

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE HEALTH AND SAFETY
EXECUTIVE AND THE COAL AUTHORITY**

Introduction

This Memorandum of Agreement is made between the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and the Coal Authority (CA) and addresses arrangements for the:

- a. inspection of coal mines to avoid any duplication of inspection activities, minimise the number of site visits and reduce the burden on industry, and
- b. exchange of information contained on abandonment plans.

Sharing information and joint inspections

HSE inspectors will alert the Authority to any indication from their inspections that operators might be working beyond their licence boundary. CA will examine the plans it requires operators to provide and will draw HSE's attention to any matters that suggest non-compliance with health and safety legislation.

Joint inspections by the CA and the HSE will normally be undertaken where these would reduce the burden on operators and there are issues affecting both parties.

Exchange of information contained on abandonment plans

HSE is the statutory custodian of mine abandonment plans under regulation 69(2) of the Mines Regulations 2014.

CA holds digital data of all abandonment plans and provides this information for a fee.

HSE will work in partnership with CA to maintain the database and will provide CA with access to all abandonment plans, for scanning prior to storage, free of charge.

CA will provide HSE, upon request and free of charge, copies of the digital images as required.

Review

This document may be amended at any time by agreement between the Chief Inspector of Mines for HSE and the Chief Executive for the Authority.

Signatures



Mr JR Leeming
HM Chief Inspector of Mines
(for the Health and Safety Executive)

Date: 9 September 2016



Philip Lawrence
Chief Executive
(for the Coal Authority)

Date: 9 September 2016