

AGA RAN THAME 10K TO SUPPORT LOCAL CHARITIES

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WE DID IT! Andrew Goddard Associates Ltd successfully completed the Thame 10k on Sunday 25th June! Thank you so much to everyone who sponsored us, it really kept us going on the hilly bits!

All donations will be going towards 2 local charities:

Nic Willoughby Fund - The Nic Willoughby Fund was set up in September 2018 in partnership with Heart of Bucks after tragically losing 22 year old Nic due to an undiagnosed heart condition. Nic was a much loved and highly thought of young man, keen on sports and fun loving.

They provide financial support and assist in the development of grassroots sports primarily in the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire areas. Provide funding for heart screenings for young men and women in Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire areas. Provide financial aid to support local individuals on their path to the highest standard of sport.

SSNAP - SSNAP was founded in 1982 and has supported the Newborn Care Unit at the John Radcliffe Hospital ever since. The unit can care for up to 56 babies at any one time and is a Level 3 Centre, the most sick and premature babies from across the Thames Valley, are looked after here in Oxford.



BSI WHITEPAPER SETS OUT RECOMMENDATIONS TO HELP WOMEN STAY IN WORK

A new whitepaper from the British Standards Institution (BSI) suggests women are leaving the workplace earlier than men and not out of personal preference. It offers recommendations to help women stay in work.

Lifting the Second Glass Ceiling, which polled 5,000 people who self-identify as women in five countries, found women are abandoning their careers faster than men for a number of reasons and this prevents them from fulfilling their potential, such as reaching senior positions.

Not only does this rob organisations of talented individuals, but it can also contribute to significant losses in productivity as well as remove highly-skilled and experienced individuals from the workplace, who could provide important mentoring.

The new data notes that women's early departure could be the result of many different factors, such as caring responsibilities, structural factors that hinder their advancement, health-related concerns such as menopause or because employers don't value their contribution.



"At a time when boosting productivity is a global priority, ensuring women are supported to remain in the workforce has the potential to be transformative. It offers the opportunity to help organisations retain talented people and ensure that the female leaders and mentors of today can help guide subsequent generations."

Developed by UK consultancy Malvern Insight and conducted on behalf of BSI by Censuswide, the survey draws on the experiences of 5,074 people who self-identify as women in five countries – the UK, USA, Australia, China and Japan. Additional one-to-one interviews with women holding senior global executive positions, which were undertaken in May 2023, were designed to find out why some women leave the workforce early for reasons other than personal choice and highlight both global and sector variations.

"There are clearly many reasons women decide not to stay in the workplace, and when that is a genuine choice that should be celebrated,' notes Kate Field, Global Head Health, Safety and Wellbeing, BSI. "However, the data shows there are those who would like to remain in work and would welcome greater support from their employers to do so."

Recommendations for Lifting the Glass Ceiling

The BSI whitepaper outlines a series of recommendations, including:

- Recognise the benefits that come from tackling the departure of women; it's an opportunity to boost growth, innovation and accelerate progress towards a sustainable world.
- Open the dialogue – ask women what they want and act on it – uncovering solutions that can reverse the trends and enable more women to thrive throughout their professional lives.
- Ensure support is available and accessible, whether that is around menopause or other considerations.
- Recognise that small adjustments where possible can make a big impact and provide flexibility in how, when and where people can work to lessen the stress on those who might otherwise choose to leave the workforce.
- Institute a broader culture of care – prioritise people by promoting individual needs.
- Share best practice – collaboration across organisations, sectors and countries can drive progress.

[Access the full report here.](#)

WORKING SAFELY IN HOT CONDITIONS

There's no law for maximum working temperature, or when it's too hot to work.

However, employers must keep workplaces at a comfortable temperature.

[HSE's temperature website](#) has practical guidance on what you can do to manage the risks so people can work safely in hot conditions.

This practical guidance includes advice on:

- managing workplace temperature
- outdoor working
- heat stress

[Our press release](#) also offers more advice and information on how employers can act to make sure their workers are protected.



VEHICLE SAFETY AT WORK

Help prevent accidents by assessing and managing vehicle and driver safety – wherever you work.

Vehicles at work continue to be a major cause of fatal and major injuries.

Last year's figures for 2021/22 show that [23 workers were killed when struck by a moving vehicle](#).

Our [vehicle and transport safety website](#) has a range of guidance, advice and other resources to help reduce the risks and keep workers safe



MSD 'RISK REDUCTION THROUGH DESIGN' AWARD WINNER ANNOUNCED

[Zebra Technologies Europe Limited \(Preston\)](#) are the winner of the 'Risk reduction through design' award 2023 for protecting workers from developing musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs).



The manufacturing company won the prestigious award after overcoming tough competition from innovators across a wide range of sectors.

They developed an innovative design solution in-house for reducing the manual handling of printed rolls and boxes.

The award is sponsored by HSE and the Chartered Institute of Ergonomics and Human Factors (CIEHF). It was presented at the CIEHF's virtual awards ceremony on 23 June. Find out more in our [press release](#).

