

CLC Connect

September 2023

Monthly update

In this issue, we hear from Mark Reynolds, Group Chairman and CEO, Mace.

Young Ambassador Spotlight

Get to know our Young Ambassadors better as they share their career journey.

Priority progress

Get the latest updates from our four priority areas:

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Events

Keep up to speed with upcoming events.



Construction
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Welcome to CLC Connect, the Construction Leadership Council's new monthly newsletter which will keep you up to date with all things CLC.

Construction is a busy and fast changing industry. From new government policies and game-changing private sector initiatives to emerging technologies and innovative ways of working, there's a lot going on as we strive to grow, improve productivity, attract and retain talent, and successfully transition to Net Zero.

CLC Connect will keep you informed, celebrate success, and help bring us closer together – all in one place each month.

We're really keen to hear your feedback and story ideas so please get in touch via construction.enquiries@beis.gov.uk

Enjoy and thank you for reading.



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Monthly Update

Mark Reynolds

Group Chairman and CEO, Mace

Welcome to the second edition of CLC Connect – I hope you found the first edition a useful update on the Construction Leadership Council and our work.

The major event this month has been the launch of the [CLC's new productivity report](#) – our new plan for transforming our industry's delivery – and a demonstration of the huge opportunity on offer if we can work together to help the UK build better. I'd recommend everyone takes a look at the report; and we'll be sharing more soon about how we'll be driving elements of the recommendations through our work with industry and engagement with Government.

This month also saw an industry-wide meeting with the Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury, in which we discussed a number of challenges facing our industry – from planning restraints on housing and infrastructure delivery to how we can encourage older workers to remain in the sector.

As you'll be aware, the coming month is a major one for UK construction, with the introduction of many of the key tenants of the Building Safety Act.

You'll see in this update we've included a detailed, three-page update setting out the CLC's work on this vital topic. I'd like to thank everyone across the sector who has contributed over the past two years as we've worked to support these required measures in partnership with industry and government.

This update also includes a host of activity being delivered by our other core priorities, as well as a brilliant piece by Micheala Chan, one of our young ambassadors, on the challenges to Net Zero and Biodiversity.

So thank you for reading – and I look forward to working with you on the issues defining our industry.

Thanks,
Mark



Construction
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Monthly Update

Short Term Priorities and Actions

- **RAAC Guidance**

The CLC has formed a RAAC Industry Response Group (and supporting communications group) to respond to this challenge and will share relevant HMG announcements and key sector information through the [CLC's RAAC page](#).

- **Product Availability**

The CLC's Product Availability Group [September meeting report](#) stated the supply of most building materials have returned to pre-covid levels. This includes bricks, blocks, boilers, plaster and timber products.

- **NSIP's Consultation response**

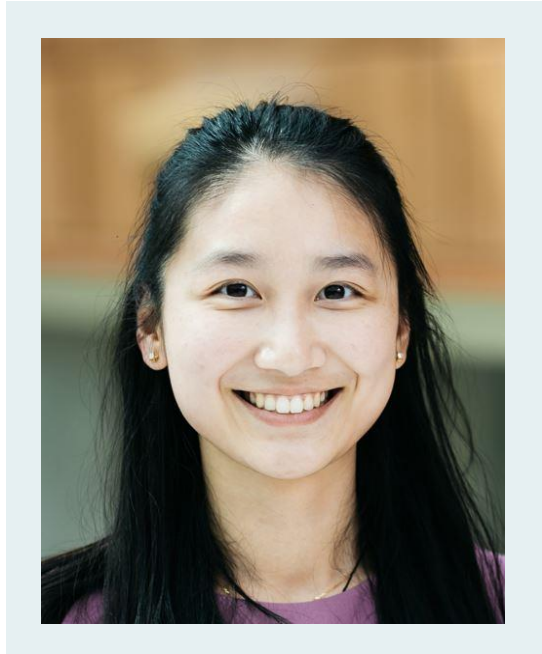
DLUHC recently launched a consultation on operational reforms to the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) consenting process. The CLC will be responding shortly.

