

Principles of sensible risk management

Steve Pointer

Risk Policy, Strategy Division

Sensible risk management

IS about:



- Ensuring that workers and citizens are properly protected.

Sensible risk management

IS about:



- Providing overall benefit to society by balancing benefits and risks, with a focus on controlling real risks – either those which arise most often or those with the most serious consequences.

Sensible risk management

IS about:



- Enabling innovation and learning, not stifling them.

Sensible risk management

IS about:



- Ensuring that those who create risks manage them responsibly and understand that failure to manage serious risks responsibly is likely to lead to robust action.

Sensible risk management

IS about:



- Enabling individuals to understand that as well as the right to protection, they also have to exercise responsibility.

Sensible risk management IS NOT about:



- Creating a totally risk free society.

Sensible risk management IS NOT about:



- Generating useless paperwork mountains.

Sensible risk management IS NOT about:



- Scaring people by exaggerating or publicising trivial risks.

Sensible risk management IS NOT about:



- Stopping important recreational and learning activities for individuals where the risks are managed.

Sensible risk management

IS about:



- Protecting people;
- Providing overall benefit by balancing benefits and risks;
- Enabling innovation and learning;
- Ensuring those who create risks manage them responsibly; and
- Helping people understand they have responsibilities as well as rights.

Sensible risk management IS NOT about:



- Creating a risk free society;
 - Generating useless paperwork;
 - Scaring people by exaggerating risks;
- and
- Stopping important learning & recreation.