



# Health and Safety Consultancy



## Health and Safety Auditing

Any successful business learns from all of its relevant experiences, taking positive experiences as good examples of work done and taking negative experiences as opportunities not to be missed in the future.

Accidents, workplace incidents and claims are good examples of negative experiences leading to lessons learned. These should not however be the only indicators of whether your health and safety system is working. As with all of your business areas your health and safety system should be subject to key performance indicators, included in any corporate scorecards. You should have management information detailing what your health and safety function is delivering and be in a position to compare it to the operation of business competitors and best practice. This is where auditing sits. Auditing acts as the main feedback loop for everything that you have put in place so that you can reinforce and develop your ability to reduce health and safety risks to the business.

As a business you are probably audited in any number of ways, with financial audits, quality audits and environmental audits being the most common examples. This basic business principle can be applied to the resources you use to manage health and safety, whatever your internal set-up looks like. So that you can understand the IOH approach to auditing we will offer this definition of what our audit service will deliver;

A structured process involving the independent collection of management information on the efficiency, effectiveness and reliability of your total health and safety related management systems, with the formulation of plans of corrective action.

By using this definition we are not implying that your systems are flawed, rather that it is essential to ensure that your systems have not deteriorated over time or become obsolete due to changes within your business.

Health and Safety auditing is not the answer to all of your potential health and safety concerns, just as a financial audit will not manage your businesses financial concerns, rather it is an MOT to check that you are on track or to tell you what you need to do better.

**IOH believes in *Reasonable and practical health and safety* so that it will add value and not cost to your business.**