

Emmie Galilee  
Stakeholder Liaison  
Better Backs Campaign  
Health and Safety Executive  
Rose Court  
2 Southwark Bridge  
London SE1 9HS

1 September 2006

Dear Emmie

*Defra – the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs* is delighted to support this year's Better Backs campaign to tackle back pain in the work place.

We are serious about managing the risks of back pain at work and will be demonstrating our support by taking the following actions:

- **Run our own in-house awareness campaign to include;**
- ***In house training/awareness sessions in conjunction with our Occupational Health Provider.***
- ***We'll have Better Backs information stands/information points in our HQ offices across the country***
- ***Using our intranet site we'll highlight Better Backs issues such as correct workstation set-up and manual handling techniques***
- ***Use our network of Health and Safety co-ordinators to disseminate information to colleagues within their workgroups***

By doing these things we plan to achieve the following:

- ***Raise staff awareness.***
- ***Contribute to a reduction in the incidence of sickness absences related to MSDs.***
- ***Reduction in manual handling and ULD related accidents.***

*Defra* is committed to working with HSE and the Local Authorities on this issue - together we can make a real difference.

Yours sincerely

*Nicola Scoon*  
*Health and Safety Adviser*