



NOTES OF MEETING

Date: 12 June 2013	Location: NFU, Stoneleigh	Taken by: Jackie Jones
Subject: AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AIAC) MEETING		
Present:		
HSE	AIAC Members	
Graeme Walker (Chair)	James Brown (AFAG)	
Richard Taylor (HSE Board)	Madge Moore (Lantra)	
Andrew Turner	Ian Beeby (Unite)	
David Coackley	Gillian Littlewood (British Retail Consortium)	
Rachel Corbridge	Tim Englefield (Landex)	
Jackie Jones (Committee Secretary)	Ben Ellis (NFU)	
	James Eckley (NFYFC)	
	David Knowles (IOSG RIG)	
	David Leavesley (NFU Mutual)	

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1	Welcome and Opening Remarks
	<p>(1.1) Graeme Walker, AIAC Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting, with a special welcome to Prof. Richard Taylor, HSE Board member with special interest in agriculture.</p> <p>(1.2) Apologies had been received from Jennifer Bowler (NAAC); Charlie Clutterbuck (Unite); Julia Long (Unite); Madge Moore (Lantra) and Marcus Themans (NFU).</p> <p>(1.3) The Chair asked that the Committee join him in conveying best wishes for a speedy recovery to Charlie Clutterbuck who is unwell at present.</p> <p>(1.4) Richard Taylor expressed his pleasure at being invited to attend the meeting.</p>
2	Matters arising and actions outstanding from previous meeting
	<p>(2.1) Actions from the previous meeting were either discharged, ongoing, covered below or listed as an agenda item.</p> <p>(2.2) Agriculture Sector Strategy – listed as agenda item 3</p> <p>(2.3) Defra tool – David Coackley had followed this up with Olivia Howgate (Defra). Defra will be holding a summit on ‘earned recognition’ involving stakeholders and partners in July 2013. Geoffrey Podger, (HSE’s Chief Executive) has received an invitation to the event.</p> <p>(2.4) James Brown suggested that health and safety should be included in farmers’ farm plans. Most of these plans are drawn up by vets. HSE is already engaging with the relevant veterinary bodies so this could be added to the agenda.</p> <p>(2.5) RDPE Skills Framework - David Coackley had been unable to contact Marcus Themans to discuss his concerns about the gap in training provision in some geographical areas. David can now follow this up with Marcus as he has his new contact details.</p> <p>(2.6) There has been little take up of the funds as the rules make navigating the process difficult. Tim Englefield stated that there is a good opportunity for colleges to work with industry to address this and</p>

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	<p>that he would discuss with the topic with Lantra. The point was made that the funds are open to other training providers, but that accessing the £20m pot was both complex, costly and resource intensive.</p> <p>(2.7) Members advised that accessing funding in Wales has been made a lot easier as the Welsh Govt. and Farming Connect have helped to simplify the process.</p> <p>(2.8) Turkish visit - David Knowles updated members on the outcome of the visit by the group of Turkish inspectors. IOSH had subsequently visited Turkey to deliver training to a group of Turkish trainee labour inspectors. This activity is an integral part of Turkey's accession to the EU. One of the lessons learnt relates to Turkish workers' health and safety rights. Employees have in effect no rights until they have been employed by the company for a minimum of five years. Efforts are being made to adopt a preventative approach to health and safety (to bring Turkey into line with EU practice).</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ David Coackley to contact Marcus Themans to discuss the gap in the training provision ➤ Tim Englefield to discuss the issue of accessing RDPE funding with Lantra
3	<p>Agriculture Sector Strategy:</p> <p>(3.1) The Chair suggested that as a number of members were unable to attend, detailed discussion on the strategy be deferred until the next meeting in November.</p> <p>(3.2) In the meantime, he confirmed the strategy had been updated to reflect members' comments and suggestions following the strategy sub-group meeting in August 2012. HSE's Sector Implementation plan has also been updated to reflect the changes in the updated Strategy. The rolling 3-year Implementation Plan will be circulated to AIAC members for information.</p> <p>(3.3.) The Chair reminded that the Strategy was not purely an HSE strategy – rather it is a strategy that is owned by the agriculture sector. Members were again asked to critically examine the Strategy and to forward views on what they considered achievable in the short-to-medium term and what should be deferred. Members were asked to forward comments to the Committee Secretary, by 31 July 2013.</p> <p>(3.4) The strategy now includes the wider land based industries and members were again asked for suggestions on how this element of the strategy might be further developed. Again members were asked to forward comments to the Committee Secretary, by 31 July 2013.</p> <p>(3.5) Andrew Turner informed the Committee that he has been looking at this element of the strategy and has started to make contact with stakeholders in the wider land based sectors, but that this is a fragmented and complex sector with parts of the sector aligning themselves more to the construction industry than to agriculture.</p> <p>(3.6) The Chair advised that it had become apparent that the key mechanisms for strategy delivery are the Farm Safety Partnership and the On Farm Safety Charter for agriculture, and the Forestry Industry Safety Accord (FISA) for forestry. The agriculture groups are quite similar, albeit that the Welsh group comprises smaller organisations which have fewer resources at their disposal. However, they benefit from the practical support and leadership from the Welsh Govt.</p> <p>(3.7) However, despite HSE's best efforts, NFUS continue to demonstrate little enthusiasm for forming, leading or participating in an equivalent industry partnership in Scotland. NFUS is currently focused on publicising its centenary and is unlikely to engage with HSE until 2014 once their programme of centenary celebrations is over. HSE's new Director for Scotland, David Snowball is keen to lend his weight to any future discussion.</p> <p>(3.8) Ben Ellis will try to encourage NFUS to get involved as they are members of the FSP</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ All to take away the Agriculture Sector Strategy and forward views on what is achievable and

