



Government Health and Safety Lead Health and Safety Representatives Conference

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Chief Executive

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WORKSAFE

Mahi Haumaru Aotearoa

Leading Through Change

Supporting our people. Strengthening our connections.

- Organisational change across the sector
- Focus: build capability, remove barriers, support our people
- Listening, learning and reconnecting with the health and safety community

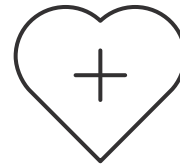


Every year in Aotearoa:



50 – 60

People are killed
at work annually.



400 - 500

People are
Hospitalised.



750 - 900

Die from work-related ill
health.

Every incident is one too many.

The Power of Participation

The Role of HSRs in Safer Workplaces

- Fewer injuries, better risk identification, practical solutions.
- Health and Safety Reps are key to worker voice.
- A strong safety culture needs shared ownership.



What an HSR Is, and Isn't

You're not the fixer – you're the bridge.

- Represent workers and raise concerns
- Support improvements, but don't carry legal duty
- Your strength is trust, communication, and advocacy



Culture is built by everyone

Leadership is action, not position

- Culture starts with consistent behaviours and courageous conversations
- “Walking the talk” shows people they matter
- Everyday actions shape lasting impact





Speak Up, Step Up, Be the Rep.

Your challenge:

- **Speak up** – voice risks, share near misses
- **Step up** – lead, encourage, stay involved
- **Be the Health and Safety Rep** – or support someone who will
- Leadership in safety starts with action



Let's build a culture where everyone gets home safe

Ngā mihi nui

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