- **R & D Tax Credits**

HMRC issued a consultation Jan–March 2023 which considered merging the two R&D schemes. Although a decision has not definitively been made by HMT to merge the schemes, on 18th July 2023 [draft legislation was issued for a merged R&D Tax Credit Scheme](#), which may come into effect as early as next year. The construction sector is very concerned by a section in the draft legislation that seeks to prevent a claim for tax credits for R&D expenditure if it has arisen by virtue of activities having been “contracted” to the claimant or deemed “subsidised” by a customer.

The CLC has produced this [paper](#) which has been submitted to the Treasury.





Young Ambassador Spotlight

Net Zero and Biodiversity from our Young Ambassador

Micheala Chan (1 of 2)

Civil Engineer at Arcadis
Young Ambassador for Net Zero and Biodiversity

Last year, the Construction Leadership Council launched its Young Ambassador campaign to increase engagement with young professionals across the sector. I was lucky to be selected as the Young Ambassador for Net Zero and Biodiversity, working alongside CO₂nstructZero and the Green Construction Board to advise on the CLC's work to accelerate sustainability across the construction sector.

As a young engineer volunteering my time in the climate space across a number of groups, I've had the fortune of working alongside many brilliant young professionals in the built environment space. We have spent a lot of time collectively discussing the changes needed (and pressure points) to move the industry towards more sustainable outcomes. Some of these are summarised below:

1. We need to take a **systems approach** to the built environment. Many initiatives within the sector take a siloed approach, which prevents effective collaboration between and within disciplines and project stages. This can lead to inefficient solutions,

increased waste and decreased productivity. This needs to include thinking outside the box for solutions, not just in terms of technical innovation, but also in disrupting the status quo e.g. using nature-based rather than hard engineering solutions, or by utilising no-build solutions. By taking a systems approach, we can ensure solutions work for all stakeholders both now and into the future.

2. A **culture change** is required to facilitate **greater transparency**, both within and outside of companies. We need to be honest with ourselves about what is happening and about where we are at, recognising the work that it will take to get to where we want to go. This will require robust monitoring, reporting and verification to avoid greenwashing.





Young Ambassador Spotlight

Net Zero and Biodiversity from our Young Ambassador

Micheala Chan (2 of 2)

Civil Engineer at Arcadis
Young Ambassador for Net Zero and Biodiversity

- 3. Capacity Building** is essential to equip both young people and those who have been in the industry longer with the required skills to tackle the transition. This does not have to be in the form of formal training opportunities but organisations in the sector must recognise the importance of dedicating time and resources both to individual and organisational capacity building to boost collective action towards Net Zero.
- 4. Better management of information and knowledge sharing** is required, not only internally but also across the built environment sector. This will help to increase awareness and implementation of best practices across the industry without duplication of efforts.
- 5. The industry must create more spaces for young professionals** to contribute to high level strategy. There are many ways that this can be done, and it is important to consider the most relevant and contextually appropriate methods. An example is

giving young professionals a seat at the decision-making table and allowing them to actively participate in executive discussions.

Young professionals have a critical role to play in achieving Net Zero and industry goals. Businesses must engage young professionals better to ensure that we all contribute to driving a more sustainable and liveable planet.



