

Construction company prosecuted for multiple safety failings

A construction company has been fined after repeated health and safety breaches, giving rise to significant risk, were found on a site in Bolton.

Manchester Magistrates' Court heard how inspections at the construction site at Manchester Road, Bolton, had taken place three times between October 2019 to January 2020 by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). As a result of these inspections, multiple Prohibition and Improvement Notices were issued to Venus Properties and Development Limited for various Health and Safety failings. Work at height breaches were found on every occasion and other breaches included sleeping on site, lack of guarding on a metal guillotine, electrical safety, wood dust and safety during lifting operations.

The HSE investigation found that Venus Properties and Development Limited failed to properly assess, plan and implement health and safety procedures and measures resulting in repeated breaches giving rise to significant risk.

Venus Properties and Development Limited of High Street, Waltham Cross, Herts pleaded guilty to breaching Section 2 (1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and was fined £23,000 with costs of £6,917.40.

After the hearing, HSE inspector Rebecca Hamer said: "Companies should be aware that HSE will not hesitate to take appropriate enforcement action against those that fall below the required standards."

Notes to Editors:

1. 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. [hse.gov.uk](https://www.hse.gov.uk)
2. More about the legislation referred to in this case can be found at: [legislation.gov.uk/](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/)
3. More information on health and safety in construction can be found at: [Construction – Health and safety for the construction industry \(hse.gov.uk\)](https://www.hse.gov.uk/construction/)
4. HSE news releases are available at <http://press.hse.gov.uk>