Preventing falls from a fixed scaffold

Manager
1) Insist on a handover certificate on completion of the scaffold
2) Only authorise competent scaffolders to alter scaffold
3) Ensure that a regular inspection is carried out
4) Have a simple system to ensure signs or tags are used on scaffolds which are incomplete

Worker
1) Be alert to unsafe scaffolds eg missing boards and guardrails and report them
2) Look for signs and tags which show the scaffold is safe to use
3) Don not move boards or alter the scaffold unless you are competent and authorised to do so
4) Always ensure that access ladders are secured properly

Planning - Prioritising decisions and managing risks
1) A correctly installed fixed scaffold provides a good level of collective safety, for all trades to work at height. The main risks are during installation altering of modifying and dismantling. Key points to take into account are:
   1) Scaffolds must be erected, altered and dismantled by competent, qualified scaffolders
   2) Scaffolds should be inspected at least once a week, and after alteration by a competent person
   3) Anticipate an prepare for all the users of a scaffold throughout the project.
2) Ensure that workers on your site know and understand the system for maintaining safe scaffolds, and identifying incomplete scaffolds.

Links
HSE guidance online
http://hse.gov.uk/construction/safetytopics/scaffoldinginfo.htm

For information on training and qualifications for scaffolders see the CISRS website:
http://www.cisrs.org.uk

Tower Scaffolds Guidance online from HSE
Record your Site Briefing Here

Who has been briefed

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

I confirm that I have briefed these people on the Key points of the HSE Step3 guidance note on behaviours that can prevent accidents

Signed off by ___________________________________________________________

Concerns Raised At The Briefing

Changes implemented or actions planned

SLAM

STOP work if you find yourself in danger - this is your right in Law

Look around you before taking any action, is anybody else at risk

Assess the situation, take a few minutes to think through the actions you should take to put things right

Manage the risks as the job goes on, anticipate and control risk before the problem emerges

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