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4	<p>what should be deferred to the Committee Secretary by 31 July 2013.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Committee members to consider how the land based industries element of the Strategy could be developed. Suggestions to be forwarded to the Committee Secretary by 31 July 2013. ➤ Ben Ellis to engage with NFUS via the FSP to encourage them to be more proactive. ➤ Committee Secretary to circulate a copy of HSE’s Agriculture Sector Strategy Implementation Plan to members, for information. <p>Update on key topics</p> <p>(4.1) The latest statistics - the Chair advised members that the provisional fatal injury statistics for 2012/13 will be published on 3 July 2013. The release will be in accordance with the ONS rules which do not permit pre-publication circulation/release of the figures. Last year, HSE was unsuccessful in an approach to the ONS (at the Committee’s behest), to ask for ‘pre-publication’ access to the figures. The Chair reminded members of the ONS response i.e. that there is no flexibility or exception to the rule. The Committee Secretary will send out a link to the statistics as soon they are published (at (9.30 am) on 3 July 2013.</p> <p>(4.2) The provisional data on agriculture fatalities data may include incidents which on further analysis or investigation, may be re-assigned to other sectors.</p> <p>(4.3) The Chair advised members that the causes of major harm remain broadly the same from year to year; as does the proportion of fatalities involving the self-employed and the employed. HSE do not anticipate there being any significant changes in the statistics for 2012/13.</p> <p>4.4) David Knowles asked whether it is possible to have access to the RIDDOR summary reports. HSE will explore whether it is possible to provide this information.</p> <p>(4.5) The Chair advised that HSE will shortly be publishing a report on the first six months experience of Fee for Intervention, including a breakdown of issues and recovered costs. A link to the report will be circulated to members as soon as it is available.</p> <p>(4.6) HSE guidance - The fundamental review of agriculture sector owned guidance is virtually complete. All publications will be placed on a rolling programme for review. Where publications have been withdrawn, visitors to the web will automatically be diverted to other relevant guidance.</p> <p>(4.7) The updated version of Farmwise will be published later on this summer. There are few changes to the main body of the guidance and no changes in HSE’s policy with regard to the industry.</p> <p>(4.8) Review of ACoPs and public consultations - the Chair stated that public consultation on the ACoPs relating to COSHH (closes on 23 August) and Workplace health, safety and welfare, (closes on 30 July) is now underway. Further information can be found on HSE’s website at http://www.hse.gov.uk/consult/live.htm</p> <p>(4.9) The public consultation on the ACoP: Preventing accidents to children in agriculture (L116) prompted a response rate of less than 33%. HSE is proposing to withdraw the ACoP as there is more practical guidance relating to child safety in agriculture available in other HSE publications which are more appropriate for the target audience. The updated guidance in INDG 472 (previously AS10) and Farmwise both contain practical advice and guidance on how to comply with the law. A paper recommending withdrawal of the ACoP will shortly be presented to the HSE Board.</p> <p>(4.10) David Knowles said that IOSH will publicise the ‘new’ guidance, Preventing accidents to children in agriculture, INDG 427, on their website and mention the withdrawal of the ACoP (subject to HSE Board approval).</p> <p>(4.11) Professor Lofstedt review – The Chair reminded members that amongst other things, the review had proposed that self-employed individuals engaged in low hazard, low risk activities should be</p>

