



Charities Safety Group

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Diary Dates 2021

October 18 2.0pm
Venue: Zoom

Stewart Archdale
Executive Director
PIB Insurance Brokers

The insurance aspects of the pandemic

Save the Dates 2022

Monday 24th January
2022 2.00pm
Venue: Zoom

Monday 18th April 2022
2.00pm
Venue: tbc

Monday 20th June 2022
2.00pm
Venue: tbc

Monday 17th October
2022 2.00pm
Venue: tbc

NEBOSH GENERAL CERTIFICATE

Have you ever considered the benefits of studying for the NEBOSH general certificate? Consider how this could enhance your portfolio of experience. Not only would you be better equipped for your current job but the opportunity for promotion within your present organisation may be increased as would your qualification and experience to fill a post at another organisation.

So what is stopping you? The two main issues are probably time and expense. Let the CSG help.

The Charities Safety Group in partnership with the National Examination Board for Occupational Safety and Health have agreed a scheme that gives scholarships to Charities and Voluntary Sector organisations, operating or based in the UK, to the NEBOSH Certificate Course. NEBOSH will select appropriate Course Providers who will train, free of charge, one person from the organisation selected by the Charities Safety Group Scholarship Board.

To underpin the aims of the Charities Safety Group these Scholarships will be offered to small charities and voluntary organisations; those with resources to limited to acquire health, safety and welfare competencies for their existing workers. For this reason, organisations who do not employ a Safety Practitioner will be given preference by the Scholarship Board.

The Course Providers are geographically spread across the UK. Course dates are sometimes specific to the training organisation. The Scheme managers will do their best to match organisations to their preferred location and course dates, but this cannot be guaranteed.

The Course Provider will waive fees and costs related to tuition and examinations (including not more than one resit, if legitimately required). NEBOSH will waive examination and registration fees. Other costs which may be incurred (e.g. travel, accommodation, books and materials) would have to be met by the organisation applying for the sponsored place.

So why not take advantage of this offer. The fee charged for the same course by some other organisations can be up to or in excess of a thousand pounds.

If you are interested, or know of someone you think might be interested and meets the criteria please go to our website csg.org.uk/forms for more information and an application form.

CSG ANNUAL FEE

Under the present circumstances the management committee has agreed to postpone the request for an annual membership fee during 2021. However, they reserve the right to reconsider this decision at a later date should circumstances change

Meetings in

2022

It was agreed at the last meeting that from 2022 the four CSG meetings held annually will be held twice virtually via Zoom and twice in person at the offices of the NCVO. This is of course government restrictions permitting. Starting in January 2022 via Zoom.

Returning to work post COVID 19

A lively and informative meeting was held on Monday 21 June via Zoom at our quarterly meeting.

Members agreed there were several areas of concern, the principle ones being the mental health due to anxiety for some at the prospect of venturing back outside to the workplace; the physical challenges of making the workplace COVID 19 compliant safe and the perils of commuting to the workplace.

Interestingly it was the latter that seemed to be the most concerning possibly because so much of the environment of commuting is out of one's control. How do you insist fellow travelers on the train wear a face mask? How do you make a journey on public transport and not touch anything from ticket machine to seat to hand rail? Even offering car sharing between staff to cut down on possibilities of infection carried dangers as reported by one member. Their organisation had offered this solution only to find their staff being infected anyway.

The mental health issue created quite a discussion. As many were anxious about the workplace itself however the biggest anxiety appeared to be commuting to the workplace. The most offered solution was to allow and even encourage staff to travel outside of rush hour commuting. This would mean agreeing for staff to arrive later than previously and leave earlier to avoid crowded public transport.

Discussion included the agreement with staff to continue working from home if they were seriously concerned or at least to work from home some of their contracted days and only come into the workplace if necessary.

That of course presupposes one can do their work from home. What about those who work in a charity shop, care home or hospice for example. They cannot do their job from home and many have actually been working throughout the entire pandemic?

And then there is the work involved in ensuring the workplace itself is COVID 19 secure. There are many steps to be taken which are legal requirements. Risk assessments for social distancing, hygiene requirements, legionella the list goes on. But this is possibly the easiest of all to manage as there is a lot of help out there. The HSE has very good information readily available on their website which would be the recommended first port of call

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/coronavirus/>

These are just a few highlights for you to enjoy and share. The meeting was recorded and we hope to have it in its entirety on our website shortly.

Interested in becoming a CSG committee member?

If you are interested in joining the CSG management committee and would like to help take the group further forward please contact csginfo@ncvo.org.uk