

of implementation should be advised as fully and flexibly as possible in guidance notes, which should be recognised as being non-mandatory (4.48).

6.16. The application of new regulations to existing installations should be carefully considered in order to limit the effects of retroactive requirements (4.44).

6.17. The Guidance Notes to regulations should be kept up to date on a continuous basis and their status as non-mandatory guidance should be clear. The D/Energy should review its various safety memoranda and introduce a systematic set of documents (4.49).

Management responsibility

6.18. The specific duties given to the Offshore Installation Manager by the regulations made under the 1971 Act should be reviewed and only those it is reasonable for him to control should be so allocated (4.42).

6.19. Guidance should be given to Employers and Offshore Installation Managers on reconciliation of the conflict regarding their responsibilities introduced by the application offshore of the 1974 Act (4.43).

Safety zones

6.20. The Government should consider the case for the enlargement of the safety zone, currently set at 500m radius (5.14).

6.21. The Department of Energy should, as a matter of urgency:

6.21.1. allow the establishment of a safety zone for a mobile drilling unit (5.15);

6.21.2. establish the principle of according a safety zone to a subsea well-head (5.16).

6.22. The concept of IMCO "areas to be avoided" should be introduced as a matter of urgency (5.17).

6.23. The Government should keep means of enforcement of respect for safety zones constantly under review (5.18).

6.24. The Department of Energy should promote research into alternative means of marking the presence and extent of a safety zone (5.19).

Site investigation

6.25. The Department of Energy should take all practicable steps to co-ordinate industrial and Government-sponsored research and development projects on site investigation and safety, to disseminate information on advances in knowledge and to keep Guidance Notes updated accordingly (5.23).