

Minutes of the Waste Industry Safety and Health (WISH) Forum 30th January 2007 at WRAP, Banbury

Present

Trevor Hay	HSE	Chairman
Paul Urbonas	BMRA	
Geoff Smallwood	CIWM	
Chris Jones	ESA	
Paul Harvey	HSE	
Bob Mason	Local Government Employers Organisation	
John McClean	TUC	
Lawrence Strong	WAMITAB	
David Buxton	CHEM	
Toni Gladding	CIWM	
Jeremy Jacobs	Composting Association	
Lisa Saunders	CRN	
Dick Perry	WRAP	
Mark Foxhall	LARAC	

Observers

Mark Roberts	Egbert H Taylor
Denise McGlynn	EU Skills
Bill Bircham	Accord

1. Apologies

Neil Ferris	Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee
Vincent Borg	TUC
John Galvin	DeFRA
David Bliss	Environment Agency

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

Subject to minor changes, the minutes were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

3. Matters arising

Matters arising from the previous meeting were discussed as agenda itemised issues.

4. Revitalising H&S Forum

Members were informed of the Leadership Conference being held at Pride Park, Derby on Thursday 29th March is aimed at directors and chief executives. It will provide a range of speakers with experience in implementing effective leadership programmes within their organisations. www.hse.gov.uk/campaigns/conferences/manuf.htm

5. Progress on publications

Members were informed of the progress being made towards publication of current "best practice" guidance.

6. Risk Rating Tool workshop

Geoff Smallwood reported back on his experience of the risk rating tool workshop. Contractors working on the joint HSE/DEFRA/WAG/SE project are running these workshops. The project seeks to provide LA's with information to help them select the most appropriate system for their collections.

7. Induction Training for Waste Collectors: Interactive CD

ESA, with EU Skills, were currently progressing the production of an interactive CD covering basic induction for new workers. Estimated date of completion is 1 April 2007.

8. Hygiene Waste

HSE was currently working on a leaflet for the handling of offensive/hygiene waste. It was expected that this document would be tabled at the next WISH meeting.

9. Fatalities 2006/7

A brief report was given on the fatalities within the industry for the current year. Again, vehicle movements were the biggest single cause of work related death in the industry.

10. S3 HSWA duties

The issue of risk assessments of the effects of collection methods on members of the public were discussed. Items discussed included the potential for harmonising assisted collection criteria and the importance of dialogue with householders.

11. WATCH/ACTS

These bodies have become interested in the chemical and toxic substances handling (inhalation, ingestion, absorption) risks within the recycling industry. HSE will be presenting a paper to WATCH in the near future.

12. ESA members pack.

ESA reported on its recent health and safety related activities. All new members are being provided with a pack containing summary health and safety information along with directions to the guidance contained on the ESA, HSE and WISH websites.

The annual supply of accident and ill health information, the name of the Director responsible for Safety and the name of the person appointed to assist on safety matters is already a mandatory requirement for ESA member companies. In undertaking its gathering of data for 2006 ESA is now also asking all members to submit a summary of their health and safety action plan for 2007.

At the WISH meeting of 26 April 2006 it was agreed that the health and safety training guidelines which ESA had prepared would, subject to some minor corrections being made, be posted on the WISH website. Mr Jones reported that those guidelines had been updated and expanded and expected to be delivering the revised version very shortly.

13. Task and Finish

Members were invited to send any final comments on this document to Chris Jones by 14 February. If no comments are received, the document will be published.

14. Skips

The matter of MoPs being found in skips by waste collection teams was discussed. ESA undertook to present some safety considerations to help minimise this risk at the next meeting. A discussion was held as to the ways to get this information to users in the retail sector, including publicity, magazine articles etc.

15. Noise in glass collection

Trevor Hay reported back on the noise in glass collection meeting. Minutes of the meeting had been made available to WISH members. It was anticipated that a WISH "best practice" document would result after further information gathering.

16. Twice weekly collections

The potential health risks from twice-weekly collections were briefly discussed. Dr Toni Gladding indicated that further research was being undertaken. CIWM will advise HSE of any findings as they arise.

17. Date of next meetings

16th May 2007 - HSE Cardiff

5th September – CIWM, Northampton