

Open Government
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HEALTH AND SAFETY EXECUTIVE

AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AIAC)

FISA update October 2020

Significant matters

1. Since the last AIAC meeting the FISA Steering Group (SG) has met on 13th October via MS TEAMS having cancelled the spring meeting prior to this due to COVID. FISA Working Group (WG) details and priorities are available at <https://ukfisa.com/About-Us/Working-Groups>
2. **Lessons learned** - the sharing of these continues to be a feature of meetings. Member organisations are encouraged to produce safety bulletins or alerts for the more significant incidents and learning points which are shared on FISA's website. Incidents continue to draw attention to the need for effective planning, monitoring and supervision.
3. **Competence Levels System** – the Chainsaw Competence Level System produced by the Chainsaw WG has been accepted by the SG and additional detail provided in appendices covering an Auditors Standard and an Outline Audit System. A further proposal that the Levels System will replace FISA refresher / supervisor training was introduced. This is to ensure chainsaw competence (training and experience) is nationally defined, assessed and logged.
4. **Planning: chainsaw risk assessments** – It has been proposed that Level 3 Technicians (as outlined in the Competence Levels System) should be engaged to undertake chainsaw risk assessments at the planning stage of forestry work. This is to ensure the risk assessment identifies the relevant competence levels required for the chainsaw work on that site.
5. **Plant and Equipment WG - Traction Assist** guidance has been produced and recently published. This will be supported by a rigging training pilot outline. An updated harvester **chainshot** bulletin is soon to be published. **Tree shears** and **grapple saws** guidance is currently being worked on. Inspection of machinery (PUWER & LOLER) bulletin produced.
6. **Haulage** - produced guidance on Forestry haulage load security, Work at Height in Forestry haulage and CPD Forestry haulage training.
7. **Electricity** – updated FISA Guide published.
8. **Safety before price** is being developed within the Landowners WG with the aim of integrating safety standards into forestry sales contracts.
9. **COVID** following the production of FISA's Working Safely during COVID in Forestry Guide and example risk assessments learning points were recently discussed and supporting bulletins released.

10. **GMHSF (Guide to managing H&S in Forestry)** – FISA Guide revised and published (split into dutyholder roles).
11. **Forestry Welfare** – Guides produced and published with a 12-month review period and associated update bulletins mainly on interpretation of reasonable practicability.
12. **FISA's Governance** Recent discussions have identified the need for a restructuring of governance to include the need for a technical officer role.

CONTACT

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