

Construction Division Resources

1. HSE launched a new Construction Division (ConD) in 2002 to secure for the first time the deployment of HSE's construction resource under the direct management of the Chief Inspector of Construction. The Division was resourced to reflect the dangerous nature of the construction industry and, by the end of its first year planned to have 138 dedicated construction inspectors (augmented by 12 staff years in other FOD Division).
2. By 2003/04 there were approximately 130 front line construction inspectors.
3. During 2006/07, HSE's overall level of staffing fell by 7% while front-line staff, operational inspectors and visiting administrative staff who help raise awareness and deliver important health and safety messages, fell by only 2.6% over the same period.
4. Consistent with the above, the number of inspectors visiting construction sites on a day-to-day basis in ConD increased from an average of 129 full time equivalents (FTEs) in 2004/05 to an average of 134 FTEs in 2005/06. For 2006/07, the position was relatively stable with an average of 133 FTEs – approximately the same as that for 2005/06. Current affordable staff planning indicates 125 FTE construction inspectors in post by March 2008. In 2004/05, visiting administrative staff were introduced to ConD to work alongside construction inspectors and assist delivery of important health and safety messages ensuring that the total number of operational staff in ConD will remain significantly higher than 3 years ago.

Band 3/4 full time equivalent frontline inspectors, as an average over each period.

Who	2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008
ConD	127	129	134	133	128
FOD excl ConD	418	374	375	368	368
FOD Total	544	503	509	500	495
ConD % of FOD	23%	26%	26%	27%	26%

- The % of B3/B4 ConD staff compared with the remainder of FOD has been constant over the given period, after the increase in 2004/05.
- FOD's affordability plan is for 125 B3/B4 inspector staff years for ConD and 357.5 B3/B4 inspector staff years for FOD main in 2008/09 (this will maintain the 26% commitment of FOD's available B3/B4 inspector resource).

- The numbers in the table and bullets above are for inspectors and trainee inspectors who visit sites and premises on a day-to-day basis and exclude their immediate managers (who are also inspectors) and visiting administrative staff (Health and Safety Awareness Officers). The number of FOD operational inspectors which the Commission receives in Table 2 of the monthly staffing report includes the managers of inspection teams, specialist inspectors and inspectors up to middle-management level in FOD HQ.