

MSK Health at Work network – March 4th, 2019 – teleconference

In attendance:

- Dr Steve Boorman - Council for Work and Health
- Matthew Bezzant - NRAS
- Laura Boothman - Versus Arthritis
- Sue Brown – CEO, and Tony Woolf, Chair ARMA
- Julie Stenlake – Work and Health Unit
- Paul Scallan - ACPOHE member
- Nick Pahl, CEO SOM
- Sarah Winstone - Incisive Health
- Melanie Wilkes, Work Foundation
- Joanne Crawford – IOM
- Mike Paton, HSE

1 HSE Presentation

See attached presentation. There was a question about the need for manual handling training.

Participants suggested linking with Public Health England and NHS England Prevention Green Paper.

2 Meeting with Scottish Government – notes below

Meeting of Steve Bell and Roddy Duncan with SOM representatives

Agreed work as a health outcome was a necessary focus and discussed how interventions could increase the Scottish income tax take and:

- the need for investment in education and training for OH professionals and wider health professionals; Marisa said there was a shortage of practice teachers and the need for a clear career path from OH technicians to nurses and doctors
- the lack of academic capacity
- the Dundee and Fife pilot highlighting fit notes in GP practice IT systems
- whether fit for work was rolled out and marketed effectively
- the value of a managed clinical network approach and rapid telephone contact after absence.

Investment in public sector OH was also highlighted as a key win e.g. for NHS and education staff. Mentioned SOM's view on the work and health unit's activity covering:

A) quality improvement in OH

B) fit note and possible SSP review

C) a possible investment in centres for evidence into practice and education and training.

And public health England's activity in workplace accreditation and undergraduate curriculum development.

SOM to contact MSPs, the health and sport committee and start a Scottish OH workforce survey.

3 Reports to note

Federation of Small Business report with section on OH
Global Burden of Chronic Musculoskeletal Pain in the Workplace
http://www.ihpm.org/pdf/ChronicPain_2018_Pfizer_IHPM.pdf

Launch of “Talking Work: A guide for Doctors discussing work and work modifications with patients” see: <https://www.councilforworkandhealth.org.uk/work-modifications/>

Other activity:

- VA- lobbying on prevention strategy
- Work Foundation – taking a sector approach in the NW with a focus on MSK.
- Council for work and health – launching tools for reasonable adjustments
- ARMA - Construction meeting - write up in newsletter
- Paul Scallan –possible link up with Occupational Health and Wellbeing magazine re MSK at work issue
- SOM – hosted HR/FSB round table; multidisciplinary summit in May for OH professionals, Research round table

4 AOB and Date of next meeting

A doodle poll to be circulated with meeting times, potentially with the NHS Prevention lead

Note re MSK at work Network funding

An expression of interest has been sent to a variety of funders but no word as to funding yet.