POOSH Scotland, as an IOSH member KMcD chairs this grouping supported by Ian Waldram a longstanding proactive member of IOSH based in Scotland. Partnership working is a key element of KMcD’s role as Head of RoSPA in Scotland so allocating time for POOSH and the associated PHASS committee is not a challenge.

Full details of ‘how POOSH works in Scotland’ are included with this report. The list of organisations linked to POOSH is available via the link http://www.hse.gov.uk/scotland/poosh.htm, however this will be subject to some revision during early 2016.

Partnership activity in Scotland has been underpinned by a Scottish Action Plan on health and safety. POOSH members have played an active part in delivery. A second Action plan is currently under development post the Smith Commission report.

POOSH Scotland is currently working towards revising their mapping document refreshing contacts with partner organisations. A request has been made for POOSH Scotland to be involved in the new action plan. In addition a specific request has been made by IOSH to ensure that the potential input to taking forward the action plan by our 4,500 members in Scotland is recognised at development stage. It is anticipated that this may be a development of the current HSE Estates Excellence programme working in partnership with PHASS members. POOSH Scotland have also suggested an extension of the IOSH/HWL Train 2015 initiative merits inclusion in the Action Plan.

The RoSPA National Occupational Safety & Health Committee is a voluntary association of people drawn from organisations representing a broad cross section of occupational safety and health interests. It is an advisory committee to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents.

The purpose of the Committee is to advise RoSPA in identifying ways and means of improving occupational safety and health and shapes RoSPA policy and key issues

- New Chairperson is Martin Isles of the Mineral Products Association.
- Currently concluding a consultation into the health and safety needs of apprentices.
- Launched Learning to learn from Accidents
- Drafted comment on new HSE strategy
- Routine press releases most recently sentencing guidelines and history of OSH website
- BNFL scholarship report on research to be available end of March 2015
- 50 voices campaign linked to Big Book of Accident Prevention Scotland

Karen McDonnell 26.1.16
POOSH Scotland What we do

Purpose

An informal network of occupational health & safety (OHS) professionals in Scotland, who liaise so as to minimise duplication and, more importantly, to identify and exploit partnering opportunities. POOSH Scotland has operated since 2004. The vision is for ‘delivering solutions’ rather than being a ‘talking shop’. Members represent professional bodies and other organisations that aim to improve OSH standards and practices of duty holders throughout Scotland, but especially SME’s (employers with less than 250 staff).

External Links

In Scotland:

- The Partnership on Health and Safety in Scotland (PHASS) brings together key players in workplace health and safety in Scotland who are "part of the solution". PHASS was formed in 2005 and the network map demonstrates the range of organisations involved in both OSH and the ‘Healthy Working Lives’ agenda, of which POOSH is one. As with POOSH Scotland, the emphasis is on ‘delivering practical solutions’, not just exchanging information.

In UK:

- POOSH, a similar group of professional bodies – historically most of their activities have been targeted at OSH professionals, rather than seeking to influence OSH duty holders directly.
- The Council for Work and Health, provides an opportunity for co-ordinated and integrated working on all issues which impact on health and wellbeing services and facilitates information sharing to promote improvement. Members primarily represent OSH-related professional bodies, but DWP, DoH and HSE observers also attend meetings. Council projects are mainly targeted for OSH professionals but include some for SME duty holders.

Meetings

POOSH Scotland meets roughly twice a year, but only when there are worthwhile issues to share. Attendance can be face-to-face or via conference phone. A key purpose of our meetings is to share information about planned events and OSH initiatives that members can then ‘cascade’ via their own communication networks to encourage wider participation.
Communications

Meeting notes are issued, plus a summary of key information to share (typically via website links). Between meetings, relevant updates may be e-mailed. The list of current members and the organisations they represent is issued to members, to aid ongoing communications.

Secretariat

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