



## Health, Safety and Compliance Newsletter

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July/August 2021, Issue 1 – Scotland

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### Electrical product recalls and safety notices

Did you know, the average success rate of an electrical product recall in the UK is just 10-20%? This means that there are potentially millions of recalled electrical items still in the UK.

You can find out more on the [Electrical Safety First website](#), where you can also sign up to be notified of recalls and notices.



### Welcome!

Welcome to Issue 1 of our Health, Safety and Compliance newsletter, just for colleagues operating in the Scottish social housing sector.

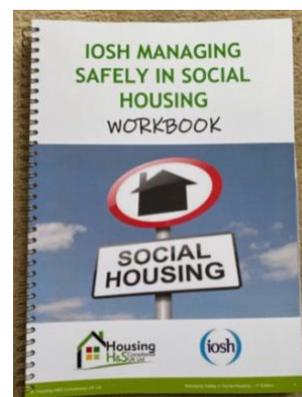
We're delighted to bring you snippets of news from the sector and updates (regulatory where they emerge) as well as telling you a bit about our team and our training. If there is anything YOU would like to see in here or if you'd like to be featured, please get in touch!

**Vicki Cutler, Director, Housing H&S Compliance UK.  
CFIOSH, MIIRSM, MIFSM, CMgr MCFI**

### Our IOSH Managing Safely in Social Housing course has been approved!

We're absolutely delighted to announce that, after several months of hard work, we have had our IOSH Managing Safely in Social Housing course approved.

The three-day course has been developed, and will be delivered, by social housing professionals and can be run virtually or face-to-face.

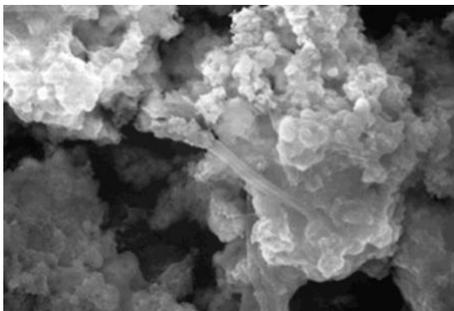


### What makes the course specifically for the social housing sector?

In designing this training, we have taken the standard IOSH Managing Safely course and tailored each module to be specifically aimed at managers operating within social housing.

We've reviewed the hazards, case studies and information within the course and made them relevant to the specific nature of the social housing sector.

We have several health and safety specialists who are approved to deliver the course; all are experienced trainers who have worked in the social housing sector for many years. To find out more, [visit the website](#), email [training@housingcompliance.co.uk](mailto:training@housingcompliance.co.uk) or call Vicki on 07974 578103.



## BOHS-approved legionella training

As part of our legionella training offer, we have been approved by BOHS to deliver both the P900 (Control of Legionella in Domestic Hot and Cold Water Systems) and the P901 (Management and Control of Building Hot and Cold Water Systems) training courses.

Both courses can be run virtually by our fantastic trainer, Chris Brown.

P900 is designed to give a foundation level of knowledge on the health risks of legionella, and how to test and monitor for it in domestic hot and cold water systems. It's a level 3 qualification in the BOHS qualification framework and gives you the knowledge needed to progress onto P901, which is level 4.

P901 teaches you about the risk of legionella infection in domestic type hot and cold water systems. It also includes knowledge on the ill health effects it can cause and how it can be controlled to reduce risk of ill health in the workplace. You can hear from a recent delegate below...

### Congratulations!

David Adam, Director of Maintenance Services at Elderpark Housing, recently sailed through our P901 course. Here's what David had to say about the training:

*"I enjoyed attending the course with other housing professionals and was surprised at the wealth of experience held by the attendees in their various Asset Management roles. Although it was an all-day session the time passed swiftly as the trainer ensured that it was interactive and implemented some fun elements mixed in with the serious side of Legionella risk management."*

*"What I learned about Legionella in this session totally surpassed what I learned from other training providers and I would urge others to take the course as it will help in setting out your Legionella policy and management plans."*



Visit <https://www.housingcompliance.co.uk/> for more information on all our training courses



### Annual workplace fatality figures for 2020/21

The HSE revealed provisional data this month which shows that a total of 142 were killed at work in Great Britain in 2020/21; this is an increase of 29 from the year before (though the number of deaths that year was lower than in other recent years).

Over the past 20 years there has been a long-term reduction in the number of workplace fatalities; the average number of workers killed at work over the five years

2016/17-2020/21 is 136. The three most common causes of fatal injuries continue to be workers falling from height (35), being struck by a moving vehicle (25) and being struck by a moving object (17).

The data also continues to highlight the risks to older workers with around 30 per cent of fatal injuries in 2020/21 involving workers aged 60 or over, even though such workers only make up around 11 per cent of the workforce. The figures relate to workplace incidents and do not include deaths arising from occupational exposure to disease, including COVID-19. Read more on the [HSE website](#) or download the full report [here](#).

## Tolerable Standard explained and understood

As we all in Scotland continue our journey towards meeting the extended Tolerable Standard – Fire and Carbon Monoxide detection deadline of February 2022, there are still many seeking additional clarification on satisfactory requirements with regards to specific technical requirements.

