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Health and safety in the supply chain – proportionality and effectiveness

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Health and safety in the supply chain – proportionality and effectiveness

HSE Connect, Birmingham
20th February 2019

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Eleanor Eaton/Chair, Safety Schemes in Procurement (SSIP)

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Business to business ‘rules’: good for business? Yes, but…

“Successful organisations understand that sensible and proportionate risk management is integral to delivering their business… supports growth, enables innovation and protects an organisation’s most vital asset, its people.”

Our strategy aim on proportionality

“…a common understanding of what proportionate health and safety looks like.”

Source: *Helping Great Britain Work Well*, HSE (2016)

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Health and safety ‘rules’ – HSE’s aims and objectives

About

- Burdens arising when health and safety rules are disproportionate (and in some cases deliver *under-compliance*)
- Links to ineffective risk control and a lack of risk ownership
- A landscape full of well-intentioned initiatives (remember the footnotes in PAS 91?) - and unintended consequences

Not about

- Getting in the way of businesses seeking to innovate, both to grow and to drive up standards (Industrial Strategy aim)
- HSE stamping out ‘best in class’ as informed risk management choice

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Who and what influences duty holder action? YouGov survey findings

Driver for action	As primary	As secondary
Health & Safety Rules	22%	37%
Regulation / enforcement	19%	21%
Improving standards	14%	17%

However: these get thrown together in the minds of business people - so getting all of them right matters!

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Procurement and the accreditation market

- One SME, five completely overlapping accreditation schemes – £15k/year
- LA office products supplier subject to assessment – proportionate?
- Construction products manufacturer – all the logos, no idea…

Quotes from the research:

"No real improvements to h&s management systems… no value in signing up to multiple schemes or refreshing each year. Commercial benefit only."

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What all this can mean for business….

- False reassurance if the paperwork doesn’t match the reality

- Additional business burdens

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A case for action? If so, what?

Heavy-handed rules jeopardy

(Part of) our role – clearing the way…

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Help for duty holders

Guidance: making accreditation schemes better:
[http://www.hse.gov.uk/competence/accreditation-schemes.htm]

- *One way* to demonstrate competence (and only one)
- Not required by law
- HSE supports SSIP in construction sector
- Mutual recognition/'deemed to satisfy': assessment via one scheme is enough
- Buying lower-risk good/services – do risks justify use of a scheme? Simpler approaches – e.g. *Health and Safety Made Simple*

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“Maximising the value of health & safety supplier assessment”

Eleanor Eaton, Safety Schemes in Procurement (SSIP) Ltd

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SSIP

Aims and overview of SSIP

- SSIP is an **umbrella organisation** established to facilitate mutual recognition between H&S Assessment Schemes.
- SSIP is a not-for-profit organisation.
- SSIP has been **supported by the HSE** since inception (2009) and continues to **work collaboratively** with the HSE and other key stakeholders.
- Assessment via a SSIP forum member confirms the organisation has successfully achieved verification to the SSIP Threshold Standard (Core Criteria) which can be recognised as the first stage in the procurement process.

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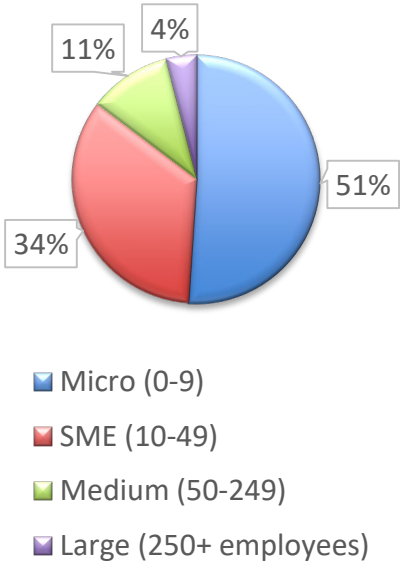
Confidence in the SSIP standard

- Provide confidence in Health and Safety Pre Qualification assessments which is achieved by:
  - All assessments aligned to the SSIP Core Criteria and proportionate to the scope of work undertaken by the organisation
  - All SSIP Assessors holding H&S qualifications supported by appropriate Skills Knowledge and Experience (SKE)
  - Registered Members being audited by SSIP to ensure continued compliance
  - Certification Body Members being audited by UKAS as part of their Health and Safety Management Systems Accreditation.

- In addition the SSIP Core Criteria are subject to ongoing development to ensure continued demands of industry are achieved.

Assessment Proportionality

- SSIP assessments will take into account the **size** of the organisation and **risks associated** with their scope of work activities
- Member schemes must be **proportionate** in their assessment process whilst confirming the standards to be achieved have been met.
- SSIP assessments recognise the reduced documentation requirements for a micro business / SME.



Proportionality – considerations…..

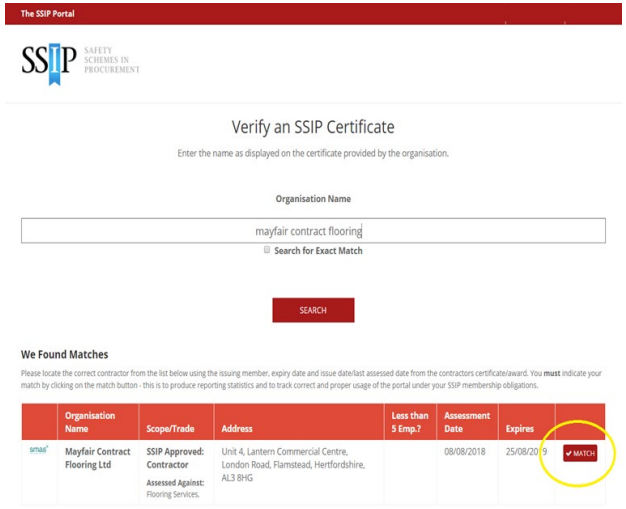
The assessment should focus on the significant risks associated with the organisation's scope of works.

