



# Waste Industry Health & Safety Performance, Issues, HSE Sector Plan, Guidance

**Environmental and  
Waste Management  
Group**



# EWMG

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Presentation to East Midlands Branch 19 September 2019

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# Waste Industry Performance

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- **5,000** workers suffering from work-related ill health (ave. over 9 yr period)
- **5,000** non-fatal injuries to workers (ave. over 7 yr period)
- **12** fatal injuries to workers for 2017/18
- **12** fatal injuries to members of the public as a result of work activity in the sector (over 5 yrs to March 2016)

# Waste Industry Performance

## Industry Comparison – Ill Health

Work-related Ill-health	Waste	Construction	All Industry
Rate per 100,000 workers (% of workers in sector)	4,470 (4.5%)	3,390 (3.4%)	3,150 (3.1%)

- 4.5% of workers in Waste suffered from work-related ill health (new or long standing cases), which is statistically significantly higher than the rate for workers across All industries (3.1%)
- Only the Human Health & Social Work Activities industry has a worse record (4.6%)

# Waste Industry Performance

## Industry Comparison – Non Fatal Injuries

Non-fatal Workplace Injuries	Waste	Construction	All Industry
Rate per 100,000 workers (% of workers in sector)	3,910 (3.9%)	2,880 (2.9%)	1,890 (1.9%)

- **3.9%** of workers in Waste sustained a workplace injury, which is statistically significantly higher than the rate for workers across All industries (1.9%)
- Only the Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing industry has a worse record (4.1%)

# Waste Industry Performance

## Industry Comparison – Fatal Workplace Injuries

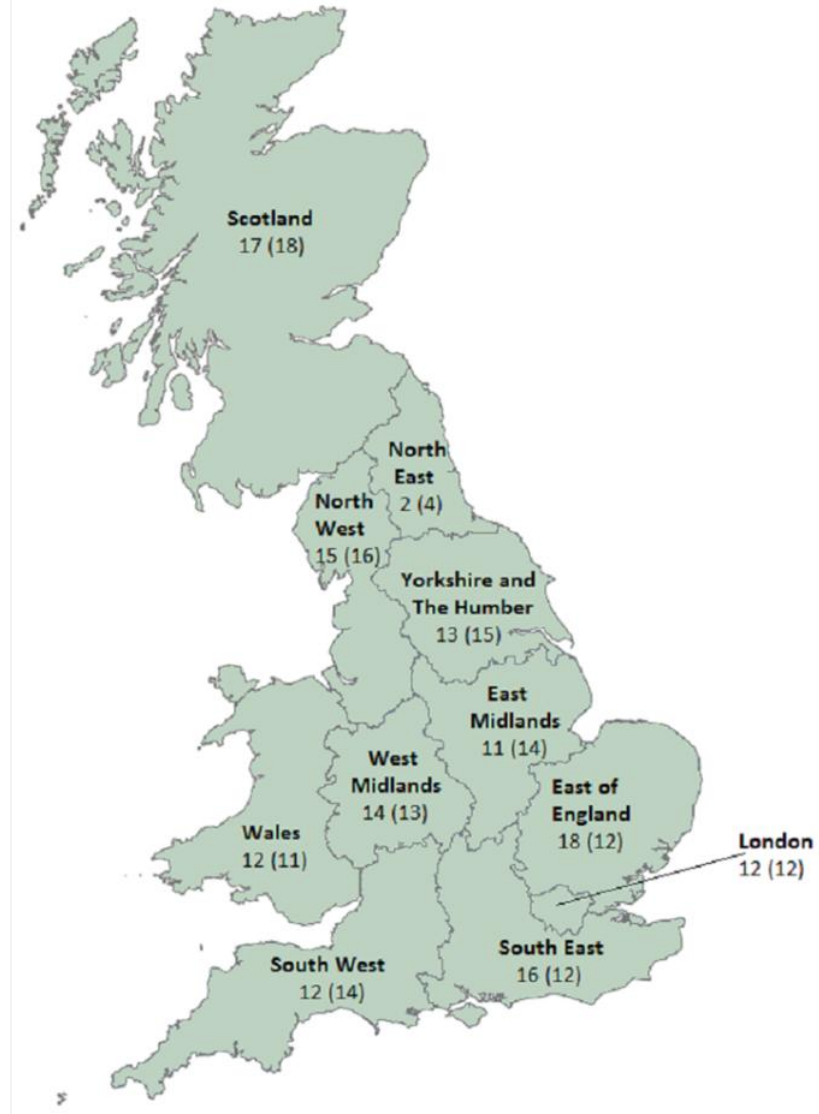
Fatal Workplace Injuries	Waste	Construction	All Industry
Rate per 100,000 workers	7.22	1.77	0.45

