



## Minutes of the North West Branch Meeting Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2016

United Utilities, Lingley Mere, Warrington

1. Welcome & Introductions	Actions
<p>Andrew Swapp welcomed all members of the branch to the meeting &amp; thanked Bernard Kershaw for arranging the event. The morning session had included various presentations from United Utilities followed by tours of the Contact Centre &amp; the Laboratories. A copy of the PowerPoint's will be available via the NW EPS branch section of the EPS website.</p> <p><b>2. National update</b></p> <p>Mark Taylor, Director of Branches, gave the following updates:</p> <p>4 New Directors have been appointed as follows:</p> <p>Matt Roy – Membership Director Martin Blackburn – Finance Director Amanda Tucker – Education Director Stephen Gallagher – Professional Working Group Director</p> <p>The EPS Conference &amp; Awards ceremony had been planned for summer 2016 but due to a lack of confirmed numbers a decision was made to postpone the event until 19<sup>th</sup> &amp; 20<sup>th</sup> September 2016 and will be held at the Swalec Stadium, Cardiff. The theme for the conference will be National Security.</p> <p>The contract for the new website has now been awarded following a tender process and is currently in the design phase.</p> <p>Membership upgrades are being looked as it is currently time consuming &amp; this may be the reason that people are not upgrading. There is currently consideration being given to linking the CPD &amp; the upgrade process to make it easier for members.</p> <p>Corporate Communications &amp; Marketing are currently being reviewed and Resilience Magazine is now making a small profit through advertising for the first time.</p> <p>The professional working groups are currently being reviewed and reinvigorated.</p> <p>Social media is also being reviewed and all branches now have their own Twitter accounts. Linked in is also being considered as part of the social media platform.</p> <p>Information sharing platforms are currently being discussed to allow the sharing of plans, templates etc. and how this can be</p>	



easily managed.

Longer term strategy 2020 vision is now being looked at with a view to increasing membership.

### 3. Future events

Bernard Kershaw advised the group of the following:

The next branch event is being planned for September 2016 and will be hosted by Highways England at their Incident Control Centre in Newton Le Willows. The event will follow a similar format to the session at United Utilities with presentations in the morning and a branch meeting in the afternoon. Full details of the event will be circulated in due course.

A visit is being planned for Manchester Airport however this is still in the planning stage and no further details are available yet, it is hoped that the event will take place in early 2017.

Andrew Swapp advised the group that previous training events have been well received and the topics of Project Argus & Mass Fatalities were both useful, especially with recent terrorist incidents around the world, he then asked the group to contact him with any ideas for future North West Branch training events.

### 4. AOB

Rachel Hutchinson asked the group to consider sharing any event, exercise or incident information with her for inclusion in the branch newsletter, information can be sent to her directly – [Rachel.hutchinson@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:Rachel.hutchinson@blackburn.gov.uk)

Andrew Swapp thanked everyone for their attendance & advised that he would look forward to seeing people at the next North West event.

**All to consider future events & advise AS**

**All to consider items for inclusion in the newsletter forward to RH**