

The Hazards Campaign Charter

'It is a universal human right to have a safe and healthy workplace, and to be able to go to work and return after a day's work as fit and healthy as when we left home'

Health & safety demands on the Government

1 Equal Health & Safety Standards for all workers

All workers are not given the full protection of health and safety law

Hazards Campaign demand: That the health, safety and welfare standards at work of all workers are universally enforced, that a gender sensitive approach is ensured, that work is fitted to the workers and is fit for all workers, and

2 Safety representatives rights

Safety reps save lives and make workplaces safer and healthier

Hazards Campaign demand: Full recognition and enforcement of existing safety reps rights and the establishment of additional rights, including the right to be Roving Reps, serve Provisional Improvement Notices (PINS), refuse dangerous work by stopping the job, and to fully participate in all aspects of health and safety in the workplace.

3 Employers' duties and responsibilities

At least 70% of incidents that kill or injure workers are due to failures by employers to properly manage health and safety

Hazards Campaign demand: New laws to criminalise corporate killing, define the health and safety duties of controllers of organisations, include health and safety performance in Annual Reports and abolish Crown Immunity.

4 Enforcement

Breaches of health and safety laws are criminal offences which should be properly enforced as other areas of the criminal justice system

Hazards Campaign demand: More resources for the Health and Safety Executive and Local Authorities, higher penalties and more preventative enforcement, shifts from Guidance to Approved Codes of Practice (ACOPs) and from ACOPs to Regulations.

5 Occupational Ill-health

Millions of workers are made ill every year by stress, musculo-skeletal disorders, asbestos-related diseases, cancer, asthma, dermatitis etc

Hazards Campaign demand: Government and employers must prioritise the prevention of work related ill-health and establish an adequately funded worker-controlled occupational health system, available free of charge to all workers.

6 Compensation for occupational injury and illness

Workers injured or made ill by work get a raw deal

Hazards Campaign demand: A just and effective system of civil and state compensation which maintains workers standard of living and addresses the burden of all illnesses caused by work, addresses gender inequalities and increases opportunities for the rehabilitation of those disabled by work.

7 Road Risk

Risks associated with driving at work must be managed under the framework of health and safety legislation

Hazards Campaign demand: The employers of workers who drive as part of their work, must include the risks of driving in their management of health and safety at work and report injuries under RIDDOR.

8 Asbestos

Despite recent ban on importation and use, millions of tonnes of asbestos remain in buildings and the environment in the UK

Hazards Campaign demand: The strictest possible enforcement of current Control of Asbestos at Work Regulations 2002 and other legislation to protect current workers and communities in the UK; a world wide ban on asbestos mining and manufacture of asbestos products, and an end to exports of asbestos to developing countries.

9 Globalisation

Workers across the world have a common interest in their health, safety and welfare at work

Hazards Campaign demand: Health and safety in the UK and worldwide must conform to the highest standard, not be diminished by market forces.

10 Environment

What happens in workplaces can adversely affect the environment

Hazards Campaign demand: The role and rights for any reps to act on issues relating to the environmental impact of their workplaces, locally and globally.

11 Workers Memorial Day

People killed at work are not officially remembered and the causes of their deaths not formally acknowledged

Hazards Campaign demand: The government officially recognises Workers Memorial Day on 28th April every year.