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**AP 227**

## **LAWYERS WELCOME INTERIM FINDINGS ON EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY INSURANCE**

Health and safety lawyers welcome a Government commitment, announced today, to link business insurance premiums with levels of risk.

“We have said from the beginning of the Department of Work and Pensions’ review of employers liability insurance (ELI) that if a firm has a good safety record and assesses risk accurately and responsibly, that firm should be entitled to a lower ELI premium,” said Colin Ettinger, vice-president of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL).

“It is quite right that firms which don’t care about the safety of their employees should be made to pay. Employees have the right to go to work and come home again unharmed.”

He also applauded the DWP’s commitment to working with business and the insurance industry to cut the number of health and safety-related accidents, and to encourage the use of rehabilitation to ensure injured employees recover and resume work as soon as possible.

“Prevention has to be the key to keeping premiums low,” he said. “The development of a proper health and safety culture within businesses to cut accident rates, and the use of rehabilitation to get people back to work means everybody wins: it is cheaper for insurers, more productive for employers and better for employees.

“We look forward to working further with the DWP during the rest of this review process.”

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