In a unionised workplace, one of the first things you should consider is mapping at work. TUC head of safety Hugh Robertson says mapping can identify the workplace union’s strengths and weaknesses, and the hazards hurting your members, leaving you prepared to organise for safer, healthier work.

Organisation mapping is just an audit of the current situation that can establish where you should be prioritising recruitment efforts. It gives an idea of any changes that might be needed.

What do you have to do to promote health and safety in areas which may not have effective representation or an active membership? It works.

Mapping is the first step in organisng. It is a simple process. In smaller workplaces it can be done on a piece of paper. Where there are a number of existing union activists, it is best to do it as a group.

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Workplace intelligence

Organisation mapping is really just a quick status check. You can map the union’s strengths and weaknesses, and the hazards hurting your members, leaving you prepared to organise for safer, healthier work.

Two other mapping techniques can help you assess the health and safety issues in the workplace.

Problems and causes

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