

HSE and the Waste & Recycling Industry

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AGENDA

- What is HSE's role?
- Why Waste & Recycling?
- The Key Safety Risks
- Some Health Risks in more detail
- Working with Stakeholders - WISH
- What next – Inspection Campaigns
- **WORKSHOP – OVER TO YOU**

HSE'S ROLE?

- Regulate health and safety law within G.B. in a diverse range of workplaces/activities
- Mission: to prevent workplace death, injury & ill health.
- Variety of methods including:
 - targeted inspection/investigation & Enforcement
 - permissioning and licensing activities
 - providing advice, information & guidance
 - raising awareness by influencing & engaging

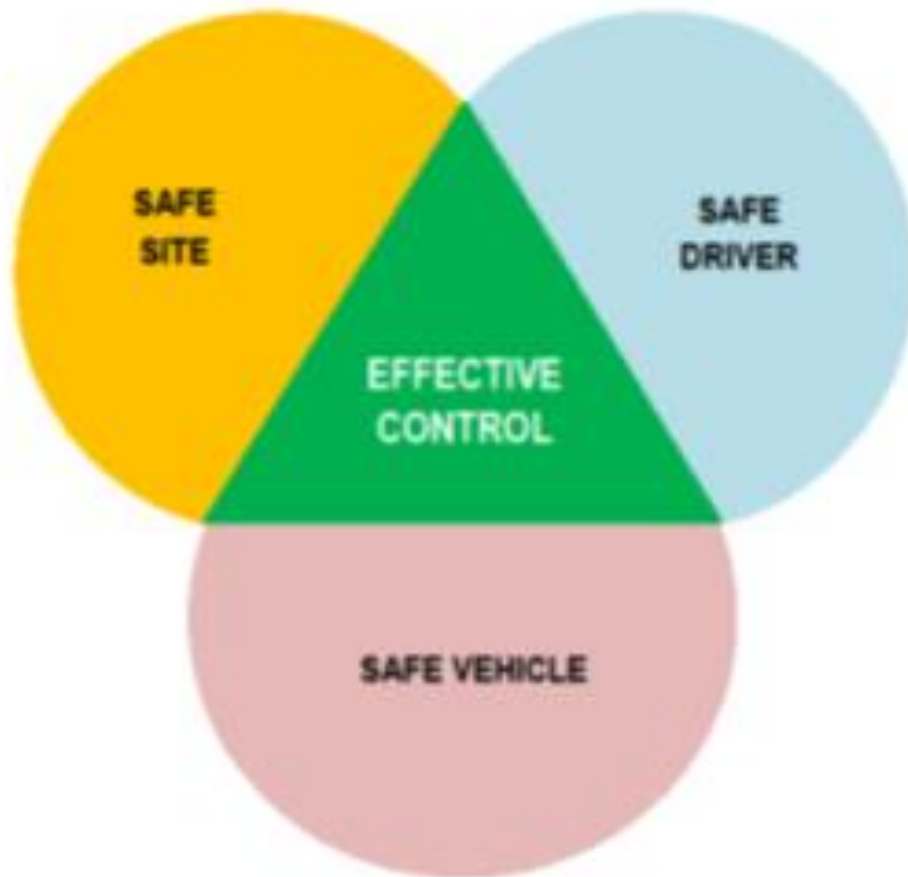
Why Waste & Recycling?

- Waste = High Risk Sector
- Average 9 fatalities annually in the waste industry
- Fatal Injury Rate 17 times higher than all industry average
- Annually 5000 workers suffer non fatal injuries (2 x average rate of all industries);
- Each year 6000 workers believe they suffered a work related illness
- Numbers of accidents have plateaued

Key Risks - Same Accidents/ New Health problems



Workplace Transport



➤ Three Elements:

- Safe Site
- Safe Driver
- Safe Vehicle

- ALSO
MANAGEMENT
SYSTEM AND
MONITORING

Transport - When Things Go Wrong



Machinery Guarding



Health & Safety Management



- **PLAN**
- **DO**
- **CHECK**
- **ACT**



<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg275.pdf>

HEADLINES

Local authority fined after worker's leg crushed by refuse vehicle



- LA didn't identify the risks from RCVs
- LA didn't devise safe systems of work
- LA didn't provide adequate information and training

Headlines



- Council in court after death of pensioner
- Driver in bin lorry tragedy 'was not trained'
- Council fatally omitted agency worker from driver training

A screenshot of a news article from the MRW website. The article is titled "Council fined over refuse vehicle's fatal collision" and is dated 14 April 2014. The article text states that Glasgow City Council has been fined £20,000 after a pensioner was struck by a reversing waste collection vehicle in the city centre. The article also mentions that the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) investigated the incident and prosecuted the council for serious safety failings. A related article is listed as "Road safety: how to give drivers a better view of bikes" dated 23 January 2015. The HSE logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the article content area.

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Council fined over refuse vehicle's fatal collision

14 April 2014 | By Tom Kenning

Glasgow City Council has been fined £20,000 after a pensioner was struck by a reversing waste collection vehicle in the city centre.

Malcolm McCulloch, 71, a retired dock worker from Glasgow, was walking across Holm Street, Glasgow, when he was struck by the reversing lorry on 10 August 2012.

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) investigated the incident and prosecuted the council for serious safety failings.

Glasgow Sheriff Court heard the council, which carries out its own commercial glass collections, had introduced a program of reversing assistant training between March and December 2011.