CLC Priority Progress

Net Zero and Biodiversity

Construct Zero

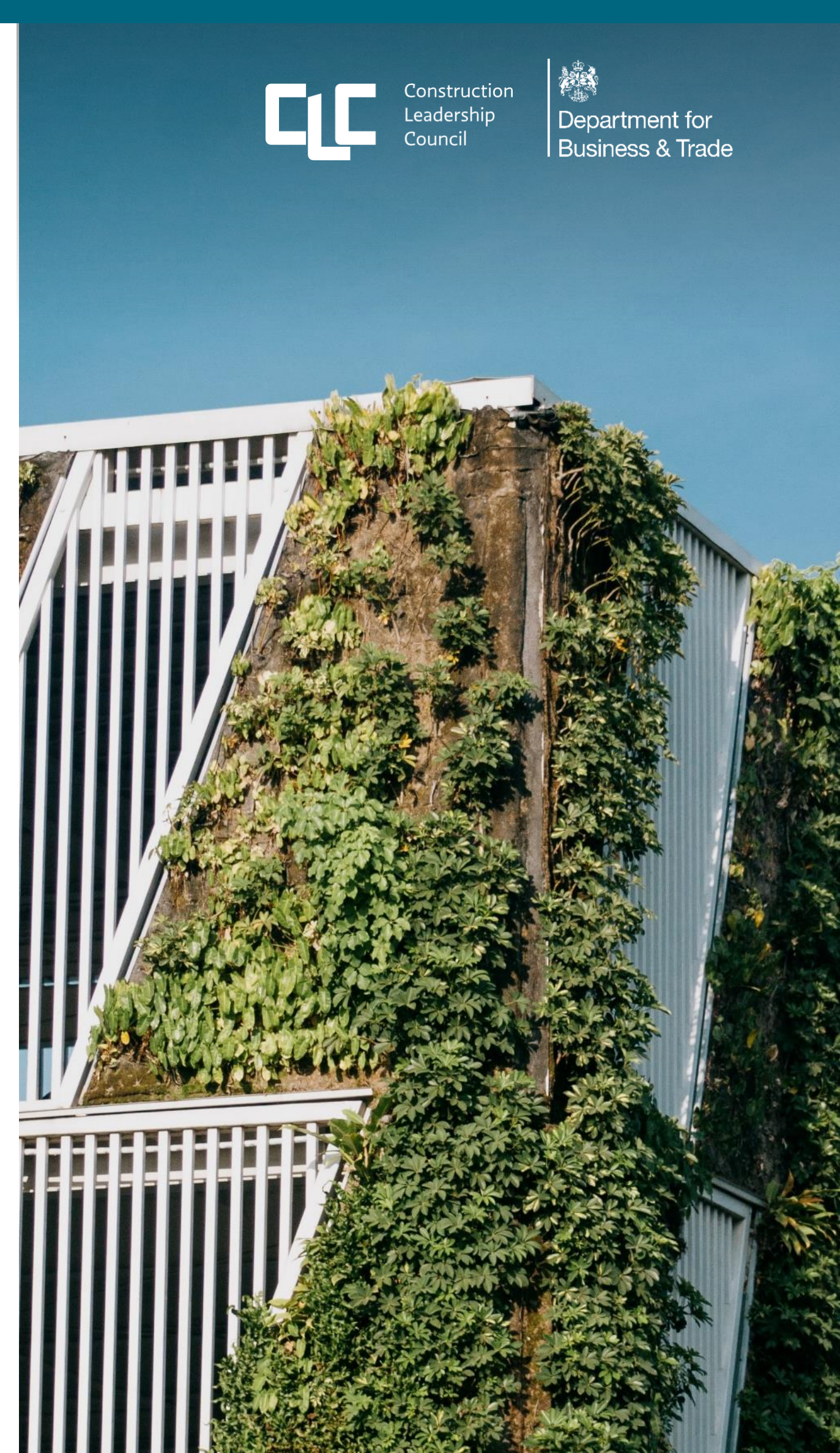
- The CZ 7th Performance Framework will be launched at London Build on 15/16th November. This report will provide the latest dashboard on our progress towards Net Zero, an updated RAG rating, together with a look back on the programme's key achievements across the past 12 months.
- We have also shortly be launching our new **CZ sprint project, in partnership with Balfour Beatty, on Electric Vehicles**. The project will focus on how we accelerate a transition in the construction workforce to EV's (for both cars and vans). This project is open to CZ Business Champions and Partners only. If you would like to join the project and are not yet a CZ Business Champion or Partner, please reach out to Stuart.Young@businessandtrade.gov.uk setting out what your company is already doing in the Net Zero space. Further details of the CZ Programme are available at www.constructionleadershipcouncil.co.uk

The application window for our **current quarterly commission to [apply to be a Business Champion](#)** will close on 2nd October. The programme is **completely free to join**. The application form requires you to demonstrate how you are working towards or meeting any of the CO₂nstruct Zero programmes [9 priorities](#). We will next recruit in November.

Green Construction Board

Maximising Resources, Minimising Waste: Defra has published its new Waste Prevention Programme for England. The GCB's [Zero Avoidable Waste Routemap](#) forms the foundation for the priorities for action to manage construction resources and waste in accordance with the top layers of the waste hierarchy - prevention and reuse. The GCB will continue its work with Defra to help deliver on the recommendations of the routemap.

