

Safety Representatives

A Safety Representative is an employee elected by their fellow employees, whose main role is to represent them to management on all health and safety issues. The Safety Representative provides a direct link between the employer and employees on issues that may be identified through workplace inspections or through direct communication with fellow workers.





Safety Representatives are allowed time off from their work, without loss of earnings, for training and for undertaking the functions of being a Safety Representative.

While the law does not put a management responsibility on Safety Representatives to ensure better safety and health, it does allow those who get involved the opportunity to promote better practice in their workplace.



"A Short Course for Safety Representatives" is available to raise awareness of the role of a Safety Representative on hsalearning.ie.

















HSA

An tÚdarás Sláinte agus Sábháilteachta Health and Safety Authority

Safety Representatives:

- can make representations to the employer on matters relating to safety, health and welfare, on behalf of the employees.
- may become a member of a safety committee, if one is in place.

Videos and information for Safety Representatives are available at:



BeSMART.ie



Safety representatives must have access to information on measures required under safety and health legislation such as risk assessments and reportable incidents.



Note there are different requirements for Safety Representatives in construction. Where more than 20 persons are employed at any one time on a construction site, the project supervisor for the construction stage (PSCS) must facilitate the appointment of a Safety Representative - for further information visit the HSA website hsa.ie.