



Minutes of Meeting

Friday 19 May 2017

Brookfield Masonic Hall, Westhoughton, Bolton

Present:

Mark Burns	MB	Chair
John Buck	JB	Vice Chair
John Houlihan	JHn	Secretary
Melinda Lyons	ME	University of Manchester
Andy Wood	AW	Alternative Futures Group
Joe Cryans	JC	The Joseph Rowntree Foundation
Tad Kolakowski	TK	Shield Environmental
Paula Coward	PCo	University Hospital of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust
Terence Harris	TH	Aintree University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Lynne Atherton	LA	Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust
Sue King	SK	Four Seasons Healthcare
Phil Tanner	PT	NHS Blood and Transplant
Brett Thompson	BT	Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Paul Morris	PM	Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust
Tom Jones	TJ	Creative Support Ltd.
Sally Shihadah	SS	University Hospitals North Midlands
Jane Close	JC	St Anne's Hospice

Apologies:

Andre Haynes	AH	Wirral University Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Jane Hadfield	JHad	The Christie NHS Foundation Trust
Debbie Carr	DC	Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Lyn Ellis	LE	Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Ian Neil	IN	Your Housing Group
Tina Platt	TP	East Cheshire NHS Trust



Interactive sessions of local health and safety issues, sharing of best practice and lessons learned

John Houlihan referred to previous discussions held last year when arranging the programme of meetings for 2017, whereby it was agreed by members that instead of having a guest speaker presentation on one particular subject matter at every meeting, one or two meetings would be used as interactive sessions, split into four half hour slots, that focus on particular health and safety issues, the sharing of best practice and of lessons learned with the aim of allowing greater variation, in particular, for those persons who may be new - either to the section, a health and safety role or working within health and social care or for those who may be experiencing difficulties with a number of health and safety subjects within their respective organisations, with a view of holding more interactive sessions should this pilot prove successful.

Members were introduced to Melinda Lyons who gave an insight of her role. She began by outlining the aim of the session was to raise awareness of the differences between patient safety and occupational health and safety lead roles and of the potential issues this may create.

Those in occupational health and safety practitioner roles are likely to have successfully obtained qualifications and skills that are widely recognised and are set by a professional body to a high standard, adhere to the IOSH code of practice, and see the remit of the role as extending, consistent with the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, for both staff and members of the public affected by their work.

However, the same cannot be said for those in patient safety roles as it is quite unusual for those in such roles to be health and safety practitioners by background or follow any similar scheme in assessing and ensuring competency with safety related skills or topics that the role may expect them to use, nor do they adhere to an appropriate code of practice, with a remit strictly limited to and exclusively just focused on risks to patients.

Melinda Lyons stated there is no formally recognised educational structure for 'patient safety', leaving this open to commercial exploitation, with one week courses now readily available for people to become 'certified patient safety 'professionals'' thus making it difficult to explain that years of working towards NEBOSH qualifications compares favourably when competing with the words 'certified patient safety professional'.

<http://ihlm.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/BC6524-Certified-Patient-Safety-Professional-Brochure-2016.pdf>



She added that it is usual for those in 'patient safety roles' to be more accepted and integrated into organisational strategy, as well being involved in the decision making process at board level those in 'occupational health and safety roles'.

It would seem obvious to occupational health and safety practitioners that there are significant risks associated with people making safety related decisions in policy or practice where it cannot be established those persons possess the relevant competencies.

At the very least it would seem uneconomic as without the relevant competencies, people can unknowingly take time and effort to create unsustainable practices or end up reinventing the wheel. As such, it is quite normal within healthcare for occupational health and safety professionals to be excluded from discussions, decisions, as well as job opportunities, where they could be making a more significant and beneficial input in terms of safety in favour of those without these skills.

John Houlihan gave an update of the feedback received in response to a request made from the guest speaker presentation delivered by the Health and Safety Executive in January 2017 and thanked all those who contributed for their open, honest and constructive appraisal.

