

How EMAS can help you

If you are an employer EMAS can provide advice on how to manage health within your organisation. It advises on:

- how to manage employees who are sick;
- rehabilitation;
- fitness to work;
- occupational health services;
- first aid.

In the area of workplace risks to health it provides advice on risk assessments, control measures and health surveillance.

Employers should also note that it is a legal requirement for the EMAS address and telephone number to be available in all workplaces.

If you are an employee and think a health problem may be work-related you should tell your employer or the company's safety officer, nurse or doctor. You may also obtain help from your trade union or employee representative or family doctor. If these fail you can contact EMAS directly, HSENI or the Environmental Health Officer at your local District Council.

Members of the public who believe their health is being affected by nearby work activity may seek advice from EMAS.

Health professionals who have concerns about workplace risks to health or fitness for work may also seek advice.

How you can contact EMAS

EMAS is located at:

HSENI
2nd Floor Avenue House
42/44 Rosemary Street
Belfast
BT1 1QE
Tel: 028 9040 8004
Fax: 028 9040 8006
Email: emasmail@detini.gov.uk
Freephone: 0800 0320 121
Textphone: 028 9054 6896

Complaints

If you are dissatisfied with our services please contact us and we will forward you information on the complaints procedure.



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EMAS

Employment Medical Advisory Service



Information

This leaflet gives information about the Employment Medical Advisory Service (EMAS).

EMAS is a statutory advisory body within the Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland (HSENI).

It is staffed by a specialist doctor, nurse and support staff. EMAS gives advice on health matters relating to work, to organisations and individuals including employers, employees, trade unions, regulators, health care professionals and others.

EMAS is required by law to:

- make sure that government departments, other bodies and individuals are provided with advice on how to protect and improve the health of people at work;
- provide advice on health to those at work or those seeking or training for work;
- provide advice to the Department concerned.

The Legal Position

EMAS provides advice across all types of work and aims to ensure that employers and others comply with health and safety regulations.

What EMAS does

EMAS provides a free, confidential, accessible, expert, independent service. It

- investigates complaints and concerns of ill health raised by employers, employees, trade unions, members of the public and other health care professionals;
- supports HSENI Inspectors and District Council Environmental Health Officers in their activities as regulators. This is an important part of its statutory functions;
- investigates reports of diseases received from employers under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997 (RIDDOR);
- gives advice to employers, employees and trade unions both on request and as part of workplace visits;
- provides expert advice to doctors and nurses, including general practitioners and occupational health providers;
- supports HSENI's occupational health activities;
- approves and oversees First Aid at Work training organisations.

What EMAS does not do

EMAS does not:

- provide medical treatment, but does advise family doctors and hospital staff on work-related health problems;
- provide an occupational health service for organisations. Information on availability of local occupational health services can be given;
- advise on nuisance problems arising from work activities. These are dealt with by District Council Environmental Health Departments;
- provide rehabilitation for people with disabilities;
- conduct most statutory medical examinations. These are done by doctors appointed by HSENI under relevant Regulations.