



# STACS of News

August 2023

VOLUME 19, Iss. 08

## HSE becomes Building Safety Regulator

The Building Safety Act names HSE as the new Building Safety Regulator (BSR) in England. BSR will have 3 main functions:

- overseeing the safety and standards of all buildings
- helping and encouraging the built environment industry and building control professionals to improve their competence
- leading implementation of the new regulatory framework for high-rise buildings

HSE is preparing to carry out these functions.

BSR will regulate high-rise buildings. These are buildings with 7 or more storeys or that are 18 metres or higher, and either:

- have at least 2 residential units
- are hospitals or care homes (during design and construction)

The building safety reforms introduce a new regulatory framework for high-rise buildings. These include:

- HSE is a statutory consultee for [planning applications](#)
- BSR will become the building control authority for high-rise buildings
- decision points during design and construction
- giving dutyholders [clear accountability and statutory responsibilities](#) as buildings are designed, built, refurbished and occupied
- a golden thread of building information - identified, stored and updated throughout the building's life cycle
- mandatory reporting of prescribed fire and structural safety occurrences to BSR

The Building Safety Act 2022 requires you to store information about your building. This information should be accurate, up to date, accessible and kept digitally. This is known as the golden thread of information.

[Find out more on how to comply on storing your building's information](#)

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## HSE Inspections to focus on moving and handling materials

**Starting in early September 2023, HSE will be undertaking construction site inspections, focusing on moving and handling construction materials.**

The inspections will be checking employers and workers know the risks, plan their work and are using sensible control measures to protect workers from injuries and aches, as well as pain and discomfort in joints, muscles and bones known as musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs).

These injuries can have a serious impact on workers' ability to perform tasks; their quality of life; and in some cases, their ability to stay in work and earn a living.

This latest health inspection initiative is supported by the 'Work Right Construction: Your Health Your Future' campaign to improve the long-term health of those working in construction.

Find out more about the campaign by visiting:

- [Work Right Construction: Your Health. Your Future](#)

Download our:

- [Manual handling advice for builders \(.pdf\)](#)
- [Manual Handling Assessment Charts \(MAC tool\) for employers \(.pdf\)](#)

## Work-Related Fatality Figures Published

135 workers were killed in work-related incidents in Great Britain in the last year, according to figures published by the HSE.

The industries with the highest deaths were construction (45), agriculture, forestry, and fishing (21), manufacturing (15), and transportation and storage (15). Agriculture, forestry, and fishing has the highest rate of fatal injury per 100,000 workers of all the main industrial sectors followed by waste and recycling.

The annual data release published by the HSE, covers the period from April 2022 to March 2023.

The three most common causes of fatal injuries are falls from height (40), being struck by a moving object (29), and being struck by a moving vehicle (20).

The total of 135 worker deaths in 2022/23 is higher than the previous year (123) but is in line with pre-pandemic levels. The figure for 2020/21 was 145.

Great Britain is one of the safest places in the world to work. There has been a long-term downward trend in the rate of fatal injuries to workers, though in the years prior to the coronavirus pandemic the rate was broadly flat.

A further 68 members of the public were killed following a work-related incident in 2022/23. This is a decrease of 20 from last year.

HSE has also published the annual figures for Mesothelioma, a cancer caused by past exposure to asbestos. The figures show 2,268 people died from the disease in 2021.