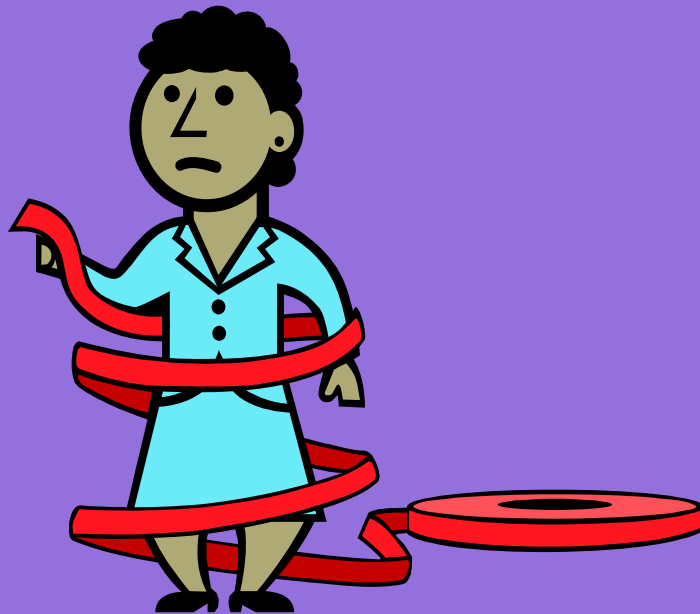


Red Tape Saves Lives

- health and safety is not a burden!

International Workers' Memorial
Day 28th April 2012



Remember the dead and
fight like hell for the living



Rally at the Workers' Memorial plaque
(around the back of Bradford City Hall)

12noon on Saturday 28th April 2012

For a minutes silence followed by speakers, laying
of wreaths and a street performance.

The government is killing us: it's time to fight for our lives!

By attacking protective regulation and slashing enforcement the actions of the government are putting the safety and health of workers' under threat. In January 2012 Cameron made an outspoken attack on health and safety regulation. He said that he was 'waging war against the excessive health and safety culture that has become an albatross around the neck of British businesses'

What looks like red tape to a business lobbyist may well look like vital employment protection to everyone else.

Government claims that slashing red tape will save businesses millions but in the real world health and safety regulations prevent harm to employees. Harm by employers is already costing the taxpayer tens of billions each year in benefits and health costs for injured workers, and their families.

The government is to cut funding of the HSE by 35% over the next three years. The HSE Infoline has closed.

Britain ranks 20th out of 34 in Health and Safety Risk Index of OECD industrialised countries.

Regulation should not be seen as a burden on business—Good health and safety dose not hurt anyone.

The HSE latest statistics for the number of work-related fatalities was 171, a 16% increase on last year's figures. Often this statistic is the only one that makes the headlines, but the reality is that there are millions of UK workers suffering from work-related ill-health.

Deaths from work-related illness

Deaths from work-related cancers—estimated 18,000 (including over 4,000 due to asbestos)

Deaths from heart disease—up to 20,000 (20% related to stress, long hours and shifts)

Deaths from respiratory illness—estimated 6,000

Deaths from other work-related diseases— estimated 6,000 (including restrictive lung disease)

Total deaths from work related diseases—up to 50,000

Prevention of cancer has a much lower profile in the workplace than prevention of injuries.

Cancers caused by the jobs we do kill one person in the UK every 30 seconds.

There are 1.9 million people of working age in GB living with an injury or illness caused or made worse by their jobs—this is equivalent to the populations of Edinburgh, Liverpool, Cardiff, Newcastle, Portsmouth and Blackpool combined.

Poor health and safety, kills, injures and disables.

Serious injuries can be reduced by 50% by having union health and safety representatives and safety committees.

We are told that modern work doesn't harm many people and that our health and safety is a burden on business, costs employers far too much and is stopping jobs being cut. Its all lies! And its time for action!