- The Waste sector has a rate of fatal workplace injury around 16 times the average rate across All industries
- Only the Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing industry has a worse record (8.20)

# Breakdown of all GB workplace fatalities by region

2017 - 18

- Breakdown of all GB workplace fatalities by region for 2017/18
- last 5-year average was 144






# What are the Issues

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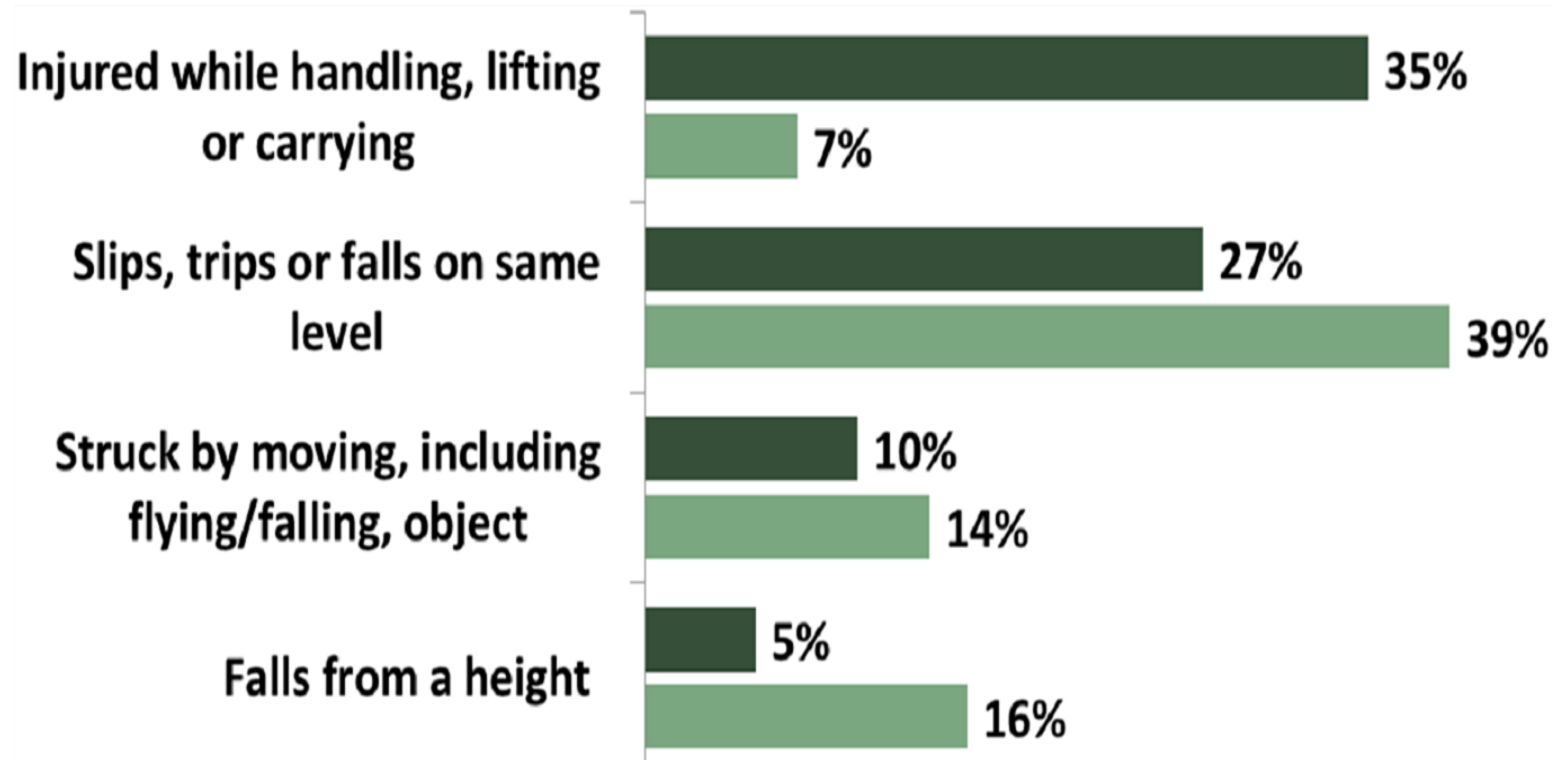
## Effects of work related Ill Health

- Three quarters of work-related ill-health cases were suffering from:
    - Musculoskeletal disorders, or;
    - Stress, depression or anxiety
  - The other workers were suffering from other types of illness, such as skin or respiratory conditions
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# What are the Issues

## Immediate Causes of Non Fatal Incidents at Work



# What are the Issues

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## Immediate Causes of Fatal incidents at work

