



# NOTES OF MEETING

Date: 21 June 2010	Location: HSE, Redgrave Court, Bootle	Taken by: Jackie Jones
Subject: AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AIAC) MEETING		
<b>Present:</b>		
<b>HSE</b>	<b>AIAC Members</b>	
Marcia Davies (Chair)	Marcus Themans (NFU)	
Sandy Blair	David Knowles (IOSH)	
Judith Donovan	James Brown (AFAG)	
Graeme Walker	Tim Englefield (Landex)	
Alan Plom	Madge Moore (Lantra)	
Alastair Mitchell	Ian Waddell (Unite)	
David Coackley	Charlie Clutterbuck (Unite)	
Rachel Corbridge	Ian Beeby (Unite)	
Jill Wakefield	Andrew Clark (NFU)	
Jackie Jones	Richard Minton (NAAC)	
	Chris McCann (Walmart/Asda)	
	James Eckley (NFYFC)	
	David Leavesley (NFU Mutual)	

Item No	Description
1	<b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b>
	<p>Marcia Davies, AIAC Chair, welcomed all members to the meeting held at Redgrave Court, particularly Richard Minton attending for Jill Hewitt, David Leavesley (replacing Reuben Evans), Charlie Clutterbuck (replacing Ivan Monckton) and Ian Waddell (replacing Chris Kaufman).</p> <p>The Chair and Committee also expressed their thanks to Chris Kaufman for his major contribution to the work of Committee and wished him well in his retirement. The Chair would write to him to thank him on behalf of the Committee.</p> <p>Apologies received from Keith Christian; Chris Kaufman; Pat Stanley; Jill Hewitt and Roger Lane-Knott</p>
2	<b>HSE Board Champion for Agriculture</b>
	<p>The Chair advised members that this would be Judith Donovan's last meeting and introduced Sandy Blair (HSE Board member) who has picked up the baton from Judith as Board Champion for Agriculture. All expressed their grateful thanks to Judith for her commitment, hard work and tremendous contribution, especially in relation to the development of the MTP campaign.</p>
3	<b>Matters arising and actions outstanding from previous meeting</b>
	<p>The majority of actions from the previous meeting have been discharged, are ongoing, or listed as an agenda item.</p>

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4	<p><b>Make the Promise stakeholder strategy, including Promise Partners – Jill Wakefield, HSE</b></p> <p>(4.1) Jill Wakefield gave a presentation to members, including a brief resume of independent stakeholder mapping exercise. The exercise confirmed that our existing national map was largely appropriate although further analysis is required at local and regional level to ensure that we maximise our resource.</p> <p>(4.2) Jill stressed the importance of building upon the general aims and objectives of the wider Health and Safety Strategy, as key stakeholders (including AIAC members) have an important delivery role. In particular, the continuing status as a Promise Partner (PP) is dependant upon action. All members have signed up to being PPs and so have access the PP toolkit. Jill reminded members that the Make the Promise (MTP) campaign is targeted at individuals.</p> <p>(4.3) PP' primary role is to keep individuals' promises alive by helping embed MTP key messages. The new web pages were published on 21 June 2010. PPs may download and adapt the materials to meet their particular audience needs. Members asked HSE to explore the possibility of a separate url address for the web pages.</p> <p>(4.4) Farmers can make private or public promises. Judith Donovan stated that the purpose of the campaign was not to drive people to the website, rather to prompt them to seek out more information about health and safety. So far, over 30,000 farmers had responded.</p> <p>(4.5) The recent Government cuts in the public sector meant that the AIAC is even more important now in terms of the ongoing communication and dissemination of campaign messages and good practice.</p> <p>(4.6) Some major food companies have expressed an interest in becoming PPs but it was recognised that this might be an issue for some members. She also suggested we should try to engage with large landowners who have hitherto declined to get involved. James Brown offered to look at the position with Scottish farmers and landowners.</p> <p>(4.7) Sandy Blair asked members to provide a written note of any activities undertaken prior to the next meeting.</p> <p>(4.8) Ian Beeby and Charlie Clutterbuck offered to set up their own website to target workers. The site could be linked to the MTP website.</p>
	<p><b>Actions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Jill Wakefield/HSE to explore the feasibility of setting up a separate web address for the MTP web pages.</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Jill Wakefield to reflect members' comments in the Stakeholder Strategy document</b></li> <li>➤ <b>James Brown to report on the MTP position in relation to Scottish farmers and landowners.</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Members to provide a note of any MTP related activities before the next meeting.</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Ian Beeby and Charlie Clutterbuck to set up a 'workers' website</b></li> </ul>
5	<p><b>Review of Amenity and Landscaping sector – Alan Plom, HSE</b></p> <p>(5.1) Alan Plom introduced AIAC paper 100601, which incorporated the further views of internal and industry stakeholders.</p> <p>(5.2) He confirmed that the industry had flagged up training, competence and the use of pesticides as key issues. However, that communicating the core messages was proving difficult. It is hoped that solutions may emerge from the workshop, which is now scheduled for 28 July 2010.</p> <p>(5.3) There is also enthusiasm for SHAD type events and IOSH and others are helping to spread the word. Others can adopt this format.</p> <p>(5.4) Local Authorities (LAs) have a key role to play via their approach to contract letting. More enforcement may also help in dealing with the problem but in any event, they should be setting an example to the rest of industry. Sandy Blair asked for ideas on what might be done to address this.</p>

