

Advisory Committee on Toxic Substances Secretary's Report		ACTS/12/2008	
Meeting date:	11 November 2008	Open Govt. Status:	Open
Exemptions:	None	Type of Paper	For information

**HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMISSION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TOXIC SUBSTANCES**

Secretary's Report

Ref	What	Action by	Progress	Deadline
1.1.1	ACTION: Members expressed their gratitude for the work of the previous Secretary, Andie Michael on the smooth running of ACTS. Letter of thanks on behalf of ACTS.	Secretariat	Completed.	
1.1.2	ACTION: ACTS members to set up a Working Group to compile a response to the anticipated invitation to set out its envisaged future role, including revised terms of reference. ACTION: Secretariat to produce summary of the key points from this July ACTS meeting and forward it to the HSE Board.	ACTS Secretariat	Request for short brief on proposals for the future role of ACTS under the new HSE Governance arrangements was received in August. A small working group of ACTS members - Robin Chapman, David Tolley, Bud Hudspith and Alastair Hay (with support from ACTS Secretariat) produced a response which was forwarded to Giles Denham at the end of September for onward transmission to the HSE Board. Future role of ACTS to be discussed at 11 November meeting. Once minutes of the 9 July meeting have been formally cleared by Members at the 11 November meeting, the Secretariat will prepare an Information Paper for the HSE Board summarising the key points from the July meeting.	

2,1	ACTION: World COPD Day 19 November 2008. Members to contact Lynda Green with expressions of interest in attending this event.	All	Completed. No expressions of interest received.	
2.2	ACTION: HSE to evaluate the effectiveness of the LEV initiative as it becomes embedded and report back to ACTS at a suitable point in the future.	Mark Piney	The assessment of the HSE LEV Project will be done via a range of measurement of effect (lead and lag indicators). This work is ongoing and a report will be provided to ACTS once the evaluation has been completed.	
3.2	ACTION: ACTS to advise the HSE Board that a campaign on securing better control of dust exposure in general should now be considered as a priority.	Secretariat	This will form part of the Information Paper for the HSE Board mentioned under Action Point 1.1.2 above.	
3.2	ACTION: HSE to present proposals to the next ACTS meeting on what a campaign might look like, what messages should be delivered, and how ACTS could assist.	Helen Smith	HSE is working on initiatives to target high risk industry sectors. The tools developed for the improved respiratory equipment initiative and engineering controls (LEV) initiative could be applied to other projects such as a general campaign on dusts. Plans for a dust campaign will need to be produced under the overarching framework of the new HSE Strategy on health and safety which is still being developed. An oral update will be provided at the 11 November meeting.	
6.1	ACTION: WATCH Secretariat to report back to ACTS following the October 2008 WATCH meeting.	Nicola Gregg	Oral update on latest WATCH meeting (including discussion on lead) will be provided at the 11 November meeting.	
7.1	ACTION: HSE to provide information at next ACTS meeting on the process whereby an IOELV is determined and subsequently implemented as a GB WEL. HSE to provide information at next ACTS meeting on EU classification and labelling developments for formaldehyde in recent years.	Richard Pedersen	Update paper (ACTS/13/2008) at 11 November meeting.	

10.3	ACTION: To obtain additional information for ACTS members on position on the envisaged COSHH/REACH guidance	Craig Bell	Latest position on the development of guidance for the interface on REACH and COSHH is provided in the Current Developments paper ACTS/11/2008.	
11.1	<p>ACTION: Members to contact Craig Bell if they were interested in the positions on the Advisory Committee on Pesticides.</p> <p>ACTION: HSE to provide update on Skin Disease element of the Disease Reduction Programme at the next ACTS meeting.</p> <p>ACTION: HSE to provide information on effectiveness on the asthma/isocyanates campaign at the next ACTS meeting.</p>	<p>ACTS</p> <p>Isla Fairhurst</p> <p>HSE</p>	<p>Completed. No responses received.</p> <p>Oral update to be provided at the November meeting.</p> <p>Some assessment work on the effectiveness and impact of SHADs has been carried out by HSL (reports available on the Internet). However, a full Project Evaluation is yet to be done. Once this is completed an update will be made available to ACTS.</p>	
13.2	ACTION: Brian Fullam to present draft guidance produced by BSI relating to 'the control on nano-materials' to WATCH meeting scheduled for 23/10/2008; Update to be and to be available for ACTS on 11/11/2008 reflecting the up-to-date summary of HSE's position on control in the nanotechnology field.	Brian Fullam	A paper for the Watch Committee was produced and was discussed on Friday 24 October. Below-the-line paper ACTS/10/2008 gives the latest position on HSE's position on nanotechnology.	
14.1	ACTION: HSE to provide ACTS with update on inspection intervention once it is completed.	Peter Woolgar	An assessment of the semiconductors inspection intervention will be provided to ACTS at a later meeting once the initiative has ended and a report produced.	