

Peter Baker retires from HSE

After a long and successful career, Peter Baker, has retired from the Health and Safety Executive and his role of Chief Inspector of Buildings.

HSE's current Director of Regulation and former Head of Construction Division, Philip White, will take over Peter's responsibilities on an interim basis, pending recruitment of the next Chief Inspector of Buildings.

This paves the way for a smooth transition of senior leadership of HSE's construction operations and building safety responsibilities as the Building Safety Regulator (BSR) programme continues to remain firmly on track.

Philip White joined HSE as a trainee Inspector in 1985 and has experience of regulating a broad range of industries. As Director of Regulations in HSE, Philip has played a leading policy role in setting up the BSR over the last three years.

Philip said: "I am looking forward to the challenge of leading the regulatory programme for building safety, at a time when stability will be key to the delivery of our new operational services, until an open competition for the permanent position is held."

Notes to Editors

About BSR: The Building Safety Regulator (BSR) is an independent body established by the Building Safety Act, 2022, and is part of the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). BSR will raise building safety and performance standards and oversee a new stringent regime for high-rise residential buildings, as well as overseeing the wider system for regulating safety and performance of all buildings and increasing the competence of relevant regulators and industry professionals.

About HSE: The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is Britain's national regulator for workplace health and safety. We prevent work-related death, injury and ill health through regulatory actions that range from influencing behaviours across whole industry sectors through to targeted interventions on individual businesses. These activities are supported by globally recognised scientific expertise.

About the Building Safety Act, 2022: The Building Safety Act gained Royal Assent on the 28 April 2022 and makes ground-breaking reforms to give residents and homeowners more rights, powers and protections. The Act overhauls existing regulations, creating lasting change and makes clear how residential buildings should be constructed, maintained, and made safe. Full implementation of the Act is in October 2023, which means each building owner should have their building safety regime in place by this time.

HSE news releases are available at <http://press.hse.gov.uk>

Devon dad has every finger amputated after hands crushed in machine

A dad from Devon was left with horrific injuries to his hands after an incident at his work.

Dean Delahaye, from Barnstaple, had to have all eight fingers amputated after his hands were crushed by a metal rolling machine.

The 35-year-old worked for flue and chimney manufacturer SF Limited. He was feeding flat metal sheeting into the machine when the incident took place on 5 September 2019. He spent 54 days in hospital and had numerous operations. More than three years on, he is still waiting for prosthetics to be fitted.



Dean Delahaye from Barnstaple suffered horrific injuries at work

“I still get very frustrated and have a sense of uselessness,” he said.

“I am frustrated with how long things are taking, and how things have been put on hold.

“Having no fingers means I am unable to grip things.

"Before my accident I enjoyed playing a wide range of sports, including football, tennis and squash.

"I have always enjoyed working with my hands and have only ever had manual jobs, but since the accident it will never be possible to return to doing this again.

"Before my accident I was an independent and sociable person, but I feel this has been taken away from me now."

Due to the severity of his injuries, Mr Delahaye went on to say how he was even unable to pick up and feed his daughter, who was born after the incident.

"It makes me feel like a burden to my loved ones, with all the assistance I need daily," he said.

"My wife Jess not only has to care for me, but is also like a single parent which makes me feel so worthless.

"Mentally I have not come to terms with my new reality.

"When I dream, I am fully able-bodied and then I wake and realise this is never going to be the case for me again.

"But if my accident can stop someone going through what I have had to go through, then at least it will be for something."



Dean Delahaye said his life has never been the same since he suffered horrific injuries at work

Yeovil Magistrates Court heard that an investigation by the Health & Safety Executive (HSE) found the company had failed to adequately assess the risks

and implement the necessary controls when the roller equipment was installed. They subsequently missed a further opportunity to reassess the risks following a significant change in the way in which the machine was operated.

S F Limited which trades as SFL Flue and Chimney of Pottington Business Park, Barnstaple, Devon, pleaded guilty to breaching Section 2(1) of The Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974. They were fined £26,000 and ordered to pay costs of £12,000.

After the hearing HSE inspector Paul Mannell said: "Dean's injuries were easily preventable.

"Employers must identify the risks posed by dangerous parts of machinery and ensure that relevant controls are implemented to minimise the potential for harm.

"Where the way in which machinery is used changes, the assessment and controls should be updated to ensure employees can work safely and without risk of injury."

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2. More information about the [legislation](#) referred to in this case is available.
3. Further details on the latest [HSE news releases](#) is available.

Extra checks on fairground rides over summer after run of incidents

Extra checks on the safety of fairground and theme park rides will take place this summer after a string of incidents.

Britain's workplace regulator the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) will carry out 100 inspections of various rides following incidents in London, Barrow, Cardiff, Hull and Barnsley.

The HSE inspection campaign looks to promote the safe use of certain rides.

