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Offshore Industry Advisory Committee		OIAC/MIN/1/2008	
Meeting date:	14 March 2008	Open Gov. Status:	Fully open
Type of paper:	Minutes	Paper File ref:	
Exemptions:	None		

Minutes of the meeting of the Offshore Industry Advisory Committee held on
14 March 2008 in the
Richard Emmott Room, Lord Cullen House, Aberdeen

ATTENDEES	
<p>Present</p> <p>Ian Whewell – Chairman Julie Voce-Pascoe – Secretariat Louisa Cooper - Secretariat Tom McLaren – HSE Graham Tran – Unite, Amicus Section Brian Negus – GMB Ian Tasker – TUC Graham Duff – DNV John Taylor – Unite, TGWU Section Phil Ley - OCA Robert Paterson – Oil & Gas UK Jane Bugler – IMCA Andrew Campbell – WSCA</p>	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Paul Fairbrother – MCA Allan Graveson – Nautilus Steve Todd – RMT Susan Elston – COTA Edmund Brookes – BROA</p> <p>Presenters</p> <p>Robert Atkinson – Scottish Centre for Healthy Working Lives Ahsan Saleem – HSE Mike Lunt - HSE</p>

Item		
1	Introduction and apologies	
1.1	Ian welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
1.2	Apologies were received from Paul Fairbrother, Allan Graveson, Steve Todd, Susan Elston and Edmund Brookes.	
1.3	The draft minutes of the meeting held on 21 November 2007 were accepted as a true record of the meeting.	
1.4	There were no actions outstanding from the last meeting. It was agreed that the presentation and paper from the Step Change sub group with OPITO would be carried over to the next meeting.	Action: Secretariat to contact John Taylor.
2	Presentation by Robert Atkinson, OHS Development Manager, Scottish Centre for Healthy Working Lives	
2.1	Robert gave a presentation to members entitled 'The work of the Scottish Centre for Healthy Working Lives' which gave an overview of the work and free services offered by the Centre.	
2.2	Members thanked Robert for his presentation and commented that they were not all aware of the service. Members asked if they publicised the service, would it be able to deal with the generated interest. Robert confirmed that the service is a good source of additional	

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	<p>information but unfortunately their courses have been undersubscribed in the past. The Centre is looking to move the course venue and is in discussions with the STUC about mental health and how they can provide more training. Robert also confirmed that this is not a national service but they are exploring this.</p> <p>Ian Tasker commented that the TUC is looking at a course for trade union representatives which will cover mental health issues.</p>	
2.3	<p>Graham Tran commented that larger companies often have their own systems in place for dealing with issues such as this whereas smaller companies are often left on their own. Additionally, offshore workers face different challenges to those in other industries. Graham suggested that it would be worthwhile promoting this service to smaller companies who could work together with bigger companies to address these issues.</p>	
3	<p>Presentation by Ahsan Saleem, Team Leader on Occupational Health, HSE</p>	
3.1	<p>Ahsan gave a presentation to members covering occupational health and safety in the offshore industry and the team's programme of work.</p>	
3.2	<p>Members agreed both presentations were very interesting. Members went on to discuss the statistics covered in Ahsan's presentation and the issue of Riddor and ill health underreporting. Ian Tasker commented that the STUC found inducements were made to people not to report incidents. Ian asked what could be done to encourage reporting and commitment from workers and the industry.</p> <p>Ahsan confirmed that underreporting also occurs onshore and with high latency between exposure and presentation of symptoms, it is not always easy to see the true picture. Better ways of monitoring ill health are needed as this indicates if control measures are making a difference.</p>	
3.3	<p>Ian confirmed that HSE has no plans to revisit the Riddor review. HSE is aware that companies record data on ill health, but there is some unwillingness to share this data and so HSE is unable to build up a clear picture. Ian suggested this could become a future workstream for OIAC or perhaps Step Change.</p> <p>Graham Tran agreed that the presentations were very interesting but felt that time should be taken to discuss future work regarding occupational health issues offshore. In order to inform a work plan, issues need to be identified with perhaps a priority list to work from or an enforcement plan. Ian and Ahsan confirmed that enforcement is one way of obtaining information but HSE is working with companies to obtain accurate data.</p>	
4	<p>Operational update</p>	
4.1	<p>Tom gave a presentation to members that covered the work of OSD and accident statistics over the past year. Tom confirmed that operational updates will now be a regular agenda item and that more concise information will be provided on a quarterly basis at future meetings.</p>	
4.2	<p>Graham Tran commented that it would be useful to know why the Procurator Fiscal makes a decision to drop cases as it is often helpful to those who are close to the incident. Graham requested that HSE approach the Procurator Fiscal with this request at their next</p>	<p>Action: Tom to raise this issue with the PF.</p>

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	discussion.	
4.3	John Taylor commented that Tom's report was interesting and gave an overview of the time and effort HSE spends on a number of issues which is perhaps not always appreciated by the offshore industry.	
5	Workforce Involvement Group update	
5.1	Julie informed members that the Workforce Involvement Group (WIG) are organising an event which will take place on 8 May 2008 in Murrayfield, Edinburgh. The event is based around the theme of major hazards and how the workforce can play an effective role in improving working conditions. Julie explained to members that this event is not being organised by HSE but is a WIG initiative under the auspices of OIAC. As such, Ian has written a letter to CEOs seeking their support.	
5.2	Julie provided members with an overview of the day, explaining that the agenda includes presentations on major hazard risks and the Texas City explosion and Lord McKenzie, the Minister with responsibility for health and safety, will open the afternoon session. Julie informed members that she was hopeful the day would also include film footage of the Piper Alpha disaster and asked members if they knew of any survivors who would be willing to speak at the event. There was a general feeling from members that Piper Alpha survivors would not wish to speak at the event however, they would let Secretariat know of any potential speakers.	Action: Members to let Secretariat know of any potential speakers for the Murrayfield event
5.3	Julie informed members that HSE's Worker Involvement policy section is currently consulting employers on new guidance planned to accompany existing regulations. The offshore sector is excluded from this guidance. However, a revision of the Offshore Installations (Safety Representatives and Safety Committees) Regulations 1989 is planned as a separate exercise and will build on any outputs and actions arising from the workforce involvement event in May.	
5.4	John Taylor thanked Julie and her team for their efforts arranging the event and Ian agreed that the workgroup is producing positive work.	
6	Helicopter Liaison Group update	
6.1	Mike Lunt introduced this item. Mike explained that there remains a strong consensus amongst Helicopter Liaison Group (HLG) members for its continuation, particularly from the Trade Unions and the Helideck Certification Agency as neither of which are represented on the Oil & Gas UK Aircraft Safety Technical Group. Mike updated members on the matters HLG have considered over the past year and also informed members of the current position on major work items.	
6.2	The majority of members agreed that HLG should continue subject to annual review and the provision of annual reports to OIAC.	
7	Health and Safety Statistics Bulletin	
7.1	This was covered in item 4.	
8	OSD priorities and deliverables	
8.1	Ian presented this item which covered the OSD workplan priorities and key areas of delivery for 2008/09.	
9	Future priorities for OIAC	
9.1	This item was carried over to the next meeting.	

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10	AOB	
	No items were raised.	