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PRINTING INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A NON-HSE CHAIR

Issue

1. Following the Acting Chair's withdrawal from the Committee, it is appropriate that PIAC reconsiders its arrangements for the appointment of the chair. This paper proposes a protocol for rotating the office between the employers and trades unions represented on the Committee.

Timing

2. With effect from the Reconstitution of the Committee.

Recommendation

3. It is recommended that PIAC agrees to the following proposal:
 - a. The office of chair should be held by a member of the Committee nominated from the groupings of members representing the employers' bodies and trades unions, in rotation.
 - b. The nominated person should hold office for a maximum of 2 years.
 - c. The nomination should be made at the meeting prior to the new chair taking up post.
 - d. If the chair is unable to attend a meeting or resigns during their term in office, their place should be taken by a reserve nominee from the same membership grouping.

Background

4. When Andrew Porter, the outgoing Head of Sector and Chair of PIAC, retired in October 2002 his post was filled on a temporary basis, pending the outcome of a review of IAC's and the review of Sectors, being conducted by HSE.
5. The review of Sectors resulted in an amalgamation of several sector groupings into a new Manufacturing Sector, under a newly appointed

Head of Sector. The Head of Sector is unable to chair all of the IACs and other formal committees that now fall within the Manufacturing Sector.

Discussion

6. One of the criticisms levelled at IACs is that, for various reasons, they have not fulfilled their role of leading the health and safety agenda for their industries. They are now being challenged to demonstrate that they are actively engaging with their industries. Although PIAC has embraced this change, an 'external' chair could assist the process by transferring ownership of the work to the representative bodies on the Committee.
7. Having an external chair could also promote the sense of partnership with industry which forms a significant part of HSE's new ways of working.
8. It is not intended that the constitution of PIAC should otherwise change as a result of this amendment. The Committee should still operate by consensus and the practice of not taking votes should continue.
9. It is suggested that facilities be made available prior to relevant meetings for the industry groupings to meet to select their nominations.
10. The length of the term of office is open to discussion. However, 2 years is suggested to enable sufficient time for the chair to make their leadership mark on proceedings.