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	<p>(5.5) The next step would be the workshop.</p> <p>(5.6) The Chair congratulated Alan and Madge Moore for the paper, which summarised the background, issues, progress and desired outcomes.</p> <p><b>Action:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Members to submit ideas Alan Plom on how to tackle this issue</b></li> </ul>
6	<p><b>Fatal Injury statistics – Graeme Walker, HSE</b></p> <p>(6.1) Graeme Walker gave a presentation on the statistics for the year 2008/9, including the causes and employment status of the individuals. He confirmed that the number of worker/employee deaths had reduced over the past 10-15 years but that this had been largely offset by deaths to the self-employed. The main causes of death in the industry remained broadly the same year-on-year but that in 2008/09 machinery had featured more significantly than in previous years. However, he cautioned reading too much into a comparatively small dataset which meant that the figures were prone to variability from year-to-year. Little reliance could be placed on the statistics for non-fatal injuries as HSE estimates that only about 20% of non- fatal incidents were reported.</p> <p>(6.2) Further details are available on the website, including narrative summaries of the cases. Work on mapping fatal accidents is ongoing. HSE will consider how we might use this information to inform future strategies and plans of work.</p> <p>(6.3) Importantly, HSE has learned valuable lessons about the use of language and tone from the MTP campaign and it is hoped that this would used to make future reports more user friendly.</p> <p>(6.4) Migrant workers are not included as there were no fatalities during the period.</p> <p>(6.5) Sandy Blair informed members that the HSE Board look at fatalities on a monthly basis and it was agreed that members would also be provided with this information on a quarterly basis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Action: Sector to provide figures on a quarterly basis</b></li> </ul>
7	<p><b>Farming Coalition – Andrew Clark, NFU</b></p> <p>(7.1.) Andrew Clark informed members that the NFU senior leadership had agreed to taking on the role of MTP champions and wanted to help bring about the necessary cultural change within farming. NFU was anxious that HSE and PPs should build upon the success of the campaign to date. The knot has been instrumental in getting people talking about safety on farms. Machinery suppliers must now get involved.</p> <p>(7.2) The meeting between The NFU's President and Chief Executive and the HSE Board at the end of May had been very successful. As a result, the NFU proposed to host a summit meeting of senior leaders in the farming industry to develop a Coalition to promote the necessary cultural change. This could only come from within the industry and the industry must take ownership and provide leadership. Consideration needed also to be given to setting up a neutral space i.e. web site but it should not duplicate what already exists.</p> <p>(7.3) Other campaigns have a shared appointment/resource - should consideration be given to an HSE/NFU appointment? We should also consider AIAC's role in this and what is required from HSE. It is not about HSE – it is about the key players taking action, sharing an agenda and providing an underpinning belief system.</p> <p>(7.4) SHADs are very successful; more should be run in different locations, targeting different audiences as farmers align themselves to sectors. However, we should not lose sight of the need for enforcement, which should be more widely publicised. Farmers who follow the rules feel that they suffer an economic disadvantage and want to see more enforcement relating to non-compliance.</p> <p>(7.5) Agriculture is not an industry of choice for young people – we should aim to change this, but changing this perception will be challenging.</p>

