**Health & Safety discussion – PEF Training and Briefing, 15 November 2018**

A range of issues were raised including violence, assaults, spice, security issues, allocation of unsuitable learners and over-allocation, safety in workshops, dust and ventilation.

**Novus** – H&S structures have been agreed at local, regional and national level.  There are now terms of reference to resolve H&S issues.  However nothing will improve unless what is agreed is carried out in the prisons and changes are made.  The last H&S meeting with Novus was held in February and not heard anything since.  However there is a lot happening, especially with PEF.

Wins – a big win at Pentonville after a visit.  Infestations of cockroaches and mice.  Bites from mites in pigeon droppings.  Kitchen facilities unusable.  Action points listed, raised and addressed.

**MKC** – still negotiating H&S structures.  Have got managers to agree in principle a similar structure to Novus.  Gina commented that incidents are reported and managers don’t always acknowledge them.  Incidents stats are much lower than the actual number of incidents.  We need one system of reporting – currently prisons and employers are providing incident stats.

Birmingham – massive security problems.  HMPPS taken it back from private company.  Stopped working on the wings.

**Mental health awareness** – UCU is pushing for more support for members and learners.

**National H&S framework** – this will hopefully be agreed shortly by MoJ, HMPPS, UCU and all the current providers. This will be shared with Reps and H&S Reps once finalised.

**Priorities**

Risk assessments to be carried out properly with staff involvement.

Incident-reporting – everything needs to be reported using both prison and provider structures and escalated if no action is taken.

Mission-creep needs to be challenged, e.g. escorting, patting down, cleaning.

Joint H&S training – it would be useful to have something for H&S Reps with Education Managers