

OSH AUTHORITIES

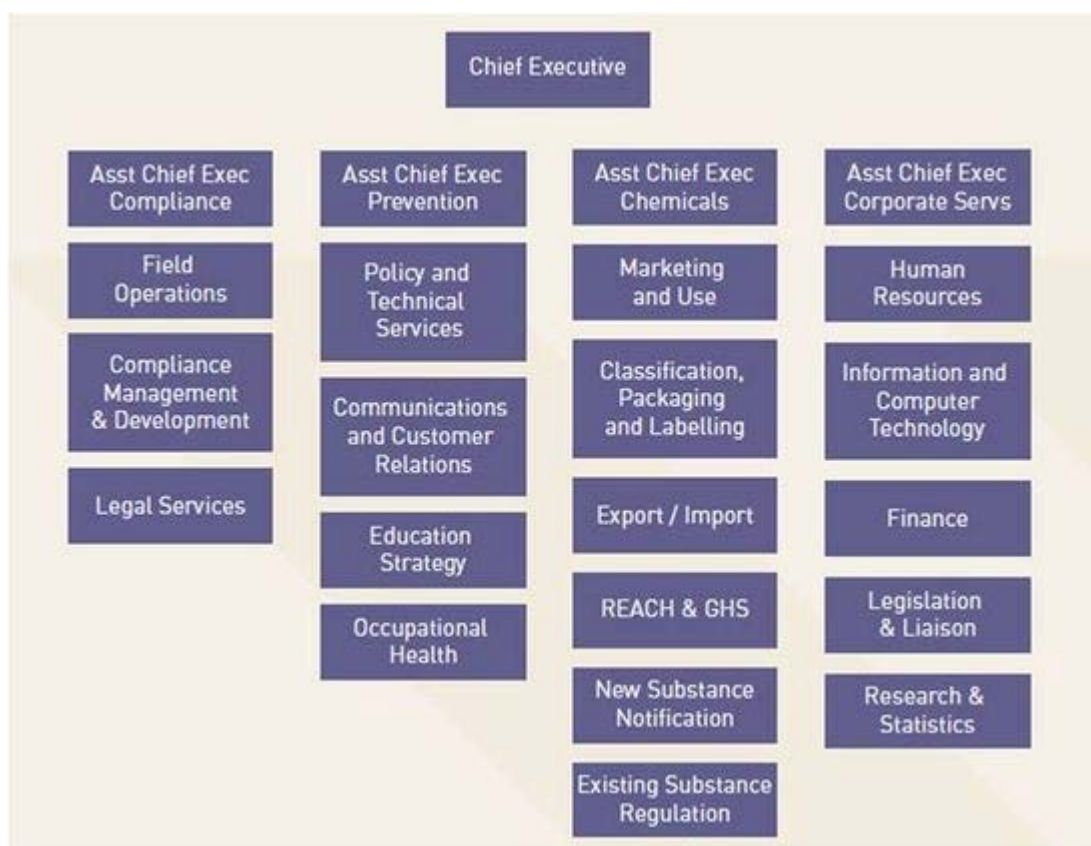
Description scheme for country overviews

IRELAND

Source: https://oshwiki.eu/wiki/OSH_system_at_national_level_-_Ireland

OSH Infrastructure

Scheme



Explanatory text

The Health and Safety Authority (HSA) is responsible for securing OSH at work, including compliance with consultation procedures. The HSA is a state-sponsored body, established under the SHWW Act 1989, and it reports directly to the Minister overseeing the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation (DJEI). It is responsible for every type of industry, workplace and type of work both in the public and private sectors.

This ranges from micro enterprises and SME's, to large organisations with multiple locations and thousands of employees. The HSA has its own health and safety inspectorate responsible for inspecting and enforcing OSH legislation. The health and safety inspectorate is distinct and separate from the labour inspectorate in Ireland.

The HSA is the national centre for information and advice to employers, employees and self-employed on all aspects of workplace health and safety. The Authority also promotes education, training and research in the field. The HSA and its inspectorate produce a number of publications, reports, Codes of Practice, guidance and tools which are available on its website. The Authority is set out in four divisions; Compliance, Prevention, Chemicals, Corporate Services (Figure 2).

Figure 1: HSA Organisational Chart

The HSA is a State-sponsored body which operates under the auspices of the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation (DJEI). Within this structure the Health and Safety Policy Section acts as a liaison mechanism between the HSA and the Department. The functions of the Section in this regard are:

- To formulate and develop policy relating to workplace health and safety, including reviewing legislative requirements and "work environment" developments on an ongoing basis
- To monitor and support the activities of the HSA.
- To advise and inform the Minister and management of the DJEI on matters relating to workplace health and safety
- To interact with the HSA and other Government Departments, State Agencies and the European Commission on matters relating to workplace health and safety.

▪ OSH authorities and inspection services

Name of the Authority	The Health and Safety Authority (HSA)
Link	http://www.hsa.ie
Short abstract	The Health and Safety Authority (HSA) is the national statutory body with responsibility for enforcing occupational safety and health law, promoting and encouraging accident prevention, and providing information and advice to all companies, organisations and individuals. The aim of the Authority is to make occupational safety, health and welfare an integral part of doing business in every Irish workplace.

