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HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMISSION

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CONIAC)

The draft consultative proposals for securing effective employee involvement in health and safety and the Workers Safety Adviser Pilot

Summary

This paper gives a progress report on both the draft consultative proposals (including the Health and Safety (Employee Consultation and Representation Regulations XXXX) and the Workers Safety Adviser Pilot. CONIAC members are invited to note this.

Issue

1 This paper gives a progress report on a range of measures to secure more effective employee involvement in health and safety, including harmonised Regulations, planned for public consultation. The HSC is due to consider the draft consultative proposals on the 15th July 2003. An oral report will be provided.

Background

2 Members will be aware from previous papers and discussions the background surrounding the harmonisation of the Safety Representatives and Safety Committees Regulations 1977 and the Health and Safety (Consultation with Employees) Regulations 1996, and the Workers Safety Adviser Pilot (see CONIAC Paper M3/2002/3).

Current position

3 Two papers were submitted to the Health and Safety Commission on 13th May. The first a progress report on the draft harmonised Health and Safety (Employee Consultation and Representation) Regulations XXXX, brought to the attention of the HSC the issues that they would need to address when the

considering the draft consultative proposals. The second paper was a report examining the effectiveness of the Workers Safety Adviser Pilot. The HSC asked that HSE develop proposals for the establishment of sustainable and viable Workers Safety Adviser arrangements and funding options for taking the WSA approach forward. HSE is currently exploring funding arrangements, who will manage the scheme (ensuring broad stakeholder support) and how to build the capacity of skilled and competent Workers Safety Advisers.

Next steps

4 Draft consultative proposals that contain both regulatory and non-regulatory measures to encourage greater employee involvement in health and safety will be presented to the HSC at its 15th July meeting. Our intention is to publish the Consultative Document in late August/September, subject to the agreement of the HSC, for a period of four months.

Consultation

5 Construction stakeholders, including employers' organisations and trade unions, have commented on the developing proposals.

Action

- 6 CONIAC Members are invited to:
- Note the opportunity to be informed on the progress of these regulations.

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