The [National Retrofit Hub](#) has launched its new website. This contains updated information on the [six working groups](#), their chairs and the scope of the groups including planned and proposed outputs. Following a survey across industry, work continues on creating a [Knowledge Hub](#) to increase the accessibility and usability of the tools, knowledge and best practice information available across the sector.



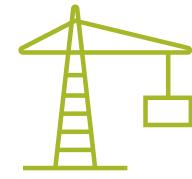
Getting to know you



CO₂nstruct Zero Business Champion
Carl Rushton
Head of Sustainability
McLaughlin & Harvey

McLaughlin & Harvey is a privately owned construction and civil engineering business with 170 years of experience. The company employs over 800 people and operates throughout the United Kingdom and Ireland, delivering quality construction, civil engineering, fit-out projects and providing facilities management services, to various industries in the public and private sectors.

www.mclh.co.uk



What is your role in a Nutshell? My role is to inspire and lead our business to become net zero ahead of Government targets, ultimately becoming a carbon-negative business and supporting our supply chain in the same manner. I also support and counsel our clients to think about how building projects can drive net zero and compliment their own journeys.



Why did McLaughlin and Harvey become a CZ Business Champion? McLaughlin & Harvey recognise that the climate emergency is real and that the built environment has a big role to play in solving the crisis. Raw material depletion, fossil fuel, carbon emission and waste form a significant part of the construction process. We believe circularity in the built environment must be accelerated. All decisions, from cradle to grave, must be considered as a whole, as opposed to in isolation. Open, honest industry-wide collaboration is critical. We became a CO₂nstruct Zero Business champion to encourage collaboration, share our own journey and learn from others



What advice would you give to a business considering joining CZ? This is a safe and diverse collaboration of companies from across the industry. There are no daft questions, we are all learning and are here to help each other, and the wider industry, navigate the challenges that we are currently facing to secure the future of our industry, and future generations of citizens. Don't be shy.



Tell us an interesting fact about you or the business you represent? This year McLaughlin & Harvey is celebrating its 170th birthday as a business. We completed one of our first projects, Coleraine Town Hall, in 1859, for the sum of £4,146 19s 10½d.



Will you be heading to any Net Zero events this year? We continue to support the UKGBC and our framework partners with many collaboration and knowledge-sharing events. I will be joining the Supply Chain Sustainability School conference in September and in Scotland I will be attending The BE-ST Fest and Holyrood Magazine's Climate action summit in November.

**Business
Champion**

CO₂nstruct ZERO
The Construction Industry's Zero carbon change programme



CLC Priority Progress

Next Generation Delivery

- CLC Young Ambassador Mila Duncheva of Stora Enso, is working with AtkinsRéalis to produce a one pager on Industrialised Construction. This should be ready at the start of Q4 2023.
- We have developed a three-phase horizon plan for the Industrialisation workstream and a series of workshops. If you are interested in attending the workshops, please contact construction.enquiries@beis.gov.uk
- We will be launching a paper on Industrialised Construction at [UKCW](#) – looking at the current, emerging and future state. This is taking place on 3 October on the main stage.

Business Models and Fair Payment Workstream

- **Payment Performance** - The CLC is committed to improving payment performance as part of its Business Models and Fair Payment workstream, and this month marks five years since Build UK began benchmarking the payment terms of its members and the wider industry, following the introduction of the Duty to Report Regulations. Compiling the data in a [table](#) on its website has enabled Build UK to present a consistent picture of payment practices within the industry, transforming the culture around payment and resulting in significant improvement, particularly amongst Build UK members. More information can be found [here](#).

Wider Update

- **JCT 2024** - The Joint Contracts Tribunal (JCT) has confirmed that the next edition of its suite of contracts will be published in 2024. JCT 2024 will feature a number of updates, including the adoption of gender-neutral language, and reflect key legislative changes in relation to the Building Safety Act 2022 and the Corporate Insolvency and Governance Act 2020. A summary of the changes can be found in the latest edition of [JCT News](#).