Full details about the award winner and the commended entry can be viewed on [our awards webpage](#).

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN AN INSPECTOR CALLS

Make sure you are prepared when an HSE inspector calls at your business.

Our downloadable leaflet [When a health and safety inspector calls tells you:](#)

- what to expect when we visit your business
- how to let workers and their representatives know about information an inspector may provide during a visit

We have a [short animation](#) explaining how inspections are carried out and why they help keep people healthy and safe at work.



There are currently a series of inspections taking place in the construction and woodworking sectors. Find out more:

- [construction dust](#)
- [wood dust](#)

KEY BUILDING INFORMATION

Key Building Information (KBI) can now be entered on the registration portal.



As part of the process to register high-rise residential buildings in England, there is a requirement to supply KBI to the Building Safety Regulator.

KBI is a set of information needed about each high-rise building in order to assess and properly manage the risks of fire spread or structural failure. It can be submitted at the same time as completing the application to register a building or at a later date.

All registration applications and KBI must be completed on the portal by **1 October 2023**.

- [read the guidance on giving BSR structure and fire safety information](#)
- [register a high-rise residential building](#)

REGULATING THE BUILDING CONTROL PROFESSION

The Code of Conduct for Registered Building Inspectors (RBIs) and Professional Conduct Rules for Registered Building Control Approvers (RBCAs) has now been published.

All Building Inspectors, public and private sector, must comply with the Code of Conduct coming into force in April 2024. It sets out the standards of professional conduct and practice required of individuals performing their role as a building inspector registered with the Building Safety Regulator.

The Professional Conduct Rules apply to Registered Building Control Approvers. They set out standards of professional conduct and practice expected of Building Control Approvers in the private sector registered with Building Safety Regulator coming into force in April 2024.

For further information view the:

- [Building inspector code of conduct](#)
- [Professional conduct rules](#)

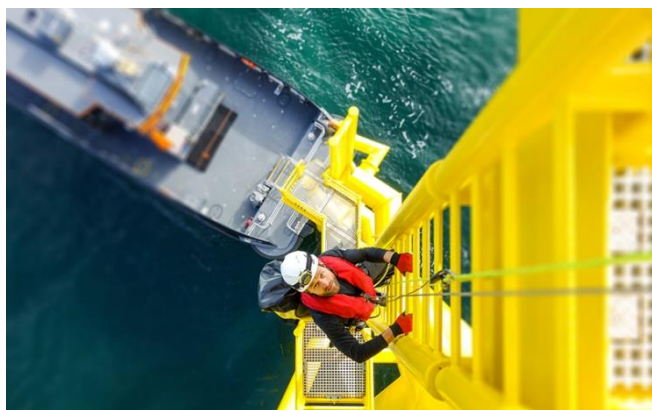


MINIMISING THE SAFETY RISKS TO LONE WORKERS

According to recent estimates, there are around eight million lone workers in the UK, making up a significant 22% of the country's total working population. Don Cameron, CEO of StaySafe, explains the value of reporting incidents.

Advances in technology have made it easier for employees to work remotely, leading to a rise in the popularity of lone working across various industries post-pandemic.

Despite sharing similar occupational risks to site-based working employees, lone workers are more vulnerable to harm as they face these risks alone. As straightforward a task as lifting a heavy object can become an increased risk simply because there's no one else there to help.



It's crucial for employers to recognise the unique challenges faced by lone workers and take proactive measures to ensure their safety and wellbeing. Not to mention employers have a legal obligation to protect lone workers, under the Health and Safety at Work Act and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations.

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) also provides [specific guidance](#) on how to protect both home and lone workers, so the information is out there. Despite this, a recent survey by StaySafe of 1,300 lone workers and occupational safety executives uncovered a significant communication problem

around what safety measures are in place for these workers.

Most (97%) companies have formal policies in place to protect lone workers. And yet, one in five lone workers are unaware of these policies. Clearly, more work needs to be done to provide lone workers with the equipment and comprehensive training they need to work safely.

LPG FORKLIFT TRUCK FIRE RISK: SAFETY NOTICE ISSUED

HSE has issued a safety notice after becoming aware of a number of fires on liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) powered forklift trucks and other similar vehicles that have occurred during start-up.

The build-up of deposits in fuel systems, particularly, the vaporiser units of LPG-powered vehicles, has led to a number of fires. Operators should:

- review their safe system of work in relation to the use of all LPG-powered lift trucks and similar vehicles
- provide those operating vehicles with information, instruction and training about the hazards raised in the alert
- park LPG vehicles in well-ventilated areas free from flammable material, particularly when parking overnight or for longer periods

[View the safety notice for full details](#)



CONIAC GUIDE TO MANAGING FIRE SAFETY ON CONSTRUCTION SITES

The Construction Industry Advisory Committee (CONIAC) has published new fire risk management guidance.

The guidance is based on the well-established principles of Plan, Do, Check and Act (PDCA) and HSE's fire safety in construction guidance.

