

Occupational Health Special Interest Group

Bristol Hotel, Bristol

Minutes of Meeting: Tuesday, 27 September 2011, 5.00-7.00 p.m.

A. Theo Huckle QC, Counsel, Civitas Chambers, Cardiff.

Update on asbestos disease claims.

B. Dr Peter Smith, Consultant Physician.

Talk on "Asthma in the Workplace".

Paper available on APIL website.

C. Occupational Health up-date from Daniel Easton

Paper available on APIL website.

D. EC up-date from Stephen Glynn

1. Legal Aid, Sentencing etc Bill – 'Jackson clauses' remain. Bill due to go to Lords in October/November. Meetings being arranged with interested peers and any APIL members who can help should contact Parliamentary Officer, Sam Ellis. Also please notify the APIL office of any "human interest" stories affected by the proposals.
2. Civil Justice Council – QOCS, proportionality and Part 36 proposal being dealt with by working groups. David Bott is a member of the group. Findings due after October.
3. ATE for Clin. Neg. Cases – APIL involved in discussions with the MOJ.
4. Referral Fees – Jack Straw has introduced Motor Insurance Regulation Bill which would make referral fees a criminal offence with possible proceedings under the Bribery Act 2010.
5. Discount Rate – Application to judicially review Lord Chancellor's failure to review the discount rate has been rejected. Public consultation due late 2011.
6. NHSLA Low Value Scheme – Paper produced and sent to the NHS LA for consideration. Discussions ongoing.

7. Employers' Liability Compulsory Insurance Campaign – Recent meeting with Lord Freud, minister responsible for ELIB. This is still on the table and consultations ongoing. Feedback about ELTO to the APIL office.
 8. Multi Track Code – 85 cases dealt with under the code pilot. Best practice guide being developed.
 9. Scotland – Ongoing consultations on the Scottish Civil Courts Review (Gill review).
 10. Northern Ireland – Access to Justice Review has been published.
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Meeting ended 7.00pm.