Links to recent Fair Payment resources

- [Contract Terms Recommendations](#) - Updated guidance by Build UK
- Procurement Policy Note (PPN) 03/23 - [Use of the Common Assessment Standard](#)
- The Construction Leadership Council [Business Models and Fair Payment Workstream](#)



CLC Priority Progress

Building Safety (1 of 3)

Leadership and Culture Change

- On 4 September, CLC presented to the Industry Safety Steering Group chaired by Dame Judith Hackitt on demonstrating leadership and driving culture change within the industry.
- Building safety is a strategic priority for the CLC. All buildings must be safe and high-quality for the people who live and work in them; and the industry needs to take responsibility for this.
- The CLC has taken ownership and acted proactively in a number of priority areas, in advance of the 1 October, when significant elements of the new building safety regime come into effect. Progress is being made and work will continue over the next 6 months.
- Work includes the establishment of an industry task and finish group to review and understand expectations and the detail behind the new legislation and supporting guidance.
- The group has developed an action plan highlighting industry priority areas of concern. Assigned industry leads will consider operational application and drive prompt resolution on points of clarification or further information required.

- The next stage will be to develop and deliver simple, clear and helpful information on the key changes to the Building Safety landscape and drive industry awareness, understanding and action.

Construction Products

The Construction Products Association (CPA) has published two papers for its members and the wider construction industry:

- The Building Safety Act 2022 - [A CPA Summary for Construction Product Manufacturers](#)
- The Building Safety Act 2022 - [Construction Product Manufacturer's Liabilities](#)

Wider HMG / Regulator Update - Building Safety

- **Responsible Actors Scheme** - On 24 July, the Responsible Actors Scheme was launched. Eligible developers who do not join the Scheme and comply with its conditions will have planning and building control prohibitions imposed on them. More information can be found [here](#).



CLC Priority Progress

Building Safety (2 of 3)

- **Cladding Safety Scheme** - The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) and Homes England have announced the opening of the Cladding Safety Scheme. The Scheme will be available to all medium-rise buildings between 11 and 18 metres across England and high-rise buildings over 18 metres outside of London where fire safety professionals have recommended that works must take place. More information can be found [here](#).
- **Remediation of Residential Buildings** - DLUHC has published the Code of Practice for the Remediation of Residential Buildings. The Code sets expectations on and provides guidance for remediation projects. Projects are expected to appropriately communicate with, inform and engage residents and mitigate the impacts of the project on residents' lives. More information can be found [here](#).
- **Building Safety Regulations** - DLUHC has published 5 Regulations under the Building Safety Act 2022:
 - The Building Regulations etc. (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2023
 - The Building Regulations (Higher-Risk Building Procedures) (England) 2023

- The Building (Approved Inspectors etc. And Review of Decisions) (England) Regulations 2023
- The Higher-Risk Buildings (Management of Safety Risks etc) (England) Regulations 2023
- The Building Safety Act 2022 (Consequential Amendments etc.) Regulations 2023

The Regulations deliver the recommendations of Dame Judith Hackitt in her report 'Building A Safer Future' and cover the technical detail underpinning the new, more stringent regime for the design and construction of higher-risk buildings (HRBs), wider changes to the building regulations for all buildings and the details of the new in-occupation safety regime for HRBs. The regulations can be found [here](#).

- **Building Control** - To help navigate the legislation and support the new building control approval process for HRBs, the BSR has developed some new guidance which can be found [here](#).



CLC Priority Progress

Building Safety (3 of 3)

