

Construction Update

Tony Mitchell, Health & Safety Executive

Key Points:

- **CDM:** Currently undergoing its 3 year review.
- **UK Construction Strategy:** Govt. recognises construction has a big part to play in the UK industry/economy. £400 billion worth of Government contracts with £200 billion in pipeline. *BUT* huge skills shortage. Nevertheless the UK has the best H&S record in the world
- **Fatalities 2017:** 38 fatalities reported and reduction slowing – although in the right direction.
- **Health & Priorities:** Currently the biggest problem area. Possibly neglected in the past but now receiving a lot of focus. Ill health bears a huge cost to the industry. Stress being a significant factor and HSE's aim will not be to investigate but to encourage organisations' to implement the Management Standards. Musculoskeletal disorders and Respiratory disease also key priorities.
- **National Refurbishment Unit:** Launched in June with London area targetted. **Tower Blocks:** Campaign coming up – and cladding removal/replacement in particular.
- **'Red Concerns':** For use by members of the public to report areas of concern to the HSE <http://www.hse.gov.uk/contact/concerns.htm> A team at HSE collects the reports and triages them – red/amber/green. Tony receives the red reports. It's a rich source of local intelligence.
- **What's Coming Up?:** Guidance on Excavators., Forward Tipping Dumpers (getting ops to wear seat belt). Fall out from Grenfell – inspecting tower block refurb. Plan to create a 'competent authority' in mind of Grenfell. Therefore could be a regulator change—from Local Authorities.
- **Question (Malcolm Copson):** Have the CDM 2015 objectives/intentions been delivered? Tony said they are being delivered, although progress slow. Most effective outcome is the raising of the Client profile (responsibilities).