

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH, "SAFETYLINE" MAGAZINE

1542. Hon. C.L. Edwardes to the Minister for Consumer and Employment Protection

I refer the Minister to the April 2003 edition of Safetyline Magazine, pages 14 and 15 relating to Safety and Health Policy in the workplace and ask -

- (a) is 'Safetyline' a publication of WorkSafe;
- (b) is it policy that 'Safetyline' reflect and support the views, policy and legislative requirements involved with workplace safety;
- (c) does WorkSafe support companies having a workplace Occupational Safety and Health policy that is enforceable in the workplace;
- (d) does WorkSafe agree that Occupational Safety and Health must apply to all persons in a workplace; and
- (e) will the Minister advise whether he supports Occupational Safety and Health rules applying to all persons in a workplace?

Mr J.C. KOBELKE replied:

- (a) Yes
- (b) Yes
- (c) There is no legislative requirement for an occupational safety and health policy. However, WorkSafe supports a systematic approach to managing safety and health, which includes such a policy, through the WorkSafe Plan for example. The WorkSafe Plan requires the development and implementation of standards, policies and procedures for all persons in the workplace, including employees, contractors and visitors, and provides an instrument to assess and rate an organisation's performance.
- (d) Yes
- (e) Yes, in so far as an employer has a duty to ensure, so far as is practicable, the safety and health of all persons in a workplace.