- **Guidance for Principle Accountable Persons and Accountable Persons** - The BSR has published new guidance documents covering:
 - [Safety case for a high-rise residential building](#) - Provides detailed guidance on preparing and updating a Safety Case Report.
 - [Building safety guides for Accountable Persons and Principle Accountable Persons](#) - How to assess and manage building safety risks in high-rise residential building.
 - [Preparing a safety case report](#) - Information on preparing and updating a Safety Case Report.
 - [Preparing a resident engagement strategy](#) - Sets out how to comply with legal duties.
- **Regulators Charges** - The [Building Safety \(Regulator's Charges\) Regulations 2023](#) were laid before Parliament on 6 September 2023, to come into force 1 October 2023. The Regulations can be found [here](#). The Building Safety Regulator (BSR) [Charging Scheme](#) from 1 October 2023 has also been published.
- **Mandating second staircases in new residential buildings over 18m** - On 24 July, the Secretary of State for DLUHC confirmed the intention to mandate second staircases in new residential buildings above 18m. This responds to the call from the sector for clarity. DLUHC will work rapidly with industry and regulators to design transitional arrangements with the aim of securing the viability of projects which are already underway, avoiding delays where there are other more appropriate mitigations. More information can be found [here](#).
- **Register of Specialists on Construction Products** - Experts are encouraged to apply to join the register of pre-approved specialists from whom the Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) can commission short pieces of ad-hoc scientific work to support its work in protecting the public. OPSS is looking for people within the domains of civil and structural engineering, fire sciences, material science as well as other associated areas of knowledge in relation to the natural analytical sciences and technical fields of expertise. More information can be found [here](#).

Links to recent Building Safety resources

- [Building Safety Regime Guide](#) - Build UK
- [Building Safety Regime Timeline](#) - Build UK
- Sign up to the [Building Safety Regulator's Ebulletin](#)
- [Guide to Managing Safety-Critical Elements in Building Construction](#) - CIOB/RIBA
- [Independent Review of the Construction Product Testing Regime](#) - Paul Morrell OBE and Anneliese Day KC
- The Construction Leadership Council [Building Safety Workstream](#)



CLC Priority Progress

People and Skills

- **CLC represents industry on new Industry Competence Committee**

CLC People and Skills Group members Jay Parmar, Chief Executive of the Joint Industry Board and Ruth Devine, Managing Director at SJD Associates have been appointed to represent the construction industry on the newly formed [Industry Competence Committee](#) (ICC).

The ICC will have a role in advising both the built environment industry and the Building Safety Regulator within HSE on matters of competence. Its formation is a requirement of the Building Safety Act 2022.

The committee's work will help bring industry together and encourage a more cohesive approach to competence. The committee will engage with a wide range of industry stakeholders and leaders to help this happen, bringing in the knowledge required for the committee to give evidence-based advice.

- **ITB Review**

DfE is currently reviewing the extent to which the Construction Industry Training Board and the Engineering Construction Industry Training Board performs effectively and delivers services that

meet the needs of industry.

The ITB Review will consider the ongoing need for the ITBs, the effectiveness of the levy process and how it is invested, so they continue to deliver for the public and represent a responsible use of levy funds.

The review is being led by an independent lead reviewer, Mark Farmer, CEO of Cast Consultancy. The ITB Review Team is currently considering all evidence submitted before formulating recommendations to Ministers.

- **Super Sector Competence programme**

On 19th September, in collaboration with the Competence Steering Group Installer Working Group, the CLC launched the first Super Sector Competence programme. The Envelope Super Sector programme will see 30+ envelope installer sectors work with industry stakeholders to develop draft competence frameworks.

This will be followed by the launch of a further 4 Super Sectors programmes in Engineering Services, Interior Systems, Civils and Structures.

Thank you to all those that have contributed to these workstreams.



HMG Policy Updates

- [Building Safety Regulator Charges Regulations and Charging Scheme Published](#)
- [Call for Volunteers from the Office for Product Safety and Standards](#)
- [Building Safety Update – Construction Products](#)
- [DLUHC Publishes Update to National Planning Policy Framework for England](#)
- [Secondary legislation for the Building Safety Act Published and Call for Action from the CLC](#)



Events

- [UK Construction Week](#)(3-5 October) - Link
- Top 100 Most influential [Women in Construction Awards 2023](#)(4 October)
- British Construction [Industry Awards](#)(11 October)
- Institution of Mechanical Engineers [Net Zero Construction Seminar](#)(12 October)
- [London Build](#) (15-16 November)



CLC Connect

September 2023

Thank you for reading this issue of CLC Connect. If you would like to provide feedback then please email construction.enquiries@beis.gov.uk

For more information about the Construction Leadership Council, please visit [Construction Leadership Council](https://www.constructionleadershipcouncil.org.uk).



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