HSE inspector David Kivlin said: "When there is a failure or incorrect

operation of a ride it can result in catastrophic consequences. HSE recognises that recent incidents, including the prosecution of operators following a fatal incident in March 2016 involving inflatable devices, have raised public awareness of the potential for injury and harm to users of such devices when they are not set up, maintained and operated in-line with manufacturer guidance or good practice standards.

“HSE’s overall strategy is to promote the safe use of fairground rides and inflatable devices and in doing so reduce the risk of such catastrophic incidents to as low as is reasonably practicable.”

Starting on 24 April, HSE will carry out 100 targeted inspections of specific fairground rides with the programme set to finish by September 2023.

The inspection programme comes as HSE continues to build upon intervention work undertaken in previous years to address emerging safety issues in the fairground industry.

The rides being targeted are Round Ups, Crazy Frogs, Twists, high speed rides and Star Flyers used at travelling fairground and theme park sites. Each of the rides will be inspected to ensure that they are safe for workers and passengers to use, and are being correctly maintained and operated.

HSE has decided to focus on these particular rides following a number of incidents at different fairgrounds and theme parks. Several of these incidents are now being investigated by HSE.

HSE continues to investigate two incidents involving Twist rides which took place at Cavendish Park, Barrow, in August 2021 and Cardiff Winter Wonderland in November 2022.

HSE has also investigated high speed ride incidents at Hull Fair in October 2019 Yiewsley Wood, West Drayton, in April 2018 as well as Brockwell Park, London, and Penny Pie Park, Barnsley, which both occurred in August 2019.

In addition, HSE is aware of an incident involving a Star Flyer ride at Planet Fun, Carrickfergus, Co Antrim, in July 2021.

Another HSE intervention in 2022 identified that the control system being used for the restraint system on a Crazy Frog ride was inadequate and needed improvement.

Should HSE inspectors from the National Fairground Inspection Team (NFIT) identify any ongoing risk of serious personal injury then enforcement action will be taken according to HSE’s Enforcement Management Model.

There are a range of enforcement options available to HSE, including providing information face-to-face or in writing, serving Improvement and Prohibition Notices as well as prosecution. Inspectors will also be looking to help ride owners and operators understand the risk involved with these rides.

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[£100,000 fine for food processing firm after worker severs finger](#)

A food processing firm has been hit with a £100,000 fine after a worker severed part of her finger when her hand was caught in machinery at a site in Devon.

The 37-year-old woman was employed by Amber Foods Limited at a site in Cullompton, when the incident happened on 31 October 2018. She had been working on a Meyn eviscerator – a conveyor-fed machine that slices and separates chicken livers and hearts – when she noticed a build-up of offcuts around the blades. Believing the machine had stopped, she reached in to unblock the area but her hand was caught by the moving conveyor, partially severing her right index finger.



The 37-year-old severed part of her finger in the food processing machine

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found the blade and chute area of the machine lacked effective guarding, failing to prevent any person coming into contact with the moving parts.

At a hearing at Taunton Magistrates Court, Amber Foods Limited of Trinity Park Business Park, Wakefield, pleaded guilty to breaching Regulation 2 (1) of the Health and Safety At Work Act 1974. They were fined £100,000 and

ordered to pay costs of £7,241.

Speaking afterwards, HSE inspector James Collins said: “This incident could so easily have been avoided by simply implementing correct control measures for machinery guarding and safe working practices.

“Employers should make sure they properly assess risk and apply effective control measures to protect workers from dangerous parts of machinery.”

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[Podcast launched to help disabled people and those with long-term health conditions in the workplace](#)

Britain’s workplace regulator has just launched a podcast outlining seven principles to support disabled workers and those with long-term health conditions to thrive in the workplace.

Late last year the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) launched [new guidance](#) on what employers can do to support staff.



Rebecca Hyrslova, FSB

This guidance is openly discussed by host Mick Ord, former BBC Radio journalist, Moya Woolley, Occupational Health Policy Team Leader at HSE and Rebecca Hyrslova, Policy Advisor at Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) in a [new podcast](#).

An estimated 149.3 million working days were lost because of sickness or injury in the UK in 2021, equivalent to 4.6 days per worker.

The HSE guidance focuses on early and supportive action from employers, outlines employers' responsibilities, and preventative steps they can take to help people stay in work and be a productive team member.



Moya Woolley, HSE

Mick, Moya, and Rebecca discuss seven principles to support disabled workers and workers with long-term health conditions in work:

[Create a supportive and enabling workplace](#)

[Take an inclusive approach to workplace health](#)

[Understand the work barriers that impact on workers](#)

[Make suitable workplace adjustments or modifications](#)

[Develop skills, knowledge and understanding](#)

[Use effective and accessible communication](#)

[Support sickness absence and return to work](#)

Listen to the [podcast](#) now.

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