SSIP has an "SSIP: Approved" category **which supports** any organisation working outside of the construction industry in demonstrating their compliance with health and safety legislative obligations.

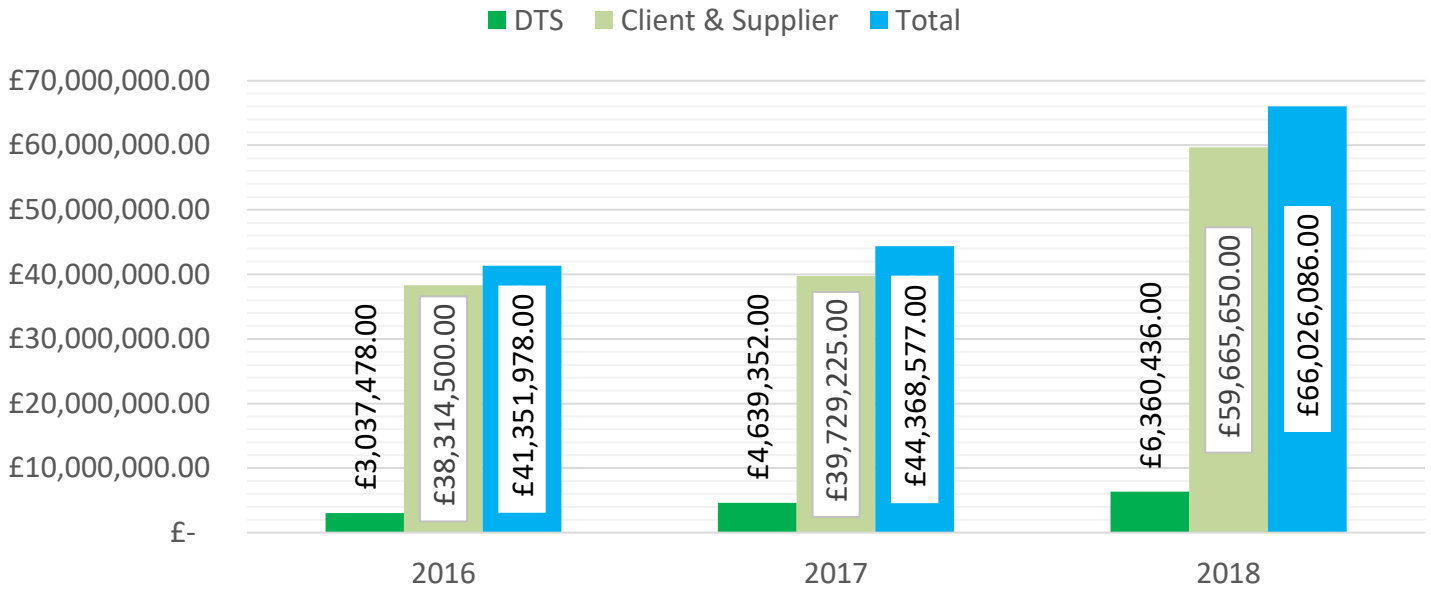
The SSIP Core Criteria Sections 1-12 cover basic H&S requirements such as risk assessment, safe systems of work, competence and training etc. Compliance should arguably already be in place therefore the assessment process should not be onerous.

Mutual Recognition (Deem to Satisfy)

- Key aim of the SSIP Forum is to encourage and maximise Mutual Recognition between SSIP Member Schemes where it is practicable to do so.
- To achieve this a robust and consistent Deem to Satisfy (DtS) agreement is in place between SSIP Member Schemes that is clear and transparent.
- Mutual recognition is facilitated via the SSIP Portal.



Value for Money: Cost Savings to Industry



SSIP Membership types

(1) Registered Members

(2) Certification Body Member

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Indication of fees

SSIP REGISTERED MEMBER	APPLICATION FEE	DTS FEE
Acclaim Accreditation	FROM £175.00	NA
Achilles	£295.00	£225.00
altius aim higher	£425.00	£45.00
	£450.00	£50.00
Avetta (Formerly PICS Auditing)	POA	£0.00
CHAS	FROM £199.00	£140.00
CQMS Safety Scheme	FROM £105.00	£40.00
HEALTH & SAFETY DW	POA	POA
Eurosafe UK	FROM £185.00	£95.00

SSIP REGISTERED MEMBER	APPLICATION FEE	DTS FEE
greenlight Safety Assessment Scheme	£150.00	£50.00
HSAS	£175.00	£75.00
msl sp safepartner	FROM £188.00	£148.00
PQS Pre-Qualification Scheme	FROM £95.00	£30.00
pass principal approved supplier scheme	POA	£0.00
SAFECERT SAFETY MANAGEMENT CERTIFIED SYSTEM	FROM £50.00	POA
SafeContractor	£229.00	20% OFF FEE BAND
SAFEMARK	£245.00	£75.00
smas safety | management | advisory | services	£220.00	£80.00

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SSIP - here to be part of the solution, not the problem….

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QUESTIONS???