



**Partners for Better Health at Work
Newsletter
Supplementary Issue - August 2007**



Welcome to this supplementary issue of the Partners for Better Health at Work Newsletter - In this edition I am pleased to bring you information on a new series of health policy seminars commencing in HSE's Rose Court HQ this autumn under the auspices of HSE's Chief Scientist, Patrick McDonald.

The programme is being devised by Dr David Snashall, Senior Lecturer in Occupational Medicine, King's College London and President of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine, Royal College of Physicians of London jointly with Professor Dame Carol Black, National Director of Health and Work and Chair of the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges.

These seminars are designed to provide a forum for the discussion of aspects of health related to work. The aim is to hear about and discuss cross cutting subjects covering occupational and environmental medicine, wider aspects of the health of the working age population, insurance, law ethics and public policy.

"If you would like to be invited on a regular basis to the HSE Health Policy Seminars and are willing to have HSE keep your email details on file for purposes of these seminars only, then please email sally.eaton@hse.gsi.gov.uk asking to be added to the list of invitees."

**Health Policy Seminar - Fit to Drive at Work?
Evidence, Practicalities and Politics**

The first seminar this autumn will be on **Thursday 11th October 2007 at 6:00pm**, when Dr Tim Carter, Chief Medical Adviser, Department of Transport and formerly Director of Field Operations at HSE will be

talking on the evidence base for determining fitness to drive, particularly work related driving.

Driving has a major effect on public health and the occupational health and safety burden outweighs that of most standard workplace hazards.

There are obvious relations between driving in work, to work and outside of work, important human factors in safety and tensions existing between personal freedom and restricting drivers on health grounds.

The talk will be followed by discussion. Tea and coffee will be available before the seminar from 5:30pm and food and drinks will be served afterwards. The refreshments are being sponsored by Royal Mail group to whom we are most grateful.

Seminar Details:

Date & Time: 11 October 2007 @ 6pm

Venue: HSE London HQ
Rose/Globe Room, Rose Court,
2 Southwark Bridge, London, SE1 9HS.

We need to know in advance if you intend **to come to the seminar and also if you would like to stay for the buffet afterwards**. Please reply to Sally Eaton on: sally.eaton@hse.gsi.gov.uk.

If you need to cancel your attendance, please do so as far in advance as possible because these will be popular events and, because of space, numbers are limited. CPD approval is being applied for.

Map and travel details for Rose Court:

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/contact/maps/london.htm>

"Better Backs"

Thinking of running a Better Backs stakeholder event?

If so, we have some good news ... a new stakeholder pack will be available by end October 2007. Details of how to order will appear shortly on the campaign website www.hse.gov.uk/msd/campaigns/

The campaign itself started in 2005 with the objective of reducing the incidence and impact of MSDs caused or made worse by work. As it enters its fourth year, the particular focus of the campaign will be on prevention of manual handling- and ULD (Upper Limb Disorder) - related injuries in the workplace, although it will also continue to promote the importance of protecting backs more generally by "staying active" and good return to work practices.

The vision is that the campaign will run continuously with no set beginning and end.

We are keen to see the continuing involvement of businesses, professional bodies, trade unions and employee's representatives, trade associations and the voluntary sector in Better Backs. To this end we are encouraging people to carry out activities that support the campaign.

Do please help us ensure the campaign goes from strength to strength. And many thanks to those of you who are already actively supporting it."

If you have received this newsletter through a contact and would like to sign up to the regular mailing list, please send your details to:

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