

Sector plan for health and safety: **Logistics and transport**

The sector includes distribution centres, road-haulage, postal and courier services, ports and airports. There are around 900 000 people working in logistics alone, with the number involved in road haulage and ‘final-mile’ delivery activities rising.

The sector contributes around £70 billion to the economy, around 4% of the total, with the prospect of further sustained growth.

Current position

The logistics sector has a worse-than-average record for health and safety performance. Recent Labour Force Surveys show the non-fatal injuries rate is almost double the all-industries rate. Similarly, for work-related ill health, the rate of musculoskeletal disorders is 50% higher. Both rates are particularly high in the postal and courier sub-sector, but nearly all the sub-sectors have higher-than-average rates, especially for injuries.

Other important health issues can be grouped around the effects of the driving environment, including

welfare arrangements for delivery drivers and fatigue.

Traditional industry risks and how to manage them, such as working at height, are well known in the sector. Less widely recognised issues, such as load security, are a cause for concern. Poor packing, securing and marking can cause significant risks during transit and then again at the delivery site.

There is an ongoing focus on work-related road risk, with a March 2015 Transport Safety Commission report suggesting that 30% of deaths and serious injuries on the roads occur in the course of work.

Outcomes and priorities

The sector will be a priority for HSE in order to achieve

the following outcomes:

- Improve the securing of loads
- Reduce the rate of ill health caused by musculoskeletal disorders
- Increase engagement on work-related road risk



What HSE will do to #HelpGBworkwell

We will secure effective management and control of risk by:

- delivering targeted interventions on the highest-risk areas, with a particular focus on load security and/or musculoskeletal disorders;
- adapting flexibly and proportionately to technological developments.

We will provide an effective regulatory framework by:

- developing HSE's regulatory position on work-related road risk, incorporating insight, research and industry intelligence;
- reviewing and refreshing HSE's guidance on work-related road risk;
- working with other regulatory agencies to make best use of existing legal frameworks relating to driving and the highway to address work-related road risk.

We will lead and engage with others to improve workplace health and safety by:

- encouraging and supporting strategic industry initiatives that show leadership in tackling key problems;
- improving access to welfare facilities for visiting delivery drivers by encouraging and supporting industry initiatives;
- sharing intelligence with other key partners such as the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA);
- re-energising the adoption of under-used solutions for tackling musculoskeletal disorders and identifying any new problems and solutions.