

<b>HEALTH AND SAFETY EXECUTIVE</b>			
<b>CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CONIAC)</b>			
<b>Meeting date:</b>	20 November 2013	<b>FOI status:</b>	Fully open
<b>Type of paper:</b>	Below-the-line	<b>Exemptions:</b>	None
<b>TRIM reference:</b>	2013/408091	<b>Paper No:</b>	M3/2013/2
<b>Cleared by:</b>	Heather Bryant, Chair of CONIAC, on 12 November 2013		

## **Update on recent activities of CONIAC's Working Groups**

### **A paper by Anthony Lees, Secretary to CONIAC**

#### **Summary**

1. This paper updates CONIAC on activities of its working groups for the period July 2013 to November 2013.

#### **Background**

2. CONIAC has established the following Working Groups to further its aims:
  - Health Risks
  - Asbestos Liaison
  - Safety
  - Working Well Together
  - Catastrophic Events (paper **M3/2013/1** contains a final report from this group)

#### **Argument**

3. CONIAC's terms of reference provide as follows: "Each Working Group shall have and, subject to its endorsement by CONIAC, carry forward a Work Plan. CONIAC shall monitor the activities of the Working Groups and hold them to account for delivery of their Work Plans. Reports from Working Groups shall be a standing agenda item for CONIAC meetings."
4. Updating information for each of the Working Groups is set out in the **Annex** to this paper.

#### **Recommendation**

5. CONIAC notes the activities of the Working Groups.

## HEALTH RISKS WORKING GROUP

1. CONIAC Health Risks Working Group (WG) met for the tenth time on 9 October 2013.
2. The WG guidance for employers entitled *Understanding Occupational Health Management in Construction* has kindly been formatted and presented as a draft for publication by IOSH. They have also suggested ideas for a cover and a CONIAC Health Risk WG 'logo'. These drafts were considered by the WG members and the Chair agreed to meet with IOSH at the earliest opportunity to discuss their feedback and progress the options for its publication.
3. An update of HSE actions and current industry knowledge on the occupational cancer issues of Diesel engine exhaust emissions and the painting and decorating trade was discussed. It was agreed that the results of further research being undertaken to help identify the scope of any *current* exposure issue was essential to determine what outputs the group could usefully contribute.
4. Dr Jennifer Lunt from the Health and Safety Laboratory presented the work to date on developing a '*Health Risk Management Maturity Index (HeRMMIn)*'. The project is nearing completion and has produced a self-assessment tool for employers to help identify their '*maturity*' in dealing with the management of health risk issues. The project has been successfully piloted with industry assistance and it is anticipated that it will provide leading indicator intelligence on how health issues are being dealt with in construction. This in turn will assist the WG and HSE in future targeting.
5. Meeting dates for 2014 have been set and the next WG meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 5 March 2014.

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## ASBESTOS LIAISON GROUP (ALG)

1. ALG met in York on 11 September 2013. Agenda items were:
  - Introduction, apologies, welcome, etc
  - Minutes of the 38<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 2 May 2013
  - Matters arising from the minutes
  - Asbestos policy issues
  - Technical Working Group Update
  - Handling asbestos waste
  - ALG Workplan
  - ALU update

- AOB

2. The minutes of the ALG held on 2 May 2013 were agreed subject to three minor changes and will be available on HSE's website at: [www.hse.gov.uk/aboutus/meetings/committees/alg](http://www.hse.gov.uk/aboutus/meetings/committees/alg) together with all ALG and Working Group papers.

### **Asbestos policy issues**

3. Asbestos ACoP – It was confirmed that the consultation period for the revised asbestos ACoP ends on 30 September 2013 and will go to the Board shortly afterwards with the intention of publishing by the end of the year. A large majority of the responses received have been positive.

4. *Hidden Killer Campaign* – Commissioned research report on planning the campaign will be published around September/October by HSE's Communications Division. The campaign will focus on changing workers behaviours as well as raising awareness.