A reversing assistant's role is to stand outside the vehicle and guide the driver in situations where reversing manoeuvres cannot be avoided.

Related Articles

- ▶ Road safety: how to give drivers a better view of bikes
23 January 2015
- ▶ Council fined for waste vehicle reversing deaths

Health Risks in Refuse Collection

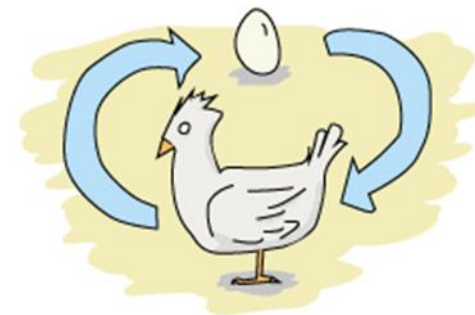
- Noise
- Ergonomics
- Bioaerosols
e.g. Bag Splitting



Noise in Glass Collection– A Chicken And Egg Situation



- Impact on health long acknowledged
- Law Clear
- Industry commitment to tackle
- Lack of demand from buyers
- Solutions from OEMs – workable?
- Noise attenuation – optional extra
- Not specified tender documents
- No measurement procedure for noise in glass collection.



Noise in Glass - Requirements of Manufacturers



- Adopt HSE's proposed noise measurement procedure for glass and use by Jan 2020
- Should inform Customers of noise levels and residual risks and retrofit options
- Design and manufacture RCVs in such a way that noise is minimised for all foreseeable use including glass collection.



Next Steps - Proposal for Purchasers



- Consider noise exposure when determining type of service (Waste 16)
- Ask OEMs for noise from glass measurements, information on residual risks and possible retrofit
- Ensure invitations to tender for new vehicles require use of new measurement procedure
- Use 'end user' calculator for actual exposure
- Buy Quiet.
- Discussions with purchasing departments about these requirements need to happen NOW

Manual Handling – The Problem

- 35% of over 7 day injuries RIDDORs are related to manual handling.
- Workers collecting household recycling often have to carry out manual handling and sorting tasks at the kerbside.
- If poorly designed these tasks can expose workers to increased risks of MSDs.



Manual Handling in Kerbside Collection – HSE Report



Designed in line with latest HSE report –
<http://www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrpdf/rr1141.pdf>

- Include in invitation to tender

Three Factors:

- Collection System – Holistic (Environment/MRF)
- Vehicle Design – Low Loading Heights
- Container Design – Wheeled?

Health Issues - Bioaerosols

- Generation of bioaerosols when organic materials agitated
- Cleaning (e.g. jet washing): Adequate Procedures PPE/RPE?
- Can cause asthma or allergic alveolitis



Bag Splitting in HWRCs

- HWRC Operators are concerned about recyclate left in 'black bag' waste
- HWRC Operators asking employees/ MOPs to sort through black bag waste & remove recyclables
- Immediate risks to H&S associated with hand sorting black bin bags
- Operators have duties under COSHH and S.3 of HSW

Working With Stakeholders - WISH



- Waste Industry Safety and Health Forum



- Aim: To work collaboratively to improve standards and practices in the Waste and Recycling Industry.
- WISH GUIDANCE <https://wishforum.org.uk>.

WISH Worker Engagement Tool



Questions	Workforce attitude to safety				Opportunities to contribute				Communication				Visibility				Totals:
	Concerns are taken seriously and acted on promptly.	I am supported when I refuse work I feel is dangerous.	I am appreciated for my contributions towards safety.	I am positive about Health & Safety and raise concerns.	Regular meetings are held to raise my concerns.	I can raise concerns anonymously outside of meetings.	I am involved in decision making concerning my Safety.	Unions, Working groups & individuals all work on safety.	Regular training and tool box talks are carried out.	Varied methods of communication are used for meetings.	I am given time in the day to attend training / meetings.	The health & safety noticeboard is updated regularly.	Managers are available at all levels to listen to my concerns.	Managers understand hazards & risks associated with my role	Senior managers support Health & Safety.	Senior managers attend important meetings / briefings.	
Never	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Sometimes	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Usually	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
Always	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	
															Final assessment score:		

What does my final score value indicate?

0-11 None / very little effective Worker Engagement exists.

12-23 A foundation of effective engagement exists, improvements are necessary to achieve a better standard.

24-35 A generally good standard of worker engagement exists but a consistent approach is needed to improve standards.

36-48 An Excellent level of worker engagement, consistent and effective measures are used.

What next - 2019/20 inspection campaign



- Waste & Recycling remains a High Risk Sector.
- All year – focus on October-December (Media campaign)
- No restriction on type of waste activity or site but no focus on kerbside this year.
- General HRS inspections.
- Bioaerosol Visits
- Evaluation visits

HSE Inspections – 2020/21

- **There will be HSE Inspection of LA waste and recycling services. Get ready for 20/21???**
 - Initiative to evaluate and assess the role of local authorities (LAs) when:
 - procuring and managing municipal waste and recycling contracts; and/or
 - delivering and managing in-house waste and recycling services.
- **With particular regard to service and vehicle design regarding ergonomics and noise**

What can you do?

- You have influence over contractors
- Transport, machinery, lock off & Health
- Ensure Plan, Do, Check Act systems
- Leadership/Worker Involvement
- Understand HSE can turn up any time
- Help get examples of good practice
- Give feedback and work with HSE/WISH in the future
- Behavioural Insight

Thanks for listening



WORKSHOP

