities data is only part of the picture (excluding e.g. road traffic accident deaths).</p> <p>e) The Board noted that approximately 11 million working days are lost per year through work-related stress.</p> <p>f) The Board also recognised that investment in training can make a real impact (e.g. in the construction sector).</p>
<b>Action Point 7</b>	A paper to the Board on what comparisons can be made across other countries in key outcomes areas (e.g. including accidents, fatalities and levels of self-reported work related ill health).
<b>9</b>	<b>Science Report 2012</b>
<b>9.1</b>	<p>Dave Bench introduced the paper. In discussion the following comments were made. The Board:</p> <p>a) acknowledged the work HSL do, the quality of the case studies and their relevance to the HSE's strategy. They suggested that more information about what the HSE wanted to achieve, should be captured at the commissioning stage.</p> <p>b) questioned the degree to which it is possible to take an integrated look at the different programmes of research and know the totality of HSE's programme of research. It was recognised that teams have an individual view of the work in their area but that this was not pulled together to give a holistic view.</p> <p>c) noted that the report did not specifically acknowledge the link to the HSE strategy and suggested that this focus was needed to help identify and fill the gaps that others were not addressing.</p> <p>d) requested that HSE look for ways to communicate its research more widely. This was more than just publishing information on the website as it needed to reach as broad an audience as possible.</p> <p>e) requested that the work of the Futures group, outlined in Annex 1.3, should be considered in more depth at another meeting.</p>
<b>Action Point 8</b>	Timetable a discussion on the work of HSL's Futures Group.
<b>10</b>	<b>Update on HSE's preparation for the London 2012 Olympic Games and Paralympics Games</b>
<b>10.1</b>	Steven Williams provided a further update on the progress of HSE's Preparation for the London 2012 Games. He summarised the preparations and confirmed that with the build phase now complete, HSE continued to work pro-actively with LA co-regulators to promote consistent and proportionate interventions and early engagement with duty holders during the development of the emergency response

	<p>plans currently underway. HSE was also closely engaged with LOCOG's test events and focused on the integration of health and safety planning into its arrangements.</p> <p>In discussions the following comments were made:</p> <p>a) The Board acknowledged significant challenges remained and that HSE had good relationships with LAs and LOCOG.</p> <p>b) The legacy of the London Games extended beyond the UK and HSE had a lead role in disseminating that learning to international audiences.</p> <p>c) The Board supported the HSE's approach to the 2012 project.</p>
<b>11</b>	<b>Implementation of the Strategy for the Health and Safety of Great Britain' Be part of the Solution': Development of Sector Strategies</b>
<b>11.1</b>	<p>Kevin Myers provided an overview of the progress being made to develop sector strategies as part of the implementation of 'Be Part of the Solution'. The work was also aligned to HSE's business planning cycle. The Board was invited to endorse the approach and the publication of each strategy following stakeholder consultation.</p> <p>In discussion the following comments were made:</p> <p>a) The Board acknowledged the importance of these strategies as a powerful tool to engage stakeholders. There was strong support for an update in due course and encouragement for further consultation so that these strategies could be published.</p> <p>b) The Board recognised there are some reputational risks to HSE and requested further information on how to handle queries regarding what was happening with regards to exposure to health risks and their consequences. In particular, they highlighted services that have been listed as 'lower risk', for example the cosmetic or retail sectors.</p>
<b>12</b>	<b>Update on the proposed amendments to the pipeline safety regulations (PSR) 1996 – following further stakeholder consultation and research</b>
<b>12.1</b>	<p>Paul Logan presented the update paper on the PSR. Given the current approach to new legislation there was a strong argument not to proceed with the original proposed amendments to PSR. Existing health and safety legislation was considered sufficient to regulate gasoline pipelines. Instead, HSE should focus on future amendments to Regulation 13A.</p> <p>In discussion the following comments were made:</p> <p>a) In relation to recommendation 5a the Board wanted to know how visible the emergency plans were and how the regulatory decisions were reviewed and exercised?</p> <p>b) The Board were persuaded that this was not the time to extend regulations in this area. They requested that officials continue to keep this under close surveillance and bring back a further update to the Board in due course.</p>
<b>Action Point 9</b>	An update to the Board at a future date.

<b>13</b>	<b>Future Agendas</b>
<b>13.1</b>	<p>The February meeting agenda was agreed.</p> <p>A progress report on the review of access to the HSE website and guidance on it was requested for a future meeting.</p>
<b>14</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>
<b>14.1</b>	<p>The work that FOD HQ had been undertaking on delivering new ways of working was highlighted. It was suggested that Board members be given the option to see this work firsthand when they were in Redgrave Court.</p>