

International Workers' Memorial Day 2018

Unionised Workplaces are Safer Workplaces

International Workers' Memorial Day provides the opportunity to remember workers who have lost their lives through injury at work, through occupational cancers or other work related illness and to think of the families whose lives are devastated as a result of, what are sadly, nearly always preventable injuries or exposures to harmful substances at work.

The day is commemorated throughout the world and was first recognised by the STUC in 1993, followed by the TUC, the HSE, the Scottish Government and finally the United Kingdom Government in 2010.

The HSE reports that 19 workers died in Scotland in 2016/17. However this does not include those who die at sea, or as a result of air accidents, or who die on our roads while working, all those who commit work-related suicide, or members of the public killed by work-related activities, or the huge numbers killed by occupational illnesses such as asbestos cancers.

When all of these deaths are taken into account we estimate 12 workers lose their lives each and every day in Scotland due to poor health and safety.

International Workers' Memorial Day provides the opportunity for trade unions, workers and Governments to commit to striving for healthier, safer and fairer workplaces where workers are prevented from harm and families can expect that loved ones leaving for work return unharmed at the end of their working day or shift.



***Remember the Dead
Fight for the Living***

