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Who is on our side?

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Horses for courses?

- With the exception of unions and the Hazards movement, it depends on the issue.
 - Many employers support strong enforcement because they do not want undercut by competitors.
 - The HSE do some great work in some areas, but follow the government line on others.
 - The EU has given us a strong legal protection but are also now free-market and de-regulation obsessed.
 - Labour party says it now supports more inspection and work in occupational health, but its record in government was “mixed”.
- Are they friends or enemies?
- Different groups for different demands.

What is the biggest issue?

- Is it regulatory – more and better laws?
- Is it about enforcement?
- Is it about funding?
- Is it about the whole H&S culture?

TUC Manifesto

- The TUC has taken the approach of trying to identify a number of issues that will make a major difference and build alliances over each of them separately.
- Published in TUC Manifesto “A time for Change”
- 10 practical issues that should attract a range of supporters.
- So the question is not “Who is on our side?”, but “how do we practically build coalitions and support on issues.

Various Players?

- Europe. – influencing Commission, Involvement in structures, ETUC, MEPs, lobbying, court cases.
- Press – Some journalists V good on H&S, others will take up some issues if given a story. Daily Mail will often run cancer stories, Independent and Mirror asbestos, Guardian on cuts, Express women's issues. Local press.
- Politicians – depends on the issue. Far less Labour MPs with a working background. Lib Dems and other minority parties - not on their radar. Tories..... Can make more progress in Scotland and Wales.
- Professional bodies, IOSH FOM, Council for Work and Health, BOHS etc. depends on the issue.

Biggest group – our own members. Are they convinced of the case?

What can we do?