Over the 5-year period 2013/14-2017/18:

- **32%** Contact with moving machinery
- **27%** Struck by a moving vehicle
- **15%** Struck by a moving / falling object

# What are the Issues

## Human Factors of Fatal Workplace Injuries

**The four key contributing human factors identified in a 2018 HSE report examining 18 fatal incidents across 12 SMEs and 6 larger companies, were:**

- Dangerous work environment, including poor separation between people and hazardous machinery onsite, as well as equipment being poorly-maintained and used incorrectly
- Inadequate safety culture and safety management systems, such as a lack of proper procedures for conducting work safely
- Errors by individuals due to lack of knowledge; and
- Inadequate instructions supplied with equipment and poor risk assessments – this final point relates solely to SMEs

**the 5-year period 2013/14-2017/18:**

- **32%** Contact with moving machinery
- **27%** Struck by a moving vehicle
- **15%** Struck by a moving / falling object

# What are the Issues

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## Causes of Fatal Injuries To Members Of The Public

- Although no exact data is to hand, examples of fatalities to members of the public from waste industry activities include:
- Struck by a moving vehicle;
- “Bin / skip sleeping” incidents, with casualties subsequently coming into contact with machinery

# Action by the HSE

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## Enforcement

- For the fiscal year 2017/18, there were:
- 117 Prohibition Notices served;
- 420 Improvement Notices served;
- 27 Prosecution Cases (with guilty outcome);
- Fines averaging £104,000 per case

# Action by the HSE

## Sector Plan For Health and Safety

- Waste and Recycling continues to be a priority sector for the HSE, with their Sector Plan aiming to achieve the following outcomes:
- Reduction in fatalities due to moving vehicles / caught in moving machinery
- Reduction in cases of MSDs and occupational lung disease
- Ownership of the challenges by industry and leadership on implementing solutions
- no exact data is to hand, examples of fatalities to members of the public from waste industry activities include:
- Struck by a moving vehicle;
- “Bin / skip sleeping” incidents, with casualties subsequently coming into contact with machinery



# Action by the HSE

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## Causes of Fatal Injuries To Members Of The Public

- What the HSE will do:
- Focus inspections on risks posed by moving/reversing vehicles, contact with machinery and MSDs;
- Share intelligence with other Regulators;
- Engage with manufacturers and designers of work equipment, to design out risks;
- Develop blend of interventions to highlight safety and health risks, and exemplify control measures, solutions and innovations;
- Help SMEs manage health and safety

# Risk Control Guidance

Health and Safety Executive (HSE)

- Provides guidance in relation to:
- Waste Operations
- Waste Contracts
- Safety Alerts
- Health Topics
- Safety Topics
- Training.

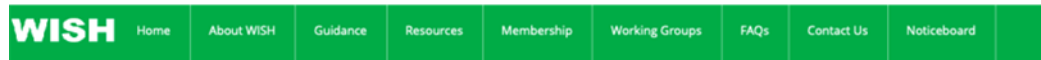
The screenshot displays the HSE website's 'Waste management and recycling' guidance page. The page features a navigation menu with options like 'Home', 'News', 'Guidance', 'About you', 'About HSE', and 'Contact HSE'. The main content area is titled 'Waste management and recycling' and includes a sidebar with a list of topics such as 'Frequently asked questions', 'Collection', 'Processing/Sorting', 'Disposal and energy recovery', 'Procuring and managing waste services', 'HSE and waste', 'Waste management and recycling industry strategy', 'WISH Forum', 'Safety alerts', 'Occupational health', 'Safety topics', 'Training', and 'Resources'. The main content area contains a central article with an image of a waste truck and a worker, a 'Health and safety made simple' box, a 'WISH' forum box, and sections for 'Are you involved with...?', 'FAQs', and 'Resources'.



# Risk Control Guidance

## Waste Industry Safety & Health (WISH) Forum

- Provides guidance produced by and for the waste industry, with support of HSE.
- Currently x19 guidance documents.



### WISH Guidance

One of the main outputs from WISH is health and safety guidance for the waste management industry. This formal guidance is produced by [WISH working groups](#) consisting of industry specialists and others from bodies such as the HSE. A list of current WISH guidance is given below (click on the guidance reference to download).

In addition to formal guidance, WISH also produces information documents and other tools and resources. These resources can be found by clicking on the 'resources' tab above. Under this tab you will find three further pages:

- **Case Studies:** Examples of good practice from across the industry
- **Information:** Information sheets on various aspects of health and safety in the waste management industry, but not related directly to any formal WISH guidance document. These are not formal guidance, but aim to assist waste operators in improving their health and safety performance
- **Support:** Information sheets directly related to specific WISH guidance documents. These information sheets may provide examples of good practice relating to a form WISH guidance document, or further information to assist operators in understanding or applying formal WISH guidance. These information sheets are often referred to directly in the relevant WISH guidance document they relate to

WISH is not the only source of health and safety guidance for the waste management industry. There are other sources, in particular in the [HSE's waste management pages](#).

