Public Health Responsibility Deal – Alcohol in the Workplace pledge

Dear Andrew

As a leading employer I know that you place high importance on the health and wellbeing of your staff. As chair of the Public Health Responsibility Deal’s Health at Work Network I am writing to you to ask you to commit to signing up to the new Alcohol in the Workplace pledge. This has been agreed by the Alcohol sub group of the Responsibility Deal Network.

The Pledge will be:

“We pledge to promote alcohol awareness among our staff, with the aim of increasing their health and wellbeing, and thereby delivering associated improvements in efficiency and productivity.

We will do this by:

- Embedding a workplace alcohol policy drawn up with the engagement of employee representatives
- Promoting alcohol awareness amongst employees, by highlighting the risks of drinking above the lower risk guidelines, and by providing information to help those employees who choose to drink to do so within the guidelines
Ensuring that employees with alcohol problems receive appropriate help if they want that, and that managers know what they need to do to support them to find help

Where it is felt appropriate to provide alcohol at company events, ensure that it is served responsibly and that people are helped to drink within the guidelines. For example, by making sure that non-alcoholic alternatives are always available and making it clear that irresponsible alcohol consumption/behaviour is not acceptable.”

By indicating that you will sign up, your organisation is committing itself to helping your employees. Formalising your commitment to staff wellbeing through this pledge sends out a powerful health and wellbeing message from your organisation, to your staff and the community.

At this stage the pledge has not yet gone live on the responsibility deal website. When it does, we want to be able to show that a large number of organisations have already committed to sign up so that this will encourage more to do so

For further information or assistance please contact our Central Team at responsibilitydeal@dh.gsi.gov.uk. I or one of our team, Ashley Salandy, Mark Wilson or Heather Neufville would be very happy to talk with you further about this.

I would be grateful if you can reply by 31 December 2014 to the Health at Work Team to indicate your willingness to sign up: responsibilitydealhealthatwork@dh.gsi.gov.uk or 020 7972 3252. They will let you know when the pledge becomes available on the Responsibility Deal website, but hope it will be in the next few months.

Yours sincerely

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