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8	<p><b>Griffin Report – Graeme Walker, HSE</b></p> <p>(8.1) Graeme Walker provided a brief report on the Griffin Investigation Committee’s report, the “Review of the major outbreak of E.coli O157 in Surrey, 2009” published on 15 June 2010; which can be found on the HPA website. HSE provided verbal and written evidence to the committee on the application of health and safety legislation to the open farm industry, current guidance and advice to duty holders and the LAs (who along with HSE are responsible for enforcement) and on HSE’s approach to hazard and risk.</p> <p>(8.2) to read: 'The report, which is not legally binding, contains 43 recommendations covering 5 areas of activity e.g. identification and control of outbreaks, risk perception, assessment and management, regulation, inspection and standards etc. They are addressed to a range of organisations, including the HPA , the district council involved, LAs more generally - i.e. the local authority approach to enforcement in the open farm sector, and HSE' .</p> <p>(8.3) HSE will consider the conclusions and recommendations and review the advice and guidance to open farm operator/owners and to head teachers/teachers.</p>
9	<p><b>Update from Chris McCann, Wal-Mart</b></p> <p>(9.1) Chris McCann advised members that Wal-Mart is currently developing a Sustainability Strategy for Produce for 2010/11 and in conjunction with Unite the Union, have developed a plan of work (including health and safety) for the meat sector which incorporates arrangements for auditing suppliers. Suppliers will be subject to a revisit within six months of the audit. Unite would like to see others in the retail sector follow Wal-Mart’s example.</p> <p>(9.2) HSE’s risk assessment tool has been issued to all suppliers in the fresh produce supply chain and Wal-Mart will be providing technical training for suppliers in October. The next meeting of the company’s Project Advisory Group (comprising 6 key suppliers) on 23 July 2010, will consider how to manage health and safety in the supply chain.</p> <p>(9.3) David Coackley that his contact with the fresh produce supply industry suggested that producers are keen to have consistency in the auditing of health and safety based around a single standard. This would be a good topic for a workshop (along the same lines as the NFU event). HSE would welcome this initiative and invited Chris McCann (Wal-Mart) to establish and lead a coalition of the key retailers.</p> <p>(9.4) NFU’s suggested it would be helpful to harmonise standards, and adopt a single system of inspection (paid for by the industry) for policing the standard.</p> <p><b>Action point:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Chris McCann to lead a coalition of suppliers.</b></li> </ul>
10	<p><b>AIAC Plan of work 2009/10 &amp; beyond</b></p> <p>(10.1) The Chair commented that the plan needs updating to include the NFU and Wal-Mart initiatives. It was agreed Alastair Mitchell would liaise with Chris McCann to determine how this would appear in the plan. Once updated, it will be circulated to members.</p> <p>(10.2) The NFU advised members of the Task Force on Farming Regulation set up by Defra to reduce the bureaucratic burdens on English farmers and food producers. Although it was unclear whether and if so to what extent, the Task Force would consider the impact of health and safety legislation. Its application to Scotland and Wales was also unclear but it is due to report in early 2011.</p> <p>(10.3) Similarly, the Chair advised members of the Whitehall-wide review of health and safety law led by Lord Young which is due to report in the autumn.</p> <p>(10.4) The Chair invited members to share any ‘political’ developments that may impact upon the work of the committee and suggested we consider the outcomes of the various reviews at future meetings.</p>

Item No	Description
	<p><b>Action:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Alastair Mitchell and Chris McCann to agree a form of words for the plan</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Committee Secretary to update the plan and then circulate to members</b></li> </ul>
11	<p><b>Time and date of next meeting</b></p> <p>The next meeting will be held on 14 October 2010 at BAGMA offices in Banbury (to be confirmed).</p>
12	<p><b>Summary of actions:</b></p>
	<p>(1) Jill Wakefield/HSE to check on the feasibility of setting up a separate web address for the MTP web pages.</p>
	<p>(2) Jill Wakefield to reflect members' comments in the Stakeholder strategy document</p>
	<p>(3) James Brown to report on the MTP position in relation to Scottish farmers and landowners.</p>
	<p>(4) Members to provide a note of any MTP related activities before the next meeting.</p>
	<p>(5) Ian Beeby and Charlie Clutterbuck to set up a 'workers' website.</p>
	<p>(6) Members to submit ideas to Alan Plom on how to tackle this issue</p>
	<p>(7) Sector to circulate Fatal injury data on a quarterly basis.</p>
	<p>(8) Chris McCann to lead a coalition of suppliers.</p>
	<p>(9) Alastair Mitchell and Chris McCann to agree a form of words to reflect the Wal-Mart initiative for inclusion in the updated AIAC work plan</p>
	<p>(10) Members to share any 'political' developments that may affect the operating environment</p>
	<p>(11) HSE to provide an update on Lord Young's review at the next meeting.</p>
	<p>(12) Upon receipt of contributions from members, Committee Secretary to update the plan and then circulate to members</p>