



## ADVICE NOTE FOR SAFETY REPRESENTATIVES

### NON-VENUE CONCERNS THAT SHOULD BE COVERED IN A TOUR RISK ASSESSMENT

*The essentials were covered in the **NOTES ON TOURING HEALTH & SAFETY**, previously issued, and this expands that in a check-list form. These are matters that should be covered in a Risk Assessment which Safety Reps should be provided with prior to any tour commencing. This will also be of use for those planning any touring work.*

#### **travel and rest arrangements**

- a) the effect of travel on performers and required rest & recovery periods
- b) noise whilst travelling
- c) proper provision/arrangement of, or access, to food and refreshment whilst travelling
- d) effect of time variations (including "jet-lag\*")
- e) any manual handling required must be assessed and ways to minimise any lifting are put in place (all covered by Manual Handling)
- f) ensuring adequate toilet and washing provision
- g) ensuring all vehicles provided are to a proper standard both mechanically and for passenger comfort
- h) considering problems of lengthy inactivity particularly in pressurised environments, with issues like DVT
- i) additional risks have to be covered if travelling on water such as ensuring there are proper safety equipment and clear emergency procedures in place

#### **provision of food and liquids**

- a) ensuring provision of or access to adequate food and drink at appropriate times including ensuring there is adequate time to consume the same
- b) considering food allergies etc
- c) ensuring provision of hygienic liquids and food

#### **security**

- a) ensuring secure transportation to and from airports/stations etc/workplaces/required meetings or social events
- b) consideration of security for individuals or groups in the location/s
- c) detailed assessment when special local circumstances apply – both in terms of risks from local criminals or where high security situations arise
- d) some measures can be done simply to reduce potential risks such as ensuring there is access to local currency within the hotel at reasonable exchange rates or advising not using mobiles/tablets/iPhones on the street
- e) in looking at these issues local competent advice is essential

## **pollution**

- a) should be treated as any other COSHH issue
- b) identifying the specifics of the pollutants involved and then obtaining the specifically suitable protective equipment (it is important that such equipment, such as masks, is suitable for the particular pollutants in the air which requires competent advice)
- c) where such pollutants cannot be reliably identified then suitable temporary generic protection should be supplied but if any problems for any players remain or subsequently show themselves then alternative protective measures have to be considered including, for example, only travelling in air-conditioned transport
- d) special attention must be paid to those with any breathing/lung etc problems including asthma and to possible effects on those with any heart or circulatory problems who might be affected

## **infection and other medical risks** (in the risk assessment this will be additional and always secondary to any medical advice given)

- a) full specialist advice must be obtained about places to be visited; the specific risks in those places must be identified (including insect risks, local health risks etc) and suitable briefings given to players
- b) based on medical advice, sufficient time must be allowed for the best practice in regard to injections or other treatments bearing in mind allergic reactions etc.
- c) proper protective treatment must be made available and arrangements considered if anyone is particularly affected by any of the risks
- d) some ideas can be gathered from the many websites with information on medical issues when travelling but specific tailored medical advice should be taken in any risk assessment
- e) a problem may also arise if a player (or players) are unwell or injured in some way. If there is no doctor travelling with the group then there needs to be access to a doctor with specialist knowledge of musicians and in whom all parties have trust & confidence (this would generally be best done by arranging, before setting out, that there is a doctor contact available to give advice at all times by phone or internet {eg Skype}. This is not to deny there may be excellent medical advice available locally but finding it - and all parties having confidence in it - can present problems, particularly when swift responses are important. In some circumstances this may require getting the retained advisor to talk to local medical practitioners about the particular case.)

## **temperature and humidity**

- a) the usual guideline apply which are essentially the employer ensuring that players are not exposed to unreasonable temperatures, whether hot or cold.
- b) in places where the general temperature is, say, high and/or the humidity is high then the employer has to consider necessary arrangements to deal with the specific problems posed (such as ensuring adequate provision of drinks, consideration of heat on fatigue, consideration of interaction between temperature & humidity and other concerns such as pollution).
- c) clothing has to be factored in to such considerations.

*There are a whole range of risks in different parts of the world and these should be identified by the employer in the risk assessment. There are some very specific risks that have to be considered such as visiting places at high altitude or with particular atmospheric conditions.*