

West Wales Port's Contractor Engagement Event

A contractor engagement event was held on 17 March 2015 at the Port of Milford Haven's Offices.

This was a joint event organised by HSE, Pembrokeshire County Council (PCC), the West Wales Branch of IOSH, Public Health Wales and the Port of Milford Haven.

Delegates, from a range of contractors who do work for the Port, were welcomed to the event by Tim Bownes, Engineering Director. The Port of Milford Haven's Health, Safety and Security Manager, Richie Morgan, discussed the Port's Contractors' Safety Questionnaire and how it is used. There then followed a presentation on enforcement of health and safety by Paul Kloss, HSE, and Sam Hancock from PCC's health and safety enforcement team.

Mike Jarratt, West Wales Branch of IOSH, facilitated discussion on the main hazards faced by the contractors and then followed up with how these hazards are risk assessed. Rhian Parry of Public Health Wales introduced delegates to their Work Boost Wales service and explained how they could advise SME's on their workplace health and safety issues.

The evening was rounded off with a Q&A session and a look at what happens next. Delegates received an information pack including leaflets and goodies. Feedback was very positive with delegates stating what they would do differently as a result of the event and most requesting invites to future events.

This event was the first in a series of events under the 'Estates Excellence' initiative planned for Pembrokeshire this year. Local industrial and business estates will be visited in June 2015 by HSE, PCC and Public Health Wales to raise awareness of health and safety issues and identify issues that need more in-depth awareness training.

There will then be a one day event on 30 September 2015, to be held at the Bridge Innovation Centre in Pembroke Dock, which will follow up on these issues with a series of presentations and workshops. This event will be held in partnership with the West Wales Branch of IOSH and members will be invited.