Our Director Vicki is attending this event later this month and thought it might be of interest to readers.

Run by Aico, the **free event** provides an opportunity to find out more about the Scottish Tolerable Standard, examining the benefits and downfalls and asking whether this is something that could be introduced in other nations, as we all collectively strive to create safer homes.

You can find out more and book your place [here](#).

**We know from talking to some of you that access has been difficult.**

**Do you have any tips that we could share in the next newsletter? If so please [get in touch!](#)**

## 'Meet the team' Vicki Cutler, Director

Each newsletter we introduce you to a different member of the Housing H&S team, starting with our Director Vicki Cutler.

Vicki is a Chartered Fellow of IOSH, Member of the International Institute

of Risk and Safety Management, Member of the Institute of Fire Safety Managers and Member of the Chartered Management Institute; as well as holding the NVQ Level 4 in Occupational Safety & Health Practice, General NEBOSH Certificate and the NEBOSH Fire Safety & Risk Management Certificate, Vicki also holds a Diploma in Management Studies and an NVQ Level 4 in Advice and Guidance. She is also a professional trainer, a qualified NVQ assessor and verifier in a range of subjects and holds the PTLLS and CTLLS qualifications.

Vicki has worked with many social landlords across the UK and has been a Management Committee member of a housing association for the past three years. She specialises in landlord safety as well as employee health and safety within the social housing sector and has a wealth of knowledge built up over many years. She was awarded her Chartered Fellowship based on the contribution made to the sector over the years and was (at the time in 2017) one of only around 40 women worldwide to be awarded the prestigious title.



Vicki is a registered consultant on the Occupational Safety and Health Consultants Register (OSHCR); the independent platform that assures the quality of health and safety consultants and their services and is the only source of assured OSH advice.

Vicki is a dog lover and owns three spaniels; they are all rescue dogs and represent the volunteering and support she has given to the numerous spaniel rescue charities over the years. You can find out more about Vicki and the rest of the team [here](#).



## Coming soon: our FREE WEBINAR....Asbestos surveys – what do you need to know?

We will soon be announcing details of our latest FREE webinar. If you'd like to sign up to be one of the first to hear about it, please [email us](#) to register your interest.



## COVID-19 update for employers

As of Monday 9<sup>th</sup> August, Scotland will move beyond level 0. This means that the legal requirement for physical distancing and limits on gatherings will be removed, but some protective measures, such as the use of face coverings indoors and collection of contact details for Test and Protect, will stay in place.

It will still be advised that home working takes place where possible for now, with support from employers. In addition, it is also encouraged that employers consider a hybrid model of home and office working for the long-term.

Rigorous hygiene and good ventilation of course continue to be essential for reducing transmission of the virus. *(Correct at time as writing).*

## PPE consultation 2021

HSE is consulting on changes to the PPER 1992 and encourage you to draw the attention of your stakeholders and other interested parties to this consultation which launched on Monday 19 July 2021 and is running for 4 weeks. The consultation can be accessed via [HSE Consultation Hub](#). The aim of the consultation is to understand the impact on stakeholders and businesses of extending the scope of the employers' duties under the PPER to workers and not only employees.

Employers will have a duty to provide limb (b) workers with the same health and safety protections in respect of PPE as they do currently for employees. Options on how to achieve the extension of the provisions to workers in the legislation will not be presented during the consultation as the key legislative changes are being made to align with the court decision. For any enquiries, please contact HSE directly on [ppeconsultation2021@hse.gov.uk](mailto:ppeconsultation2021@hse.gov.uk)

### Webinars from a legal perspective...

Over the past few years, Vicki has enjoyed working alongside Matthew Breakell on all things health and safety, including several events for health and safety professionals working in social housing.



Matthew, who is a partner at DAC Beachcroft, specialises in providing advice and assistance to organisations and individuals where there has been a workplace accident and the police, health safety and environment and other regulators are investigating and/or prosecuting.

DAC Beachcroft are pleased to introduce their new programme of bite-sized webinars to keep you updated on current and emerging risks and key developments in 2021. Presented by their team of lawyers who are renowned experts in their field, the series will provide you with an opportunity to be updated on key issues and share industry best practice.

Webinars will take place every fortnight on Wednesdays at 9:30am. They are all free to attend and will last approximately 25 minutes followed by a ten minute Q&A.

You can see the full list of webinars, and book places, [here](#).



### And finally... Pets and tenants campaign launched by Scottish SPCA

The Pets and Tenants Together campaign calls for those in council or social housing to be able to keep their pet, something which there are currently no fixed rules around. Restrictions will depend on the property owner and type of pet; in general dogs are not allowed in tower blocks. Lots of us here at HHSC are pet lovers and can recognise how devastating this situation can be to people.

SPCA's 2021 manifesto called upon candidates in the Scottish Parliament to commit to developing an initiative which supports landlords and tenants to allow pets in homes. A survey of people across Scotland found that 77% of people believe housing associations and refuges should allow pets to help keep animals and people together. You can find out more [here](#).

