

Workforce Involvement Group**Meeting date:** 19 June 2008**Open Gov. Status:** Fully open**Type of paper:** Minutes**Paper File ref:****Exemptions:** None**Present**

Phil Ley - OCA
 John Taylor - UNITE
 John Skeggs – IADC
 Robert Paterson – Oil and Gas UK
 Mikey Craig – Workforce Representative
 Willie Gibson – Workforce Representative
 Craig McDermid - Workforce Representative
 Julie Voce – HSE

Apologies

Alistair McGilvray – Maersk Contractors
 Fraser Easton - HSE
 Norman Marwick - Stepchange
 Graham Tran - UNITE

Item	
1	Introduction and apologies
1.1	Julie welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2	Discussion of the Murrayfield event
2.1	Julie gave an overview of the positive feedback that had been received about the Murrayfield WI event. There was a discussion about the event including suggestions to improve the planning and execution of future events. It was widely agreed that longer planning time would be beneficial and this would facilitate better publicity.
2.2	John Taylor said that UNITE had sent out a questionnaire to all of their attendees and he would share feedback at next meeting
3	Future WIG Events and Work Streams
3.1	The group discussed themes that could be explored and expanded at future WI events and the means of providing the offshore workforce with information. The themes of training and competence were discussed, hazard identification and behavioural psychology.
3.2	The effect of NRB on the workforce was discussed. It was suggested and agreed that where NRB was a problem then an insecure workforce meant that there could be a more hazardous workplace as a result because there would be reluctance for people to voice concerns over safety issues.
3.3	It was suggested that the NSOAF work stream on the supervision of work - competence to stop the job - could be usefully cross referenced with WIG work on competence. The group also discussed the work of Trondheim University, looking at the role of the supervisor in far east offshore workplaces, where it was more 'hands on' than western counterparts.
3.4	In terms of what useful materials the WIG could produce to support its conference work, the group discussed toolbox talks, toolkits and sharing and learning exercises.

3.5	<p>Mikey Craig raised the issue of shared accommodation offshore under the Wells (Design and Construction) Regulations, Reg. 12. Mikey said that application of this provision - requiring separate accommodation to be provided for Males and females offshore, was causing problems with the female workforce who feared that their jobs would be at risk if the provision was strictly enforced. OILC were aware of this problem and had received complaints about the inflexibility of the provision, which had not previously been applied rigorously by the offshore industry.</p> <p>The group discussed the issue, John Taylor stating that UNITE had also received complaints about this provision but that these supported completely separate sleeping quarters. He added that these complaints had been received from males.</p> <p>Julie said that this was not something that the WIG could take forward as a work stream. HSE's position was very clear in this matter because the regulation was directly taken from the European Directive. The wording made it clear that there was a requirement for sleeping accommodation to be separate, even for people on different shifts, and that HSE did not have discretion about how it enforced this provision.</p> <p>It was suggested that if any changes were to be sought by any organisations, then this would necessitate them making representation to the EU regarding the directive, because until that was amended then the obligation would remain.</p>
4	AOB
4.1	There was no other business and the meeting closed