### List of WISH Guidance Documents

Show 100 entries

Search:

Ref No.	Document title	Summary
WASTE 03	Orphaned compressed gas cylinders in waste and recycling industries	Waste gas cylinders occur in waste streams and storing waste gas cylinders.

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# Training

## IOSH Environmental & Waste Management Group (EWMG)

- A FREE Modular training product, based on structure of IOSH Managing Safely, but aimed specifically at Team Leaders / Supervisors of municipal waste collection teams working on behalf of Local Authorities



The screenshot shows the IOSH website's news section. The main article is titled "Free safety training for waste collection industry" and is dated 20 November 2015. The article text states: "A new training programme has been launched to help keep waste collection workers safe. The Institution of Occupational Safety and Health's (IOSH) Environmental and Waste Management Group (EWMG) has put together the bespoke training package. The Group felt that general health and safety training alone was no longer sufficient in the industry and worked closely with IOSH's Public Services Group and the Chartered Institution of Wastes Management (CIWM) to produce the training. The training, called Waste collection health and safety management, was launched on Thursday 19 November at a meeting of IOSH's Yorkshire Branch. The programme is being made available to all local authorities in the UK. It is specifically aimed at team leaders who have a responsibility toward staff who collect waste and face many hazards and risks. These hazards and risks include manual handling, mental health issues, insufficient hygiene standards and reversing refuse collection vehicles. The material was created following consultation with the WISH Competency Working Group, Local Authorities (LAWS) and the HSE."

The article includes an image of a worker in a green uniform and hard hat standing next to a green refuse collection vehicle. The website header features navigation links: Home, Business, Jobs, Discussion forums, Contact us, Media centre, Join us. There are also buttons for "Register now" and "Log in", and a search bar. The main navigation menu includes: About us, Membership, Books and resources, Training, News, Events, MyIOSH. A "Related pages" sidebar on the right lists: "Sun safety in construction: Evaluation of a sun safety intervention for the UK construction sector (2015)", "The burden of occupational cancer in Great Britain: Cutaneous malignant melanoma and occupational exposure to solar radiation (2015)", "IOSH Older Workers policy", "The IOSH information helpline", and "Need professional advice".

# Guidance and Sources

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- HSE Waste & Recycling Sector Page
- W. <http://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/index.htm>
- WISH Guidance Documents
- W: [https://wishforum.org.uk/?page\\_id=33](https://wishforum.org.uk/?page_id=33)
- IOSH EWMG Training Product (free to LAs)
- W: <https://www.iosh.co.uk/News/Free-safety-training-for-waste-collection-industry.aspx>
- IOSH Technical Helpline
- T: 0116 2573199    E: [helpline@iosh.co.uk](mailto:helpline@iosh.co.uk)



# Guidance Sources

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- CIWM Technical Helpline
- T: 01604 620426
- E: [technical@ciwm.co.uk](mailto:technical@ciwm.co.uk)
  
- IEMA Membership Services
- T: 01522 540 069
- E: [info@iema.net](mailto:info@iema.net)
  
- iirsm Technical Helpdesk
- T: 01296 488 854
- E: [IIRSMHelpline@croner.co.uk](mailto:IIRSMHelpline@croner.co.uk)



# Synopsis

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- With twice the all-industry accident rate and 16 times the fatal accident rate, the waste industry remains a dangerous place to work.
- Think fatality causes: machinery; vehicles; moving / falling objects; bin sleepers.
- Think injury causes: manual handling; slips & trips; moving / falling objects; falls from height.
- Senior Manager commitment is essential in short- and long-term to improve safety culture.
- Behavioural Safety, in addition to robust controls and procedures, is required to improve H&S performance.

# Any Questions?

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## Thank You

### Environmental and Waste Management Group recent events



#### Related pages

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[Letter from the Chair](#)

[Group committee](#)

[Group events](#)

[Recent events](#)

[Group news](#)

[Industry resources](#)

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March 2019 - Joint event with the IOSH Tyne & Wear Branch  
[Behavioural Safety Presentation](#)  
[Waste Industry Health & Safety Presentation](#)

February 2019 - Presentation to the IOSH South Wales Branch  
[IOSH EWMG - Presentation to South Wales Branch 20-02-19](#)

November 2018 - Joint event with the IOSH Yorkshire Branch  
[Environmental Law Update - Meeting report](#)