

HSE Workplan 2024/2025

Prioritising health on-site: new HSE focus areas for 2024/25

Introduction

The HSE's 2024/25 Workplan is out, and it's turning up the spotlight on health in Health and Safety. This year, inspectors visiting construction sites across the UK will be focusing more on long-term health risks—like exposure to harmful substances and prolonged noise—right alongside safety hazards. Expect site visits to zero in on key health areas, ensuring a healthier, safer environment for workers across the industry.

Emphasis on Health Risks:

- Asbestos
- Noise
- Silica
- Lead
- Health Surveillance
- Wood Dust
- DCM (Heart Disease)
- Musculoskeletal Disorders

Duty holders must continue to monitor other areas, including Working at Height, Traffic Management, and Site Welfare, as these will remain key focus areas during HSE inspections.

Lead

One of the major focuses of the new HSE Workplan is lead. The Control of Lead Regulations 2002 place a duty on employers to prevent or where this is not reasonably practicable, control employee exposure to lead. Duty holders are to ensure the following:

- Assess the risk to your health to decide whether or not your exposure is 'significant' (the law defines this), and what precautions are needed to protect your health;
- Put in place systems of work and other controls, such as fume and dust extraction, to prevent or control your exposure to lead, and keep equipment in efficient working order;
- Provide washing and changing facilities, and places free from lead contamination where you can eat and drink;
- Tell you about the health risks from working with lead and the precautions you should take;



Additional Resources:

CAR 2012 - <https://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/books/l143.htm>

Control of Lead Regulations 2002 -

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/books/l132.htm>

Control of Noise Regulations 2005 -

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/books/l108.htm>

Manual Handling Operational Regulations 1992 -

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/books/l23.htm>

Control of Exposure to Silica Dust Guide -

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg463.htm>

Health Surveillance and Occupational Health Guidance -

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/health-surveillance/>

DCM HSE Guidance - <https://www.hse.gov.uk/coshh/essentials/direct-advice/dichloromethane.htm>