

**Wales Heads of
Environmental
Health Group**

Foreword to the Strategy for Improving Health & Safety in Wales

The evolution of this Strategy is another example of how local authority Environmental Health services in Wales continue to explore opportunities to work collaboratively and creatively. It recognises the importance of a regulatory framework that is consistent and transparent but firmly focuses on working in partnership to improve economic prosperity and health in Wales.

Whilst most businesses recognise the sound commercial sense in maintaining a safe and healthy workplace, it is in everyone's interest to ensure that appropriate enforcement interventions are utilised to tackle situations where health and safety is put at risk. By recognising and embracing best practice, the most effective use can be made of the collective enforcement expertise that exists across Wales.

The Wales Heads of Environmental Health Group is committed in its support of the principles that underpin "*Health Challenge Wales*". To deliver on health gain targets, it is essential that new ways of working are considered and flexible approaches adopted to deal with the modern workplace, changing working practices and emerging risks.

The "Strategy for Improving Health and Safety in Wales" provides a solid foundation for closer liaison and enhanced partnership working in the future, which has to good for businesses and workers alike.

Huw Williams

Chair, Wales Heads of Environmental Health Group