

Government Health & Safety Lead

In between the modules – building connections and GHSL support

Each of the four modules will include some pre and post-module work (e-learning, videos and reading). However, to get the most out of the programme we also encourage you to use the 6-8 week time period between each module to apply your learning and to engage and connect with your peers and other course participants.

1. Applying your learning

We encourage you to take time after each module to reflect and apply learning within your role / agency. Other ways you can apply your learning would be to;

- Develop some key points to share or questions to raise at your next H&S Governance Board meeting.
- Identify one item you want to action or explore further in between each module.
- Engage with your Health and Safety Manager to discuss a health and safety issue in your agency or attend a health and safety committee meeting at one of your offices.
- Conduct a site visit within your own organisation and follow through a critical risk.
- Engage with front line workers to get an unrefined view health and safety from the workers' perspective.
- Engage in one on one coaching between modules. This could be via an existing arrangement, with a peer (from your agency or from within the Programme), or through external (structured) coaching.

2. Building connections

One of the benefits of attending the GHSL's Public Service Officer Development Programme is that it provides opportunities to build connections with others in senior leadership roles across the public sector. You can learn as much, if not more, from other participants as you will from the course modules.

The level of engagement you have with other participants can be as little or as much as you want. Here are some suggestions;

- Set a goal to meet up with a different person from the cohort in between each module. Start with an informal coffee meeting and share one H&S challenge or discuss a critical risk you have in common.
- Cohort sharing and discussion – this can be as simple as sharing an article or case study you found useful or raising a question with the group for their input.
- Buddy up with someone else from your cohort and set up one-on-one peer coaching between modules.
- Arrange to attend another agency's H&S Governance Board meeting as an observer, and/or invite someone along to yours. Follow up afterwards to share reflections.

3. GHSL Support

The Government Health and Safety Lead (GHSL) team are here to support you throughout the six-month programme. We have access to resources, tools and expertise, as well as connections with all 38 GHSL member agencies so please reach out and let us know how we can support you to make this programme the most valuable learning experience possible.

We will also continue to work with the Institute of Directors to refine this Programme, so please also provide any suggestions or feedback to us via ghsl@mpi.govt.nz or 0800 HS LEAD, or directly to the Director GHSL, Tina Paterson – Tina.Paterson@mpi.govt.nz or 027 886 6620