

**Health and Safety Forum  
GoToMeeting**

**Attending:**

Lydia Johnson (Yorkshire & North Trent) (LJ) (Chair)  
Jill Howes (South East) (JH)  
Helena Kinkaid (Northern Ireland) (HK)  
Ross McGhee (UK Council – Scotland)  
Ian Cloke (Health & Safety Officer) (IC)  
Nicola Holmes (Admin Support) (NH)

**Welcome and Introductions:**

**Apologies:**

Gill Hodges (UK Council – Northern Ireland) (GH)

**Minutes from Previous meeting**

Minutes were agreed

**Matters Arising:**

**Training for Reps - Wellbeing**

Reps training remains online where possible. Helen Wickham, TUEd Lead has organised Reps Resilience and Compassion Fatigue training, which has been offered to all reps. Training is delivered online and the first 7 courses are full, except for a few places available on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

**TUC Course**

Out of approximately 40 new H&S reps, 11 have informed us that they have started/completed the TUC Stage One online course. It is important that new reps complete the TUC training until SoR induction training is able to resume.

**Diploma Course**

This years course will be completed in January 2021. No formal plans have been made for the next course in 2021, IC is working with the College concerning dates. So far two reps have expressed their interest in next years Diploma course.

**APs/Apprenticeships**

LJ reported Leeds would be taking on 3 apprentices for the next academic year from University of Exeter. Hull may also be starting up the apprenticeship programme.

**Personal Injuries:**

IC reported that there were a total of 34 cases in the system. The £291,000 paid out was for 5 claims. IC is still waiting for additional information from members for some claims. Some claim forms had been sent out to members but not yet returned. It is important that claims are submitted to the SoR within three years of the incident and in order to provide sufficient time for them to be assessed and progressed.

## Items for Discussion:

### Feedback on Covid-19

HK reported that it is becoming increasingly difficult working with PPE and leaving the department for lunch breaks.

Peer vaccination training has been rolled out but volunteers must complete the training and carry out vaccinations in their own time.

Vaccinations will be rolled out to care homes in the first instance.

Ongoing issues with mask fit testing, some staff are not tested.

PPE stocks on the whole are good apart from medicated wipes.

JH reported that patients and out patients over the age of 80 were being offered the vaccine first, with care home and high risk staff members following this.

Staff vaccination training was being carried out during work time.

LJ reported vaccinations had started last week for the at risk elderly staff members working post retirement but no information had been given concerning patients. Further updates have now been given and no vaccinations will be given to staff until care homes have been vaccinated.

Staff vaccination training was being carried out during work time. No information has been given concerning vaccination of radiographers.

There are ongoing issues with fit testing for masks

RM reported that Glasgow oncology was priority 1 for vaccination, however no information had yet been received.

There are not enough vaccines for priority 3 until the new year. Vaccinations in Glasgow will be provided at the Nightingale Hospital, other areas will be provided by hubs. 90% of radiographers in Edinburgh have been vaccinated.

## Future Meetings

2021 H&S reps meeting dates have been circulated. It is likely that meetings up until Easter will be by GoToMeeting but hoped that there will be a return to face to face meeting from June onwards.

IC will be looking at regions/countries with no Forum member and will be working with the new London and Eastern Regional Officers to fill the positions.

Areas with no Forum member include London, Eastern, Northern, North West, Scotland and Wales.

IC confirmed that meetings can also be attended by GoToMeeting when face to face meetings are resumed.

## Specialist Group Updates

- **Conflict resolution: Vacant**
- **General Moving and Handling (including bariatric): GH**  
No report received
- **Infection Control: A E-H**
- No report received
- **MRI: RM**  
MRAG discussed the IPEM scheme and advertising has begun for assessors. This will be knowledge based with an exam.

- **Occupational Health: All to cover**  
Nothing to report
- **Radiation Protection: RM**  
No report received
- **Risk Assessment: HK**  
Nothing to report.
- **RSI : IC**  
Lot of PI claims were RSI, upper limb related.
- **Stress: LJ**  
Increasing amount of workplace stress.
- **VDU: HK**  
Nothing to report.
- **Care in practice: JH**  
Nothing new to report
- **Working Time Directive: JH**  
Nothing to report.

## **Health & Safety Officer update**

IC asked that all Forum members encourage reps to complete the TUC survey which is open until the end of the month.

IC had been informed that 21 SoR reps had completed the survey. Regional breakdown, which included all unions, was as follows:

Scotland – 126/North West – 126/Wales – 60/Northern Ireland – 18/South East – 93/North East – 49/Midlands – 75/East – 48/Yorkshire – 82/London – 98.

IC is part of the Stress working group from the HSWPG workstream. The group met last month and will meet again in January. It is hoped that updated guidance from management will be available later next year.

TUC will be making spot Covid checks with Trusts to see how they are coping and what risk assessments are being done. They will be making contact with H&S reps within Trusts. Trusts will be given 24 hours notice of a check.

TUC is currently talking with HSE Northern Ireland to see when the checks can be carried out in NI.

Ventilation – there has been discussion as to whether Covid particles are transmitted more easily by ventilation systems, with some indication that it is. The HSE website contains link to the Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers and useful information on the different types of ventilation systems.

Ventilation systems will come under scrutiny with work being developed over time to improve understanding of how Covid particles may be transmitted via ventilation systems.  
H&S reps should ask if the correct procedures are in place for their specific ventilation system.  
IC will keep the Forum updated.

## **Update on Health & Safety from Regions/Countries**

### **Wales**

- No delegate

### **South East (JH)**

- Nothing to report

### **Scotland (No delegate)**

### **Northern Ireland (HK)**

- Nothing to report

### **Midlands (A E-H) (SM)**

- No report received

### **London**

- No delegate

### **South West**

- No delegate

### **Yorkshire & N Trent (LJ)**

- Nothing to report

### **Northern**

- No delegate

### **North West**

- No delegate

## **Any other Business**

None

## **2021 Meeting dates**

1 March

14 June

13 September

13 December