



BUSINESS

H&S

CHARITY

PROPERTY



Not sure your insurance company will pay out?

It's official! They're looking to cut costs too.

Discover 7 ways to get your claims paid.

7 top tips for Health and Safety



Duty of care A prerequisite of insurance being paid out is your adherence to every piece of legislation that is current at the time of the loss. If a significant loss occurs the loss adjuster will be checking your records with a fine tooth comb. And if your records went up in smoke during the fire you are going to struggle to provide the evidence they require before they make any payments. Perhaps someone can keep copies for you?

Fines These are not usually covered and your insurance company can choose to defend you or not. They can then ask you to repay them if they think the Health & Safety planning was not up to scratch.

On budget and on time? Evidence shows that embracing Health & Safety keeps costs down. The A34 Newbury Bypass was the first road constructed with risk management fully embraced. How many similar projects have finished under budget and on time? Insurance companies reward forward planning with reduced rates and prompt settlement of claims.

Keep going Most organisations want to continue trading with minimum downtime. Embracing Health & Safety highlights weaknesses in continuity planning and ensures your service can be seamless after things have gone wrong. Reducing the size of the claim and the time taken to settle.

It's the law It's common to complain about Health & Safety yet no-one feels sorry for bosses who are prosecuted if an employee has been seriously injured when a safety system is ignored or switched off. Claim settlements can get held up when prosecutions start. Not to mention the new laws on corporate manslaughter.

Refunding settlements One household name insurance company has inserted a clause into their policy stating that they will recover the costs of any claim they are obliged to pay as a result of failure to comply with legislation. Those costs will become payable by the business or it's owners.

Training Educating your staff in a common sense approach to H&S will have benefits in other areas of your business. I'm not advocating turning reasonable people into a "jobsworth". So choose your candidates carefully. As my mate Ian keeps reminding me "common sense isn't that common".

Is this useful? You can find out more in blogs, see the details below. Feel free to forward this to people who run businesses or charities. This free information is provided by Jason Cobine **020 7371 2812** | www.cobinecarmelson.com/blog.

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