

Introduction to the plans

Great Britain has a health and safety record we can all be proud of. It is one of the safest and healthiest places in the world to work.

A rapidly changing world creates new challenges and opportunities to improve performance still further and to deliver substantial benefits:

- for workers – even healthier and safer workplaces;
- for businesses – productivity and innovation;
- for wider society – reducing the £14 billion impact of work-related injuries and ill health.

HSE's focus over the next 3–5 years is set out in 19 industry sectors (scoped by recognised groupings and consistent risk profiles) and 3 cross-cutting, work-related ill health themes. They have benefited from the input of employers, trade unions and professional bodies, and reflect the direction set out in *Helping Great Britain work well* (HGBWW) by:

- continuing our focus on engaging employer groups, trade unions, professional bodies and others within individual sectors;
- emphasising ill health, with a focus on work-related respiratory diseases, musculoskeletal disorders and work-related stress;
- recognising the need for a step change in how SMEs manage and control risks, and providing straightforward, targeted advice in support;
- promoting proportionate approaches, to ensure effective application of our risk-based regulations;
- investing in the science and capability that allows us to respond to the future world of work;
- encouraging improvements, sharing experience and promoting the value of Great Britain's world-class approach to safety and health at work.

The plans do not attempt to capture all that we do. Instead they highlight specific priorities, within an overall framework that captures how we:

- lead and engage others;
- sustain an effective regulatory framework (including any implications of the UK's exit from Europe);

- secure effective management and control of risk through direct interventions with dutyholders;
- reduce the likelihood of low-frequency, high-impact incidents that have potential for extensive harm to workers and the public.

The focus, mix of activities and extent of resources committed to each of the 19 sector plans varies.

Alongside a continuing focus on industries that create major hazards and those subject to statutory permissioning regimes, the majority of HSE's elective resources will be focused on agriculture, construction, logistics and transport, manufacturing, public services, and waste and recycling. These are sectors where the health and safety challenges are greatest and where our interventions can have the greatest impact.

In addition, we will continue to work with and through others in the wider system to bring their additional resource into play as we deliver these plans.

Specific work activities that HSE will undertake each year to deliver these and any new or emerging issues will be brought together in our annual business plan.

We hope that setting out our priorities will allow others to combine their efforts with ours to realise the outcomes we are all seeking over the coming years:

- using the power of a collective approach across Great Britain to break through the plateau we are seeing in our safety statistics;
- demonstrable traction on our initiatives to reduce health-related risks, while recognising the long-term nature of any improvements;
- action and positive impact on specific safety and health issues, highlighted through the targeting of interventions in our annual business plan and associated monitoring of outcomes.

Richard Judge
Chief Executive

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Chair