

Who should attend

The conference will be of great interest to trade unionists, employment lawyers, academics and students. It will be of particular interest to Health and Safety Officers.

How to book

To reserve your place, complete the form below and send your cheque, made payable to IER, to Institute of Employment Rights, The People's Centre, 50-54 Mount Pleasant, Liverpool L3 5SD. Fax 0151 702 6935.

CPD, NPP and EPP accreditation

This conference counts for credit hours under the Law Society's Continuing Development Scheme and the General Council of the Bar's New Practitioners' Programme and Established Practitioners' Programme.

Additional Information

Details of nearby hotels are available from the office. Name changes are accepted up until the time of the event. Delegates who advise IER of their cancellation more than 15 working days in advance will receive a credit note with 10% deduction for administration

How to get there

Train: Lime St Station (British Rail) and Central Station (Merseyrail) five minute walk away. Bus: 500 from Liverpool John Lennon Airport to City Centre.

Cost

IER subscribers and members	£75.00
Trade unions	£90.00
Commercial	£220.00

Booking form

Please reserve ___ places at the Quality of Working Life conference at £ ___

Name _____

Address _____

email _____

Organisation _____

Please invoice me/I enclose a cheque for £

Return completed form to IER, The People's Centre, 50-54 Mount Pleasant, Liverpool L3 5SD. Fax 0151 702 6935.

THE
INSTITUTE
OF
EMPLOYMENT
RIGHTS

the quality of working life:

promoting a healthy agenda

ier northwest

a conference

Tuesday 24th June 2008

10.30am – 4.15pm

at the Adelphi Hotel,
Lime Street, Liverpool

organised by

The Institute of Employment Rights

sponsored by

Thompsons Solicitors and
the North West TUC

THE
INSTITUTE
OF
EMPLOYMENT
RIGHTS

T THOMPSONS
SOLICITORS

TUC

about the conference

In August 2007, following an explosion which killed nine people, ICL Plastics were fined a mere £400,000 for health and safety breaches. Such a penalty graphically demonstrates how negligent companies can cut costs at the expense of workers' lives without fear of adequate financial and other legal consequences.

Statistics for 2006/07 show fatalities in the workplace up by 11 per cent on the previous year, a five year high. Prominent among the worst sectors are construction and agriculture. Meanwhile, fewer than one in five major accidents are now investigated, and the numbers of prosecutions taken and enforcement notices issued have continued to fall dramatically.

The Health and Safety Executive's increasing emphasis on less enforcement and more voluntary approaches has been dictated by a lack of funding. Worse is likely to come. The HSE faces a 15 per cent budget cut by 2011 to meet Treasury efficiency targets.

So is it time to reconsider our approach to delivering health and safety at work? Does the modern day fragmented labour market demand a new framework of law? Do the often unrepresented and increasingly undocumented workers, need a clearer framework of regulation within which to work? Would the development of a Quality of Working Life Bill clarify and streamline the duty of care still expected of our employers?

The Institute is keen to develop these ideas and this conference can kick-start the debate. Nor should the discussion be confined to strictly health and safety issues. A quality of working life focus could include work/life balance, flexibility, hours and holidays, benefits, insurance industry, rehabilitation, discrimination, job-security, intensification of work, supply chains and more.

With all these issues to discuss it's crucial that trade unionists share information and discuss the way forward for health and safety. Phil James, will lead contributions from academics, trade unionists and legal practitioners and provide a critical examination of key areas of current policy development. The aim of the conference will be to identify what more needs to be done to protect the health, safety and well-being of workers as they go about the task of earning a living.

programme

- 10.30 Registration
- 10.45 Welcome from Chair, Carolyn Jones
- 10.55 Trends in work-related harm and how to improve them
Professor Phil James, Oxford Brookes University
- 11.20 Are Stress Management Standards enough? The case for a Quality of Working Life Act
Simon Pickvance, Sheffield Occupational Health Advisory Service
- 11.45 The Limits of the Law, Mark Turnbull, Thompsons Solicitors
- 12.10 Collective Bargaining and Health and Safety: Case Studies from the Shop Floor, Susan Murray, UNITE:T&G
- 12.30 Questions
- 12.45 Lunch
- 1.45 Promoting an Agenda for Better Jobs
Mike McCartney, Head of Health and Safety UNITE: Amicus
- 2.05 HSE: a review of current policy, funding and future prospects
Steve Kay, Prospect
- 2.30 Corporate Manslaughter - an update
Professor Steve Tombs, Liverpool John Moores University
- 3.00 Tea and coffee
- 3.15 Health and Safety under Brown, John McDonnell MP
- 3.35 Campaigning for Workplace Health,
Hilda Palmer, The Hazards Campaign
- 3.55 Questions and discussion
- 4.15 Close