Feedback would help the Health and Safety Executive develop and refine approaches in intervention and communication activities, allow for more focused engagement with those who can influence health and safety within the workplace, collaborate with intermediaries or those working in partnership and provide guidance and support materials to raise awareness and to achieve behavioural change.

Reassurance was given that the collation of feedback was made anonymous prior to being forwarded to the Health and Safety Executive Health and Social Care Sector for review.

John Houlihan added that a copy of the feedback issued, along with any responses received, would be issued to members for information and discussion at a future meeting.

Members thanks Melinda Lyons and John Houlihan for their valued contribution.

Action: It was agreed the Section would seek to pursue such matters further.

Members agreed to defer reviewing the descriptive content of health and safety training developed by Health Education England as part of the Core Skills Training Framework and asbestos management for a future meeting.

Action: Members to agree a date for future presentation



Meeting

1. Apologies for absence

Noted

2. Minutes of the last meeting / matters arising

Members approved the minutes of the meeting held on Friday 24 March 2017 as a true and accurate record. All actions from the minutes form part of the standing agenda of the meeting.

3. Communication / correspondence / consultative documents

John Houlihan drew attention to the Health and Safety Expo Event scheduled to take place between 20 and 22 June 2017 at the Excel, London and of the key themes identified during the Lone Worker Safety Conference that was held at the Olympic Centre on 28 March 2017.

He also provided an overview of WORK 2022, the new IOSH five year strategy, that sets out the vision and defines the steps to be taken by IOSH in shaping the future of safety and health. These include the launch of new CPD courses for 2017/18 and of the drive to see more members reach chartered status, more resources and opportunities to help fill gaps in IOSH Blueprint personal competency profiles that will help broaden skills sets and increase employability, raising the profile of OSH practitioners, supporting members more to improve health and safety within places of work, engaging with business, media and politicians to change perceptions of health and safety and of doing more in standing up for the profession.

Reference was made to the consultation document that ended on 2 April 2017 regarding changes to the Ionising Radiation Regulations 1999 in terms of reducing dosage limits, a more graded approach to risk control, notification registration and licensing.

Members were also advised to comment on the draft ISO 14001 standards before the deadline of 16 June 2017.

4. Regulatory authority update

John Houlihan gave an update of recent prosecutions by the Care Quality Commission and of the lessons learned. He also signposted members to the new toolkits produced by NHS England National Quality Board and of guidance following recent review of how NHS Trusts investigate and learn from death following learning, candour and accountability.

Members requested a link be included within the minutes of the meeting.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/part-rel/nqb/>

John Houlihan informed members of changes in strategic direction of NHS Resolution, the new operating name of the NHS Litigation Authority.



Its new five year strategy seeks to transform the way in which valuable NHS resources are used to benefit patients, resolve concerns and help improve safety.

5. IOSH Manchester and Northwest Districts Branch update

John Houlihan confirmed matters relating to improving working relations and of exploring the possibility of holding a joint event between the Healthcare Section and Group remain ongoing and that he is still awaiting the outcome of the health and social care survey and Annual General Meetings so as to progress matters further.

Members were alerted to the cancellation of the joint meeting with Merseyside Branch and North Wales Branch, which was scheduled to take place on 6 June 2017 at the Select Security Halton Stadium in Widnes, due to funding issues and concerns regarding a lack of support from IOSH for this event.

He added that the Branch Executive Committee have decided not to undertake any further teleconferencing meetings for the foreseeable future and that an application has been made for South Cumbria and North Lancashire District to become an independent branch of IOSH.

6. Future topics of interest

John Houlihan confirmed he has sent an email reminder to the manager of the venue requesting confirmation of the dates for 2018 and that work to arrange guest speaker presentations remained ongoing.

Members were also reminded to put forward any future topics of interest.

7. IOSH CPD / IPD programme

No matters were presented for discussion.

8. Members forum

Members discussed local health and safety issues.

9. Any other business

No matters were presented for discussion.

10. Date and time of next meeting

Friday 14 July 2017

Guest Speaker Presentation 'managing and behavioural factors to improve quality and safety in healthcare' by Neil Budworth Health, Safety and Risk Manager at Loughborough University