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	<p>exempt from regulation. Following a protracted period of consultation, it has been agreed that there will be a statement of prescribed activities - a list, of high hazard activities (i.e. activities which could have an impact on others) where the exemption would <u>not</u> apply. Agriculture will be included on the prescribed list. N.B. It had never been Professor Lofstedt's intention that the exemption should apply to those engaged in agricultural work.</p> <p>(4.12) Partnership marketing – HSE's Communication Directorate is considering the feasibility of entering into partnership marketing relationships with private sector organisations. Ben Ellis and Gillian Littlewood expressed an interest in the concept and it was agreed that the Committee Secretary forward a link to other Govt. Departments' partnership marketing initiatives to them.</p> <p>(4.13) Make the promise campaign – the campaign was very successful in meeting the overall objectives i.e. raising awareness within the farming community of the sector's poor health and safety record. HSE have no plans to repeat the campaign as it has served its purpose. We are now building upon that success. Campaign messages have been 'mainstreamed' and woven into HSE's every day communications with farmers and are being delivered via SHADs and industry communications channels. There are a limited number of knots available should members require them for distribution at specific events. Any requests should be addressed to Jackie Jones.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Committee Secretary to send out a link to the statistics once published on 3 July 2013. ➤ Committee Secretary to circulate a link to the report on Fee for Intervention to members. ➤ HSE to explore whether it is possible to provide this access to the RIDDOR summary reports. ➤ IOSH to publicise the revised publication, Preventing accidents to children in agriculture (INDG 427) on their website ➤ Jackie Jones to forward an example of partnership marketing to Gillian Littlewood and Ben Ellis for information.
5	<p>Reports were received on the following:</p> <p>(5.1) Farm Safety Partnership (FSP) – Ben Ellis</p> <p>Over the last few months, the FSP has spent much of the time looking at branding and developing the website which will be a 'one stop shop' for industry guidance. The structure has been established and Terms of Reference agreed. Having considered various options it has been decided that the FSP will remain as an informal group. However, it is something that will be revisited in the future as it is essential that the group moves to becoming a robust legal entity. Having briefly suspended recruitment of new members, the group is now "open for business" again.</p> <p>(5.2) Membership – having an informal group may result in some loss of control, however the FSP wishes to be inclusive. Having a clear communication strategy and Terms of reference will help to keep the group on message.</p> <p>(5.3) The sub-groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cattle handling – progress has been slow and key messages have yet to be agreed. The intention is to run a targeted campaign. There were a number of ideas from the AIAC meeting which Ben Ellis would take back to the group for discussion. • Safe stop - the group has developed a sticker campaign involving hand brake checks. This will be delivered via BAGMA dealers. • Safe deliveries on farms - the Site Delivery Guide is still under development and the group is

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	<p>currently awaiting a farmer friendly version from AIC. Gillian Littlewood suggested that the BRC would be able to contribute to the draft especially from a produce collection perspective.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slurry – currently awaiting the outcomes of research from HSE. Promotion work and publicity would form a key element of the work of this sub-group. <p>(5.4) Aside from providing the secretariat for the FSP, the NFU will also be contributing to the work of the FSP by running a couple of pilot events i.e. adapting their farm walks to include dissemination of key health and safety messages (including a briefing on minimum ages relating to child safety) and a transport focussed event involving BAGMA who will hold a tractor surgery and demonstration. It is hoped that these will form templates for future events.</p> <p>(5.5) IOSH Rural Industries Group, together with the FSP will be running a networking event at Stoneleigh on 1 October 2013 – all are welcome to attend this open event.</p> <p>(5.6) On Farm Safety Charter – Rachel Corbridge</p> <p>The On Farm Safety Charter (OFSC) group is much smaller than the FSP with about ten regular attendees and others contributing by email. Members intend to focus on delivering health and safety messages via their programme of agricultural shows. The messages will focus on cattle handling and child safety. They are exploring ways of accessing Govt. funding for work on cattle handling. Work is also underway to look at the cost of accidents to the farmer versus the cost of compliance. CLA are hoping to adapt an existing case study to cover these issues.</p> <p>(5.7) OFSC are not currently developing a logo as they consider that their audiences recognise and trust members' individual brands.</p> <p>(5.8) Forestry Industry Safety Group (FISA) - Andrew Turner reported that there has been progress in some areas, but it has proved to be a difficult 7 to 8 months. During this time there has been a dispute involving the representative from the Forestry Contractors Association and the FISA Chair. However, they have established 8 project groups and have 177 members. Membership is growing on a daily basis. They hope to raise £100k via a membership levy and plan to spend £40k on subsidising training. FISA is registered as a not for profit organisation. They are currently consulting on their constitution. The current Chair will be standing down this month and they are advertising for a Chief Executive.</p> <p>(5.9) The group has started to produce guidance and has taken on ownership of the relevant AFAG leaflets which have been re-branded, but are otherwise largely unchanged. FISA see their role as setting benchmarks for the industry.</p> <p>(5.10) They have developed a one day training certificated (certificate of attendance) course and hope to have all operators booked on to a course by 1 October 2013. James Brown suggested that future increases in the use of big machinery will inevitably limit the availability of work for cutters on the ground.</p> <p>(5.11) FISA's website is up and running and they are providing regular updates for the Forestry Journal. They have also been reporting on near misses and have been issuing safety alerts.</p> <p>(5.12) The group has been looking at behavioural change and managing risk and has enlisted the help of the Chair of Work Safe British Columbia, who will be sharing the Canadian experience with about 400 contractors.</p> <p>(5.13) AFAG - Andrew Turner circulated copies of the revised Terms of Reference, a paper on the overlap between the AFAG and FISA and its working groups, and the proposed work plan for 2013 and beyond. The Chair reminded members that the AFAG is the only standing sub-group of the AIAC.</p> <p>(5.14) Task and finish groups – David Coackley provided a verbal update on progress.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large employers group - the group will be meeting in Plymouth on 25 June 2013 to seek agreement from 'growers' in Cornwall and Devon to use their guidance to form the basis of new national guidance. The guide would then be developed and promoted as examples of good practice. • The Occupational Health group had met and agreed to look at Lyme disease. They have produced an