It aims to help those with fire safety roles and responsibilities under The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM) to embed fire risk reduction measures from the design stage through to project completion.



Hosted on the new CONIAC website, the guidance is free to download at: [CONIAC CDM Fire Safety Arrangements guidance](#).

For further information visit:

- [Managing for health and safety](#) – setting out the PDCA approach
- [Fire safety in construction](#) – Appendix 4 provides a summary of duties under CDM in relation to fire safety in construction

PLANNING GATEWAY ONE UPDATES

Planning Gateway One guidance has been published on the Planning Portal and our recent webinar is now available on demand.

[The guidance published](#) on the Planning Portal website ensures full understanding of the PGO service and supports the greatest level of consideration for fire safety through the planning process.

After the sell-out webinar on PGO, those who were on the waiting list or unable to attend can now [download and watch the session](#).

If you did not sign-up in time for the event, you are [still able to register](#). You can then watch the session back on demand and download the slides.

FREE CDM ADVICE

[Continued Professional Development for all.](#)

Do you need help understanding the CDM Regulations 2015? Not sure if you are complying with your duties correctly?

We offer a free CPD consultation to keep you up to date. One of our experienced CDM Consultants will host a virtual session and provide up-to-the-minute, competent advice. We cover everything from Duty Holders to Design Risk Management and welcome any questions or scenarios you need help with.

Please get in touch if this would be of interest to you info@aga-ltd.co.uk



HSE'S DUST KILLS CAMPAIGN

HSE's Dust Kills campaign urges employers and those working in construction to be aware of the risks from exposure to silica and wood dust.

Find out if you know enough to protect yourself and others from exposure to construction dust by taking the [Dust Kills quiz](#).



We also have 2 simple downloads to learn more about the risks to help plan your work, stop dust getting into the air and ensure you're using the right controls:

- [Construction dust: information sheet \(.pdf\)](#)
- [Construction dust: busy builder sheet \(.pdf\)](#)

Dust Kills campaign partner Health in Construction Leadership Group (HCLG) share a personal account from a retired construction worker who discusses his diagnosis with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. [Watch this interview](#) about the devastating impact of uncontrolled respiratory hazards.

AGA E-LEARNING COURSES

Whether you are looking to improve your own knowledge or provide training to employees, our E-Learning courses will guide you through the regulations, your legal duties, identifying hazards in your workplace and suitable control measures. Each course is followed by a short test to clarify your understanding regarding that topic, upon which, after completion, you will be issued a certificate.

The courses we currently offer training in are:

- [IOSH Working Safely \(£90 + VAT Per Person Per Course\)](#)
- [Abrasive Wheels](#)
- [Basic First Aid](#)
- [Basic Ladder Awareness](#)
- [Confined Space Awareness](#)
- [COSHH](#)
- [Defibrillator Awareness](#)
- [Display Screen Equipment \(DSE\)](#)
- [Environmental Safety](#)
- [Falls prevention – working at Height](#)
- [Fire Safety](#)
- [Fire Warden](#)
- [Health and Safety Level 2](#)
- [Infection Prevention and Control \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [Legionella Awareness](#)
- [Local Exhaust Ventilation \(LEV\)](#)
- [Lone and Remote Workers \(Personal security\)](#)
- [Manual Handling](#)
- [Mental Health Awareness](#)
- [Noise](#)
- [Office Safety](#)
- [Risk Assessment](#)
- [Slips and Trips](#)
- [The Construction \(Design and Management\) Regulations \(Overview\)](#)
- [The Construction \(Design and Management\) Regulations \(The Client\)](#)
- [The Construction \(Design and Management\) Regulations \(The Principal Contractor and Contractors\)](#)
- [The Construction \(Design and Management\) Regulations \(The Principal Designer and Designers\)](#)
- [CPD Asbestos Awareness](#)
- [Vibration \(HAVS\)](#)

FACE FIT TESTING LEGAL REQUIREMENT



[AGA have 6 fully qualified Face Fit Testers ready to come to your site.](#)

Where respiratory protective equipment (RPE) is used as a control measure under Health and Safety Legislation, it is vital that the selected RPE is adequate and suitable. RPE must reduce exposure to as low as reasonably practicable, and in any case to an acceptable level (e.g., below any applicable Workplace Exposure Limits or Control Limits).

To ensure that the selected RPE has the potential to provide adequate protection for individual wearers, the ACoPs supporting COSHH, CAR and CLAW stipulate that tight-fitting RPE must be fit tested as part of the selection process. This will help to ensure that inadequately fitting facepieces are not selected for use. Ill-fitting facepieces can create inward leakages of airborne contaminants.

AGA can advise you on:

- The different types of RPE available
- The different grades of RPE and how to understand what the right RPE for the task is.
- The different exposure hazards and ill health from working with wood, silica and construction dust.
- The law and requirements for RPE use.
- How to correctly fit RPE

We can then test the face fit of RPE on your operatives using our testing kit and provide certification for each operative.



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