

**GOVERNMENT HEALTH AND  
SAFETY LEAD**

# DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Lance Goodall - Director GHSL

## OVERLAPPING DUTIES - MAPPING TOOL

Overlapping duties is a recurring theme that comes up with me, so we have been working with the MBIE WHS team to develop a tool to help people map overlapping duties and relationships for their organisations. This doesn't cover managing the overlapping duties, which is another piece of work, but MBIE has provided a couple of scenarios based on their work, one for contracting and the other for property. I would like your feedback on whether this is useful and any potential revisions.

## GHSL AGENCY RESOURCE HUB

MPI is in the process of migrating its information management system from Cohesion to SharePoint online. Within this project we've identified an opportunity to develop a H&S resource hub, similar to those in use by other cross-sector leads and heads of profession (e.g. PSC's Change hub or MPI's Comms hub) and accessible only to key identified personnel from member agencies. Intended to provide a familiar and easy to navigate folder structure, the hub will house examples of commonly used artifacts (strategies, policies, procedures etc.), a list of contacts and an events calendar - we anticipate requesting agencies share various examples from their H&S management systems to populate by the end of this year.

## STORIES FOR THE ANNUAL PUBLICATION

Once again, we are gathering stories from our agencies that showcase the good work being done in health and safety, to publish in the 2025/26 annual publication Keeping our People Safe. If you have any work that you feel could be made into a great story to share, please let us know. Perhaps you've surfaced something from your agency annual report that would benefit from sharing more widely, entered a nomination for the NZ Workplace H&S Awards or have put forward a submission for your own agency internal awards? We are more than happy to work alongside you to draft a story from your content to be include in the publication. If you have any questions or ideas, please reach out to me directly at [Lance.goodall@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:Lance.goodall@mpi.govt.nz)

## WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBER

This month I'm delighted to welcome Pharmac as our newest GHSL member agency.



# SUMMER INTERNSHIP SPONSORSHIP AND RECRUITMENT

We are delighted to share that NZISM, having been a strong supporter of the Intern Programme over the last few years, has decided to formally sponsor the Programme. With their sponsorship, NZISM will help us with promotion of the Programme, strengthen the activities and events the interns participate in and reduce costs for the GHSL, benefitting all our member agencies.

The 2025/26 Summer Internship recruitment is well underway - applications have closed and we received 209 applications for 10 placements across Auckland, Hawkes Bay and Wellington.

A big thank you to our participating agencies who are helping us to continue offering this cost-effective access to new talent, developing the pipeline of high quality people into the health and safety profession....and there is still time to join the Programme, if you find a hidden pocket of funding.

Over the next few weeks, Debbie will be putting the intern programme together, so if you would like to host an intern event, whether it is at your agency or a 30-minute online show and tell of the day to day health, safety and wellbeing work and initiatives underway in your agency, please contact Debbie at [Deborah.Bridge@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:Deborah.Bridge@mpi.govt.nz) or on 022 0134 884 for a chat.

## FRONTLINE INSIGHTS: TIER 2 HSW LEADERS VISIT MBIE'S CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE

A big shoutout to MBIE, who hosted the first Tier 2 HSW Leaders field trip, to the MBIE Customer Service Centre in Porirua, on Thursday, 21 August.

Set within the context of MBIE's Customer Service Centre, the visit highlighted how these teams consistently deliver information, advice and guidance on a wide range of topics, from Tenancy and Immigration, through to Radio Spectrum Management - managing 1.2 million calls and over 100,000 emails a year.

The half day visit included each Tier 2 leader being paired with a Customer Service Advisor, listening in on live calls and then sharing insights into the customer service roles.

The group was encouraged to identify the risks, controls and assurance mechanisms in action. Discussions highlighted the H&S risks faced by call centre operators, including indirect violence & aggression and psychological harm, and the effectiveness of controls used to manage these risks (including AI in practice and monitoring personnel in the field by the National Communications Centre).

The discussions focussed on officer due diligence and insights into the operational reality - what 'work as done' truly looks like on the frontline - and how to balance operational and governance responsibilities.

The visit concluded with a reflective session where participants shared their observations, considered how the risks aligned with those in their own agencies and discussed assurance processes used to evaluate the effectiveness of their controls.

## CAPABILITY BUILDING

Just a reminder that the GHSL is happy to help if any agency would like to explore options for HSW team members to develop their experience and capability by working for a period in another organisation. This could be through secondment, swap, loan or shadowing and could be for as short or as long a term as suited the agency.

If any agency has people they think would benefit from this, or if you would be happy to host someone, please contact me ( [lance.goodall@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:lance.goodall@mpi.govt.nz) ) or Debbie Bridge ( [Deborah.Bridge@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:Deborah.Bridge@mpi.govt.nz) ).

## CONSERVATION VACANCY

The Department of Conservation is looking for a new Director Health Safety and Security. This role will oversee and lead DOC's health, safety, and security strategy across all DOC's operations. You'll lead a geographically dispersed team dedicated to ensuring the safety and security of our staff, contractors and volunteers, while also safeguarding our facilities and operating environments. For more information [click here](#)

## BUSINESS LEADERS' HEALTH AND SAFETY FORUM UPCOMING EVENTS

For member organisations, there are a series of events through the next couple of months that will have been communicated to your agency:

- 2nd September 10:30am: Violence and aggressive behaviour at work webinar. An update from the Forum and ShopCare.
- 8th -12th September: Launch events held across Auckland, Dunedin and Christchurch for this year's State of a Thriving Nation report, authored by Shamubeel Eaqub.
- 1st October: CEO-only breakfast in Auckland with Todd Conklin, globally recognised leader in human performance and keynote at the Safeguard HOP conference that follows.

[Further event information and registration links here](#)

## MPI PRESENTS TO THE HEADS OF H&S AND H&S PRACTITIONER FORUMS

Our thanks to Jeanette McKeogh (MPI Director HSW) and Robyn Parkin (MPI HSW Principal Advisor) for presenting at the Heads of H&S and H&S Practitioner Forums. On the back of success at the NZ Workplace H&S Awards, winning the Governance category, there has been notable interest in MPI's critical Control Assurance programme and we held two very well-attended sessions, where Jeanette and Robyn shared the work done to date over several years of the Critical Risk programme.

If any agency has a topic they would like to share or discuss with the Heads of H&S or the Practitioners, please reach out to Liam Bourne at [liam.bourne@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:liam.bourne@mpi.govt.nz)

# WORKPLACE WELLBEING PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION

A new Association has launched this year, catering to the needs of practitioners working or developing in the field of Wellbeing. The inaugural conference and hui will be taking place in Auckland on 17th October.



## MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK - TOP UP TOGETHER

This year Mental Health Awareness Week happens on 6-12 October and is aligned with the government's new Top Up wellbeing campaign which promotes simple, everyday actions based on the Five Ways to Wellbeing. If any agency is doing something special for Mental Health Awareness Week, please let us know if we can help with promotion or share with other agencies, to provide inspiration.

## AUTOSENSE

AutoSense is an approved provider of fleet solutions on the All-of-Government panel working with several agencies to provide solutions to reduce driving risk through mixed media, combining online learning, practical evaluation and coaching. If you're interested in the services they offer, visit [www.autosense.co.nz](http://www.autosense.co.nz) which includes a set of resources, case studies and the new podcast *In The Driver's Seat* with Greg Murphy. To get in touch call 0508 288 673 or e-mail [support@autosense.co.nz](mailto:support@autosense.co.nz).



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