

**GOVERNMENT  
HEALTH AND SAFETY  
LEAD**

# DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

## 2024 GHSL HEALTH AND SAFETY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE YEAR CONFERENCE AND AWARDS

Registrations and Nominations for our 2024 Health and Safety Representative of the Year Conference and Awards are open now – and for the first time we have a Team Award on offer.

Nominations close 30th March - information and nomination forms can be found here:

[HSR of the Year Awards 2024](#) | [Government Health and Safety Lead](#)

The theme for the 2024 Conference is Worker Engagement, Participation and Representation and registrations are open and available here:

[Government Health and Safety Representatives Conference 2024 \(eventsair.com\)](#).

If you have any questions about either the Conference or the nominations, please email either [Anita.mcghie-filkins@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:Anita.mcghie-filkins@mpi.govt.nz) or [ghsl@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:ghsl@mpi.govt.nz)

This year we are seeking sponsorship for the conference.

We are delighted to have Department of Corrections sponsoring the carved awards that will be presented this year, plus +IMPAC, Umbrella and HSE Global have all agreed to sponsor the event. Once again, +IMPAC will also generously provide training vouchers for the H&S Rep finalists. We are still looking for additional sponsors and if you would like to discuss options, please reach out, or view our sponsorship document [here](#).



# SAVE THE DATE!

## 06 JUNE 2024

Government  
Health & Safety Lead

## GHSL HSR CONFERENCE AND AWARDS

Shed 6, Wellington

**Do you have new starts or staff moving on to new roles?**

Drop us a quick email to let us know so we can keep our records up to date - [ghsl@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:ghsl@mpi.govt.nz)

# DATA, ASSURANCE AND INSIGHTS WORK

Obtaining good data, gaining insights and undertaking assurance activities is an essential area of focus for the sector. As a result, The GHSL has created a Data, Assurance and Insights (DAI) working group that aims to provide support and guidance to the sector on DAI from experts within the sector itself. The intention is that this will improve the sector's understanding and analysis of health, safety and wellbeing, and other relevant data to gain insights to support governance.

As part of the GHSL Summer Intern programme, Hira Qadeer has joined our team to help us drive the Data, Assurance and Insights work. Hira recently graduated from the University of Otago, where she studied Public Health and Statistics. Her primary project is to develop a framework for interrogating health and safety information through narrow focussed 'deep-dives'.

Please contact Braden / Hira ([Braden.Lister@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:Braden.Lister@mpi.govt.nz) or [Hira.Qadeer@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:Hira.Qadeer@mpi.govt.nz)) if joining the DAI working group is of interest to you.

## CHANGES TO THE GHSL TEAM

As many of you will be aware, after four amazing years with the GHSL, Millie Thompson has moved into a new role as the Manager Workplace Wellbeing at MSD. This is a big loss for our team but a fantastic and well earned move for Millie.

We're not going to let her be a stranger and I am looking forward to working with Millie in her new role.

At the same time as farewelling Millie, we're very lucky to have Liam Bourne joining us as the new Principal Advisor Wellbeing, Health and Safety from the 1st February. Many of you will know Liam and he brings a wealth of knowledge and experience from his roles across the public sector. I'm sure you'll all join me in wishing both Millie and Liam all the best in their new roles.

## MENTALLY HEALTHY WORK UPDATE

Throughout 2023, the Government Health and Safety Lead ran a comprehensive programme on Mentally Healthy Work. This included the pilot for our Development Programme, our Community of Practice, and our Resource Hub. The [Resource Hub](#) has now been updated with a range of new guidance and tools that you are welcome to use and share. This includes the 2023 Report for the GHSL Mentally Healthy Work Programme, where you can read about what was delivered last year and the impact it has had.



## PHASE 2 OF THE POSITIVE WORKPLACE CULTURES PROGRAMME

In light of the current and changing environment, we have had to alter our approach to completion of Phase 2 of the Positive Workplace Cultures Programme. In this final phase, we are developing a key principles document to sit alongside the Key Enablers delivered in 2023. We are also working on three good practice case studies and will conclude the Programme with a Heads of Health and Safety, Human Resources and Organisational Development workshop, towards the end of March. This is a good opportunity to thank everyone for their support during the Programme – we may not have been able to achieve everything we planned but some really good work has occurred and I am sure you will find value in the upcoming case studies and principles. Whilst the Programme is winding up, I hope that this agenda will be progressed in the future through the Mentally Healthy Work Programme.



### Expressions of interests required by 5 February for free places on Te Wānanga o Aotearoa Te Reo Māori courses 2024.

DIA has advised us that they are looking for 10 people to join their free Te Reo Maori courses level 1/2 and 3/4 that starts in March at their Wellington Pipitea offices. Expression of interests are required by 5 February 2024 to attend and it is crucial that people are familiar with the course requirements before completing the EOI, as while most classes are held during work hours, learners must also complete weekend Wānanga and Noho Marae. For more information, contact Anna Tiaki ([anna.tiaki@dia.govt.nz](mailto:anna.tiaki@dia.govt.nz)).

## INTERNS LOOKING FOR WORK

*Looking for the best of the best?  
Need short term or long-term HS&W  
capability?*

We'll look no further - we have 14 interns who are eagerly looking for permanent or fixed term, full time or part time work opportunities across the sector from the end of February 2024. Our interns are the best of the best and are super keen to continue building on their health and safety work experience and gain their next role on their H&S career pathway. If you would like to check out their bios which showcase their project work at their agency placements, for any future employment opportunities, please contact Debbie Bridge on 022-0134-884 or email: [deborah.bridge@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:deborah.bridge@mpi.govt.nz)



**UMBRELLA®**

Lisa Lyford is the new Partnerships and Brand Lead for Umbrella, and she is looking to make contact with as many H&S Managers as possible in order to gauge what is needed across the sector given the current changing nature of public service. If you'd like to make contact with Lisa, please email her on [lisa.lyford@umbrella.org.nz](mailto:lisa.lyford@umbrella.org.nz) or phone her mobile 022 019 0701.