

CSG NEWSLETTER

May 2017/Issue 1

WHO WE ARE

The Charities Safety Group (CSG) was founded in 1997 to provide a forum for people with health and safety responsibilities, working in charity and voluntary organisations, to network and share information. We also represent the charity and voluntary sector in health and safety matters with HSE and other health and safety bodies.

Find out more by visiting our website: <http://www.csg.org.uk/>

MEMBER'S MEETING

Thank you to all those that attended our last member's meeting on April 24th. We had two presentations: one on 2015 CDM Regulations from Nick Baster, LogicPM; and the other on personal safety and mental health awareness from Terry Streather, Director of Oakwood Training.

Terry gave us an 1 hour taster session of his training on mental wellbeing and personal safety. A thoroughly engaging session which challenged some preconceptions we all have about mental ill-health and got us thinking about effective strategies for protecting our front line staff. For anyone interested in finding out more about Oakwood Training you can access their website via [this link](#).

Nick provided an oversight of our duties as a client under CDM and how these responsibilities could be fulfilled in relation to both large scale projects and small scale jobs (e.g. painting a room). What I found particularly useful was his advice on how to apply these regulations to smaller scale jobs, with his take being very much about taking an approach proportionate to the risk (e.g. complete H&S file not required for minor works).

For those who would like a copy of either Terry's or Nick's slides you can access them both on the [CSG website](#) (you will need to sign in to access the content):

Details of our next meeting: Our next meeting will be held on Monday the 19th June at NCVO, Society Building, 8 All Saints Street, London, N1 9RL. The meeting will start at 2pm with a presentation on the Power of People Engagement. The speaker Kevin Hard, Development Director at RyderMarsh OCID, has wealth of experience in Leadership and Employee Engagement strategies – read more about him [here](#).

MEMBERSHIP FEES – INTRODUCING PAYPAL IN 2018

Membership runs from 1st January to 31st December and our annual membership fee, per organisation, is £35. Currently you can pay this via cheques, BACS or cash. We are increasingly asked whether it's possible for member organisations to complete detailed and comprehensive supplier forms and agreements to pay via invoice. Although we understand that finance teams prefer this we are a small



volunteer led organisation and this payment method is very onerous for us. We do listen to your feedback however and to try and to make things easier we're introducing payment via PayPal in 2018. As there is a fee for providing PayPal we are suggesting retaining a flat rate subscription for everyone, but introducing a £5 increase in the annual fees to £40 per year to cover the associated cost – this will be put to the membership at the October AGM for final ratification. If you would like further information about this please contact: csginfo@ncvo.org.uk

HEALTH AND SAFETY HEADLINES – HEALTH AT WORK

The HSE has launched a new [Health and Work strategy](#) intended to improve occupational health standards and reduce sickness absence at work. The strategy's three main themes are: work-related stress, musculoskeletal disorders and lung disease.

Health at work has become increasingly important to public policy-makers in the last decade and in consequence there is wealth of information out there to assist organisations to protect and improve the health of their employees. The sheer volume of information can make it daunting to navigate. Our members may already be aware but The Health Risks at Work initiative provides simple, concise information to help small to medium businesses. These free resources include: a DVD, rapid reference cards and face to face support or mentoring from a number of partner organisations. For further information have a look at Safety Group UK's website: <http://www.safetygroupsuk.org.uk/campaigns/hraw>

Q & A

Your question 'I'm writing my organisation's Driving Policy and I'm unsure what the insurance requirements are for volunteer drivers. Do volunteers need 'business use' car insurance?

Answer: Whether or not volunteers require 'business use' car insurance is based on the specific motor insurer. Many insurers will cover volunteer driving under normal 'social, domestic and pleasure cover', others will say that 'business use' is required but they often don't charge extra for it. You can find a list of insurers who have signed up to ABI's volunteer driving – the motor insurance commitment who do not charge extra for volunteer driving via this link: <https://www.abi.org.uk/Insurance-and-savings/Products/Motor-insurance/Volunteer-drivers>

When you're writing the Driving Policy it should strongly recommend that volunteers notify their motor insurer that they're using their car for voluntary purposes and make a note of the time, date and person they spoke to. If they don't they risk not being fully covered under their motor policy. It is also important to note that when volunteers are driving on your behalf you should ensure that you have a risk assessment to cover their work-related driving, particularly if they are carrying passengers.

Do you have a question or issue that you would welcome a wider pool of thoughts on? Email: csginfo@ncvo.org.uk

We look forward to seeing you all again at our next meeting on the **19th June**.

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