

Health, Safety & Environmental (HS&E) Policy

Purpose

We are committed to the prevention of injury and ill health to anyone potentially affected by our undertaking work and to the protection of the environment, including the prevention of pollution. We will promote and support activity to ensure continuous improvement in our processes that manage this, devoting sufficient effort and resource to achieve these goals.

Policy Statement of Intent

We will nurture a positive culture in which effective management of HS&E is achieved through co-operative effort and mutual support at all levels within Cefas. This includes ensuring that HS&E is considered on an equal basis with our other critical business measures and as an integral part of operational and strategic decision-making. Our approach is enabled by our commitment to a system of HS&E management based on a common understanding of risks and how to manage these effectively, whilst identifying opportunities to improve our management of these continuously.

Application and implementation

This policy applies to anyone employed by, or on behalf of, Cefas (including contractors working on or visitors to our sites or facilities) and relates to all Cefas' activities, products and services. Cefas will, among other things:

Organisational Engagement

1. encourage managers at all levels, to champion the importance of HS&E whilst maintaining a common-sense approach, proportionate to our risks;
2. build staff and others' awareness and competence in HS&E matters by documenting, implementing and maintaining suitable systems, information and training;
3. promote staff engagement by communication and consultation with employees and trade union colleagues and appropriate senior management representation on HS&E committees;
4. create and maintain healthy, safe and sustainable workplaces;
5. identify HS&E hazards arising from working environments and work activities, and make sure the risks are appropriately assessed, managed and documented;
6. investigate all work-related HS&E incidents to ensure that lessons are learned and communicated to prevent future incidents occurring;

7. minimise HS&E risks when using, handling, storing and transporting materials including hazardous articles and substances;
8. provide staff with the knowledge, experience and techniques necessary to manage work related HS&E risk and eliminate/reduce the likelihood of injury, ill health and negative impacts on the environment in the event of an incident;
9. improve the efficiency of energy, water and other resource use, and aim to reduce the amount we use in our operations;
10. minimising the environmental impacts of changes in accommodation infrastructure and business travel;
11. reduce waste generated from our operations, re-using and recycling wherever possible.
12. procure goods and services that support our HS&E objectives considering sustainability and opting for recycled and recyclable where possible;
13. through our work activities help to preserve and enhance biodiversity whenever possible;

Monitoring

To ensure continual improvement in HS&E performance, Cefas will set suitable targets and objectives to measure and manage our HS&E impacts. We will review the achievement of these at regular intervals in accordance with our ongoing maintenance of OHSAS 18001 and ISO 14001 certifications.

Legislation

Cefas will comply with applicable HS&E legal requirements and all other compliance obligations.

I give my full backing to this policy and will support all those who endeavour to carry it out.



Tom Karsten
Chief Executive