	<p>To ensure compliance with the legislation, the HSA seeks, primarily, to reduce workplace accidents by providing guidance and support to employers and employees. Inspectors of the HSA carry out reactive and pro-active inspections of workplaces. Reactive inspections may arise following an accident, incident or complaint. Pro-active inspections may be routine or targeted. The purpose of an inspection is to assist the HSA in carrying out some of the general functions assigned by Section 34 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005 and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Monitoring the implementation of, and compliance with, statutory health, safety and welfare requirements ▪ Enforcing any relevant statutory provisions set out in safety, health and welfare legislation ▪ Promoting, encouraging and advising employers and employees in relation to health and safety training ▪ Promoting and encouraging measures aimed at the prevention of accidents, dangerous occurrences and personal injury at work ▪ Providing information and advice on matters relating to safety, health and welfare ▪ Promoting and encouraging the implementation of best practice methodologies and processes
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Internal link to enforcement indicator by MS

▪ **Compensation and Insurance bodies**

Name of the Body	Personal Injuries Assessment Board
Link	https://www.piab.ie
Short abstract	<p>Under the Personal Injuries Assessment Board Act 2003, anyone intending to seek compensation for a personal injury (other than a personal injury arising out of medical negligence) must make an application through InjuriesBoard.ie. They are the statutory body which provides independent assessment of personal injury compensation for victims of accidents, including workplace accidents. Injuries.</p>

	Board.ie is staffed with public servants with relevant legal, insurance and medical expertise to assess OSH compensation claims, with an established independent panel of medical experts throughout Ireland. Injuries and ill-health from work related accidents and illnesses are claimed for by employees using employer's public liability insurance through the courts for civil compensation. The state also has a system of Occupational injury and illness benefits paid to those out of work. These are paid from the budget of the Dept of Social and Family Protection (DSFP).
Link to OSH wiki	https://oshwiki.eu/wiki/OSH_system_at_national_level_-_Ireland

▪ Research institutes

Name of the institute	The Work Research Centre (WRC)
Link	http://www.wrc-research.ie/
Short abstract	The Work Research Centre (WRC) specialises in research and consultancy on key social issues, organisational change and technological developments. Established in 1988, WRC has established a strong national and international track record in state-of-the-art assignments for a wide range of clients by undertake leading edge research; developing useful and effective services and products, consulting and training and supporting policy-making
Link to OSH wiki	https://oshwiki.eu/wiki/OSH_system_at_national_level_-_Ireland

▪ Prevention Institutes

Name of the institute	The Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH)
Link	https://www.iosh.co.uk/
Short abstract	IOSH was founded in 1945 and is the Chartered body for health and safety professionals. With more than 40,000 individual members, they are the biggest professional health and safety organisation in the world.

	The Ireland branch of IOSH was founded in 1982. Currently in the Ireland Branch there are five districts and five specialist sections. The Ireland Branch committee consists of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary, Development Officer, some non-officer members, a representative from each of the districts and specialist sections.
Link to OSH wiki	https://oshwiki.eu/wiki/OSH_system_at_national_level_-_Ireland

Name of the institute	National Irish Safety Organisation (NISO)
Link	https://niso.ie/
Short abstract	<p>NISO provides information and services to help improve safety and the workplace. Their services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Providing leading information, advisory and training services ▪ Promoting a culture of excellence in workplace health & safety ▪ Playing a leading role in advancing the national health & safety agenda
Link to OSH wiki	https://oshwiki.eu/wiki/OSH_system_at_national_level_-_Ireland

Name of the institute	The Occupational Health Nurses Association of Ireland (OHNAI)
Link	http://www.ohnai.ie/
Short abstract	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ OHNAI is the national body for Occupational Health Nurses who work either as individual practitioners or team members in a workplace setting. The association supports it's members in their role of: ▪ Preventing accidents and ill health at work. ▪ Providing care to employees through health promotion, health surveillance, rehabilitation and management of health and safety.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working to ensure professionalism, quality and legal compliance in occupational health practice.
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▪ **Other OSH Services**

Name of the service	Faculty of Occupational Medicine (FOM)
Link	https://www.rcpi.ie/faculties/faculty-of-occupational-medicine/
Short abstract	<p>The Faculty of Occupational Medicine (FOM) is a charity committed to improving health at work. It is the professional and educational body for occupational medicine in Ireland and is a Faculty of the Royal College of Physicians in Ireland. As such, it seeks to ensure the highest standards in the practice of occupational medicine.</p> <p>FOM members work in partnership with other occupational health bodies to promote health and work in many ways. Their aim is for healthy working lives through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> maximising people's opportunities to benefit from healthy and rewarding work while not putting themselves or others at unreasonable risk elimination of preventable injury and illness caused or aggravated by work access for everyone to advice from a competent occupational physician as part of comprehensive occupational health and safety services providing support to the Faculty's membership to raise the standard of occupational health practice
Link to OSH wiki	https://oshwiki.eu/wiki/OSH_system_at_national_level_-_Ireland

Name of the service	The Irish Ergonomic Society (IES)
Link	http://www.irishergonomics.com/

Short abstract	<p>The Irish Ergonomic Society (IES) is an interdisciplinary non-profit, non-political, non-union, organisation of professional people involved in the ergonomics field. The Society promotes the discovery and exchange of knowledge concerning the characteristics of human beings that are applicable to the design of systems and devices of all kinds.</p> <p>The Society encourages appropriate education and training for those entering the ergonomics profession and for those who conceive, design, develop, manufacture, test, manage, and participate in systems. The purpose inherent in ergonomics research and application is to contribute to overall human well-being, including social and organisational issues, control room design, musculoskeletal injuries, human reliability, training, and health and safety, amongst others.</p>
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▪ Standardization Bodies

Name of the Body	NSAI (National Standards Authority of Ireland)
Link	https://www.nsai.ie
Short abstract	<p>NSAI (National Standards Authority of Ireland) is Ireland's official standards body. They operate under the National Standards Authority of Ireland Act (1996) and are accountable to the Minister of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation. NSAI are the national certification authority for CE Marking and provide a certification service to enable business demonstrate that Irish goods and services conform to applicable standards. As Ireland's Official standards body, NSAI aims to inspire consumer confidence and create the infrastructure for products and services to be recognized and relied on, all over the world.</p>
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