Millions of people have their lives severely affected because of the work they do, with illness, injury and death all too common. That is simply not good enough.

At the same time, there is much more to the world of work than preventing accidents and injuries. Work, when it’s good, gives people status, positive health benefits, a quality of life and a sense of wellbeing.

We believe that we must work together to achieve a safer and healthier world of work and IOSH, as the chartered body for health and safety, can lead the way.

Our new five-year strategy, “WORK 2022 – shaping the future of safety and health”, sets out this vision and defines the steps that we, as an organisation and profession, need to take.

We can make a change and improve the workplace – today and in the future. Help us to shape the future of health and safety and to make WORK 2022 a reality.
Rapid and fundamental change

Work continues to be a vital component of modern living. Most people spend a third of their adult life at work, contributing to their own wellbeing and the improvement of society.

At the same time, the world of work is undergoing rapid and fundamental change. Powerful trends are imposing themselves upon the workforce: from changes in technology such as automation and robotics, to uncertainty and turmoil in politics and the global economy. All of this has an impact on working people – both in their working environments and in the way that they work.

Irrespective of the changes that are in motion, people’s contributions are still essential. But the working environment can negatively impact millions of lives around the world.

In workplaces around the world, work-related deaths, injuries and illness are occurring each day. More than 2.3 million people are losing their lives because of work-related accidents or illness every year. Work is leaving many millions more in poor health or in pain and incapacitated by injury.

When the benefits of health and safety at work are compelling and yet so many people are still left in harm’s way, the need for advancements globally in health and safety in the workplace is clear and urgent.

This is why IOSH wants to bring about faster, long-lasting progress in the safety, health and wellbeing of working people worldwide. And we cannot, of course, achieve this alone.

Our vision – a safe and healthy world of work – is a galvanising goal and WORK 2022 defines how we will lead our profession and collaborate with our stakeholders towards achieving it. It is a strategy and plan of action that should make a real difference to the lives of people at work around the world.
Our new direction

Build strategic partnerships through collaboration
Forging mutually-beneficial relationships with like-minded organisations
Delivering practical and valuable outcomes for businesses to succeed
Supporting a shared vision of a safe and healthy world of work
As a leader of the profession, a respected partner in business, and an organisation of global reach, our strategy will help deliver advancements in health and safety at work across the world.

Playing to these strengths, we have three broad aims that underpin WORK 2022... Enhance, Collaborate and Influence.

We will

1. **Enhance the occupational safety and health profession**
   - Developing its competence, capability and range of skills
   - Consolidating its central role to the success of organisations
   - Promoting positive public perceptions of health and safety

2. **Strengthen our influence and impact globally**
   - Empowering safety and health professionals and businesses around the world
   - Working with them to address local health and safety issues
   - Enabling a worldwide sharing of knowledge and learning
How we get there

We will continue to improve existing services for our members and develop our training and skills products for businesses, but these activities alone won’t achieve our goals. We will also innovate, with ground-breaking new initiatives to deliver faster, long-lasting progress in the health and safety of people at work.

We will reach our goals through our three interlinked programmes of delivery: Enhance, Collaborate and Influence.

Enhance

To be effective, the health and safety profession must continue to understand the positive role it plays in keeping people safe and well. We must embolden and strengthen the profession. Practitioners must continue to develop and evolve, reflecting and navigating the rapidly changing world of work.

We must give professionals the tools they need to be more effective. Collectively, we must work to confront and address perceptions of health and safety and build appreciation for the added value the profession provides.

Increasingly, our members are called on to lead in areas such as financial risk, wellbeing, ethical practices and security. Forward-thinking organisations are recognising the value they bring beyond health and safety risk management.

This means that health and safety professionals require a broader range of skills and competencies. Many are operating at a strategic level in their organisation.

Enhance is a series of initiatives designed to elevate the status and capability of the occupational safety and health profession and promote it as an attractive first career of choice. It will give individuals a structured career pathway, and organisations a clear idea of how they should invest in health and safety.
We will introduce...

**IOSH Blueprint**, an industry-backed competency framework for the profession and organisations in every sector

A new qualification as an entry route to IOSH membership

An increase in Chartered members through effective continuous professional development

A professional development programme of training and skills for health and safety experts

A ‘future leaders’ programme for ambitious young people and others early in their health and safety careers
Collaborate

Collaborate acknowledges that IOSH and the profession we lead must work hand-in-hand with organisations and their representative bodies, maximising the benefits to business of good health and safety at work.

We will draw from our own and our members’ expertise, experience, skills and networks to develop and implement a new model for how we, as the Chartered body, work with organisations and businesses to move forward together. There are many benefits to IOSH, the profession and business, and new formal relationships will range from the transactional to the strategic, from the commercial to the charitable.

For health and safety professionals, these partnerships will create new opportunities to promote to decision-makers their value as leaders in the organisations they work for.
Influence

Knowledge gathered in looking after people at work, whether it’s through research, innovation or lessons learned from mistakes, can move the health and safety profession forward and raise standards in worker protection.

We are in a unique position, through our global connections and broad-ranging expertise, to ensure this fresh understanding of health and safety issues is translated worldwide into tangible, positive results on the ground.

WORK 2022’s Influence programme will see...

- The introduction of a new global model to enable IOSH to engage consistently with organisations in different parts of the world with their own, local challenges in protecting people from work-related injury and illness.

- A refreshed approach to research that, through the choice of topic and translation into practice, maximises its positive impact on the lives of working people.

- IOSH becoming a centre of excellence in occupational safety and health, with a knowledge hub that pulls together up-to-date advice and information and practical tools for implementation for experts and the organisations they work for.

If we are to deliver the WORK 2022 strategy then IOSH will need to change. This is why we are embarking on a transformation programme which will make us a more modern, agile and flexible organisation. We will be investing in our people, our infrastructure and our services, changing our ways of working and how we do business to deliver the strategy.

No one organisation can transform the world of work in five years on its own, but WORK 2022 sets out how we, as the leading professional body in occupational health and safety will support our members, collaborate with our partners and influence organisations globally to shape a safer, healthier future for working people.
How to find out more

We need to build a strong community that is prepared to take positive action and realise this vision.

Find out more about IOSH, the strategy and the people we are supporting at www.IOSHWORK2022.com and www.iosh.co.uk

Meet the team at events around the world and see the new strategy for yourself.

Follow our news and progress on @IOSH_Tweets
IOSHofficial
IOSH Channel
IOSH
Founded in 1945, IOSH is the Chartered body for health and safety professionals. With more than 46,000 members in over 120 countries, we’re the world’s largest professional health and safety organisation.

We set standards, and support, develop and connect our members with resources, guidance, events and training. We’re the voice of the profession, and campaign on issues that affect millions of working people.

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