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	<p>information note which can be used by others to help raise awareness of the problem.</p> <p>(5.15) Virtual Farm – David Coackley demonstrated an interactive online training and information tool featuring a ‘virtual farm’ based on a combination of drone photography and laser measuring technologies. The images highlight potential issues/hotspots and provide appropriate links to relevant guidance and case studies. It is still in the development phase and will shortly be tested by a group of agriculture students and HSE inspectors. Additional modules will cost at least £20k each. Any further development will be subject to the requisite internal HSE permissions and funding.</p> <p>(5.16) David Knowles stated that other organisations have produced similar software in the past, so there may be lessons learned from those projects which could prove helpful. It was pointed out that technology is advancing all the time and as such, this may have a limited shelf life and become quickly out of date in terms of its capabilities, look and feel as young farmers are very IT savvy. It was thought that older farmers would be less likely to use it.</p> <p>(5.17) Tim Englefield offered to help trial the tool with September’s intake of students. Members were asked to contact David Coackley with any additional feedback and/or interest.</p> <p>(5.18) Evaluation of 2012 -2013 SHAD programme – once again, the annual programme of traditional farming SHADs had proved to be popular with farmers and well supported by industry leaders. Approximately 99% of individuals who attended one of the twenty-six SHADs last year stated that they would recommend attending a SHAD to other farmers. Complaints about the cold weather aside, the only other slightly negative feedback from a handful of farmers related to what they felt was a lack of sufficient time for questions and discussion. (The proportion of attendees who rated the opportunity to ask questions as very or fairly good was 95 %, so they are very much a minority.) There is time built in at the end of each demonstration for questions which appears to satisfy the majority of attendees. However the Sector is intending to run a pilot in which the number of demonstrations/scenarios are reduced from six to five to allow for additional time for questions and discussion. This will be evaluated and any lessons learned built into this year’s programme of events.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Committee Secretary to circulate copies of the revised Terms of Reference, a paper on the overlap between the AFAG and FISA and its working groups, and the proposed work plan for 2013 and beyond ➤ Jackie Jones to circulate a sample of farmers’ comments gathered at the SHADs, together with the headline statistics for the 2012/13 programme and the link to the SHAD diary. ➤ Members to forward any comments on the ‘virtual farm’ training tool to David Coackley
6	<p>Any other business:</p> <p>(6.1) Roll over protection on ATVs – Andrew Turner reported that the debate between the two opposing camps (USA versus Australia) is continuing albeit in a more measured way. The thinking now appears closer to HSE’s position i.e. appropriate training and use of PPE. HSE had been considering commissioning research into the topic, but will now reconsider in the light of this shift in thinking.</p> <p>(6.2) The Prospective Investigation of Pesticides Applicators’ Health study (PIPAH study) – David Coackley circulated a background note explaining the purpose of this HSE commissioned study. So far, ~ 4k people have signed up for the study which involves data gathering from pesticide users. The study will build upon and learn from an earlier study. The data will provide a more comprehensive picture of the health of those working with pesticides.</p> <p>(6.3) Raising help in an emergency - Ian Beeby asked for views on whether the addition of a ‘panic’ button to the inside/outside of a cab would be beneficial. It was agreed that this was worthy of further discussion and that it should be raised with industry safety partnerships.</p> <p>(6.4) The NFU are participating in a telecommunications survey and would like to hear of any incidences where the lack of mobile phone signal has resulted in a more serious outcome.</p>

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	<p>Action:</p> <p>Ben Ellis to raise the subject of the fitting of emergency buttons with the FSP.</p>
7	<p>Time and date of next meeting: The next meeting will be on 13 November 2013, at Askham Bryan College, York, YO23 3FR</p>