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**HSC (11/22) Minutes 1**

**HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE (HSC)**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 29 November 2022**

**Present:**  M MacLeod (Chair), J Morrow, A Morrison, D Anderson, A Tweedie, C McNally,

M McDonald, J Seath, F Strachan, J Paton, R Howell, R Aird, E Fuller,

A Lawley-Powell

**In Attendance:**  T Cairns(Clerk)

1. **Apologies & Welcome**

Apologies were noted for: E Schofield (University Secretary), Union President, VP Communities President, S Stewart, K Delves (Innovate Healthcare), P Baker,

G McWhinnie

* + MMcL welcomed J Seath the new Unison Representative and A Lawley Powell the new Chief Executive for Students Union.

1. **Minutes of the meeting** **held on 20 April 2022**

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 April 2022 were **approved** as an accurate record.

1. **Matters Arising Not Otherwise on the Agenda**

None

1. **Safety, Security and Business Continuity Annual Report**

Head of Safety, Environment, Security & Continuity (SESC) AM, provided an update and the following points were highlighted:

* **Accidents -** It was noted that the trends captured in this report reflect the increase in activities on campus.
* Traffic has also increased on campus, resulting in a small number of road traffic accidents. We have continued to invest in road safety improvements across campus, including, sleeping policeman posts, extra signage, clearer pedestrian crossings and further speed humps to reduce risks.
* It was noted that there had been a significant increase in bee stings over the years and a meeting to discuss reallocation of hives has been arranged with the bee owners.
* It was noted that an AMS report should be submitted if a work-related accident occurred whilst working from home.
* **Covid-19 -** The University has continued to have comparatively few positive cases of COVID-19 in our accommodation and very few cases amongst our staff. The robust risk assessments and implemented control measures has enabled us to reduce the risk of transmission amongst our staff and students.
* **Fire Safety Report – Fire, Health & Safety Officer, DA,** noted that there has been a substantial investment into on-going fire safety across the campus, e.g., the fire stopping programme and fire alarm upgrades. Residential accommodation has been prioritised.
* **Security –** Head of SESC presented the Security report, again trends have been indicative of the increase of people on campus since covid-19.
* **Business Continuity** - AM presented the BC Management Report. This group now meets alongside the MIRT.

1. **Health and Safety Reports:**

**Occupational Health**

Oral report – J Paton from HR & OD gave an oral report on behalf of Innovate Healthcare.

**Estates and Campus Services**

Dep Director of E&CS & Dir of Prop Management, provided a verbal update and highlighted the following points:

* Compliance documents are up to date and are being reviewed monthly.
* Fire stopping and fire alarm upgrades are continuing across campus.
* Street lighting and improvements to roads are being progressed.
* Snow clearance discussions are currently underway in preparation for the coming winter months.
* It was noted that Airthrey Loch has now returned to normal levels, due to an increase in rainfall.
* Policy & procedures for contractors working at height are now complete.
* Projects currently underway by Robertsons, include the new main Cottrell entrance which is due to be completed by March 2023 following which the NATIH Aquaculture project will commence on campus.
* Environmental works including roof repairs, LED lighting etc are ongoing and solar panels have now been installed on the link bridge.
* Further electric car chargers will be installed in December 2022.
* The upgrading of teaching & learning spaces is now underway.
* Drainage works are continuing.
* Various works are underway at MERL, Machrihannish.
* The pool floor will be replaced between Dec and Feb.

1. **Online Health & Safety Training Report:**

Head of Safety, Environment, Security & Continuity (SESC), provided an update and the following points were highlighted:

* It was noted there are ongoing improvements regarding the uptake of Health & Safety training across the faculties and service directorates.
* SESC are continually looking to source new courses relevant to the faculties and service directorates.

1. **Revised Health & Safety Objectives**

Head of SESC, presented her paper and noted the following; -

* Health & Safety courses on WorkRite are currently being updated.
* Regular meetings with Trade Union representatives are on-going.
* SESC team are investigating ways of improving the AMS system in addition to reviewing alternative external providers.

1. **Fire & Rescue Service Update**

The Fire, Health & Safety Officer provided a verbal update as follows:

* Following the change in approach from the Fire and Rescue Service, it was noted that they will continue to attend all fire alarm activations for sleeping buildings on and off campus. However, they will only visit non-sleeping accommodation areas where there is a confirmed fire. This is a change in their protocol. This change has now been implemented.
* This change in protocol is designed to improve responses to a fire and to standardise the approach across all Scottish Universities.

1. **SafeZone**

Head of SESC provided an update on the SafeZone Application:

* SafeZone is a global emergency response app for use by staff, students, and contractors.
* It allows Security to instantly identify the location of the individual who has raised an alarm, via the app, which enables a speedier more efficient response.
* It is particularly useful for lone workers and those undertaking field trips in the UK or abroad and will improve the response in an emergency.
* Additional wearable devices are available for vulnerable individuals.
* There is a push notification facility associated with the app which can be used, e.g., during an incident or to warn of incidents in areas out with the university e.g. It was used by some universities to warn staff and students in the area of the Paris bombings a few years ago.
* Training for Security Staff and other key staff members is underway.
* The University of Stirling joins five other Scottish Universities who have also launched SafeZone in their universities. An alliance is being established which will provide our staff and students visiting these universities with the same emergency response as they would receive here.

1. **Committee Appointments to Endorse the Nomination of New Committee Member and New Unison Rep**

* The committee agreed on the endorsement of the new committee member Dr Sossie Kasbarian from Faculty of Arts & Humanities and this notification will be agreed at the next JPPRC meeting.

1. **AOB**

None noted

**Date of Next Meeting**

02 May 2023