

Minute note - Cross Party Group on Oil and Gas

Held on Wednesday 15 November, 18:00-19:30

Committee Room 5, the Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

In Attendance

MSPs:

Lewis Macdonald MSP (chair)
Alexander Burnett
Gillian Martin

Apologies

MSPs:
Tavish Scott
Jackie Baillie MSP

Non MSPs:

Christine Currie, OPITO
Malcolm Dickson, Wood Mackenzie Ltd
Neil Anderson, Ledingham Chalmers
Norman McLennan, RICS
Tim Smith BP
William Wallace, UNITE
Robert McCaig, Decom North Sea
Rebecca Groundwater, Oil & Gas UK
Trish Sentence, Oil & Gas UK
Grace O'Keefe, Office of Alexander Burnett
Emma Swift, Office of Lewis Macdonald

Non-MSPs:

Bill Cattanach, Oil & Gas Authority
Carol Barbone, MXC Communications
Craig Stevens, PWC
James Bream, AGCC
John Taylor
Karen Freel, Perspectiva Consultant
Nicholas scott-Gray, Montrose Port Authority
Rhonda Miller, Total
Susan Smart, ECITB
Craig Stevens, PwC
Sylvia Buchan, Oil and Gas Authority
Linsey Wilson, Scottish Government

Lewis Macdonald MSP (LM) welcomed MSPs and non-MSP members to the Cross-Party Group and opened the meeting with round-table introductions. Following this, LM introduced the speaker, Trish Sentence (TS) Safety Manager from Oil & Gas UK who is an engineer with over 30 years in the industry and currently works as a Health and Safety Manager for Oil and Gas UK.

TS introduced the Health & Safety Report 2017 and discussed how the information is compiled looking at the information from operators, regulators, occupational health, personal and process safety and offshore helicopter operations. The report covers 50 million offshore manhours and 113 reportable injuries.

TS went on to discuss changes in the reporting systems, dangerous occurrences which are about process safety and explained the downward trend. Hydrocarbon releases which will always be a significant focus and discussed the changes to reporting through EU Directives and the accompanying 3-year implementation process. Safety critical maintenance which industry self-reports and of which there are various levels, deferred maintenance, corrective maintenance and preventative maintenance. The issue of helicopter safety was also discussed.

The presentation developed into a Q&A session which Lewis moderated. This covered topics such as; the possibility for an industry wide standard for safety critical maintenance; behavioural safety schemes; Stop the Job cards; helicopter safety; skills and safety around decommissioning and, also, worker fatigue.

The discussion also mentioned the work of some organisations in using big data and remote monitoring for maintaining and tracking assets.

The discussion then moved into the area of decommissioning and what the safety case there will be. It was stressed that the same safety cases will be made, will be present from the outset and will be updated as the work progresses to take account of changes. The same commitment to safety will exist, the major hazards will be different but if you look at dropped objects, they still remain.

In terms of near-miss reporting then we don't want to see a decrease in this and this is an area where they have been working with the Unions.

Finally the point was made that it would be good to see, in the future, things like health and safety companies being audited, a scheme by which organisations can be verified and to see where they are in terms of meeting the regulations.

LM then thanked all attendees for their input before formally closing the meeting.

The next meeting of the Oil and Gas CPG will be on Wednesday 21st February 13.00-14.00pm