### **Technical Working Group Update**

5. No meeting held since the ALG in May 2013 so little to report. Peter Wilson (UCATT) will attend the next meeting scheduled for 1 October 2013 to discuss worker involvement. Mike Wilkes to represent ACAD in the short term.

### **Handling Asbestos Waste**

6. Draft ALG memo on Handling Asbestos Waste which incorporates comments from both SEPA and EA was circulated at the meeting. Memo to be redrafted taking into account comments received from members. Office of Rail Regulation (ORR) to be kept informed. The final version will then be submitted to HSE's Publications Guidance Group for agreement. Guidance on the new publications process to be circulated to ALG.

### **ALG Workplan**

7. It was agreed that the current workplan does not accurately reflect the work of ALG and needs to be revised to take account of recent changes. It was suggested that the working group remits should be looked at more closely with a view to sharing the workloads more evenly if possible. This would hopefully allow quicker progress on issues/topics.

### **Leadership**

#### *Asbestos Removal Management Institute (ARMI)*

8. ARMI is due to be launched in October 2013. The rules of membership are in place and work on a web site is underway. Jim Skilling (ex HSE) is assisting with professional reviews. Interest in membership is quite high.

#### *Events*

9. These events have been held in Cambridge, Rayleigh, Burton, London, Glasgow and Aberdeen. Further events have been confirmed – Newcastle

(14 November), York (15 November) and Manchester (2 and 3 December). The final events will be held by the end of March 2014 in the South West/South Wales and the South Coast. It was noted that licence holders who have attended these events have a better understanding of HSE's expectations within the asbestos removal industry.

### **Worker Involvement**

10. A copy of the European Association of Woodworkers pack was circulated at the meeting.

### **Training and Competency**

11. This working group had met in June and August. The principle of an accredited competency scheme has been approved by UKAS. Whilst the scheme must be publicly available it is unlikely that any body outside the licensed industry would be interested in, or able to meet the standards for accreditation.

### **Occupational Health Provision**

12. Currently being taken forward by CONIAC. ALG may look at specific topics when this work has been concluded.

### **Analysts**

13. It was noted that analysts are not routinely seen during inspections. ALU will be looking at this issue. Work is underway in the North West looking specifically at analysts personal health and safety.

### **ALG Memos**

14. Discussion on ALG memos and publication of HSE guidance generally is ongoing.

The next ALG meeting will be held in York on 9 January 2014. Further meetings will be held on 21 May 2014 and 17 September 2014 also in York. The Independent Association of Training Providers (IATP) had expressed an interest in joining ALG (Mark and Christine Winter). This was agreed and an invitation will be sent for the January meeting.

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### **SAFETY WORKING GROUP**

A meeting of this group scheduled for 8 October was cancelled. The next meeting will be on 15 January.

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## **WORKING WELL TOGETHER STEERING GROUP**

1. A National Steering Group meeting was held on 4 October 2013, and was well attended by Chairs of the Regional Groups, and representatives from CITB and FMB.
2. A closer relationship with CITB is progressing well, and CITB have committed to providing additional support for groups.
3. Up to the end of October 2013, there have been 44 WWT events, including 34 SHADs (of which 3 were College SHADs) and 6 mock trials. Other events included White Van tour, Designer Awareness Day and Asbestos Workshop.
4. Heather Bryant (Head of HSE Construction Division and Chief Inspector of Construction) has attended some WWT events since taking post, and has been impressed with both the events and the underlying commitment and effort of all the WWT groups towards reducing deaths and injuries in the Construction Sector.
5. Discussions are ongoing regarding the proposal for a new Group to operate in the London area. The areas to be covered are still being agreed.
6. It is hoped to progress the setting up of another new Group along the M3 corridor in the next quarter.

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## **CATASTROPHIC EVENTS WORKING GROUP**

This group has now reached the end of its term. A final report from it is in paper **M3/2013/1**.