

# CLC Connect

October 2023

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

In this issue, we hear from Minister Nusrat Ghani, Minister of State at the Department for Business and Trade, Minister of State for the Investment Security Unit, and Minister for Industry and Economic Security.

## **Young Ambassador Spotlight**

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

## **Short Term Priorities and Actions**

### **Priority progress**

Get the latest updates from our four priority areas:

- [People + Skills](#)
- [Net Zero + Biodiversity](#)
- [Next Generation Delivery](#)
- [Building Safety](#)



Construction  
Leadership  
Council



Department for  
Business & Trade

## Welcome to CLC Connect, the Construction Leadership Council's bi-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.

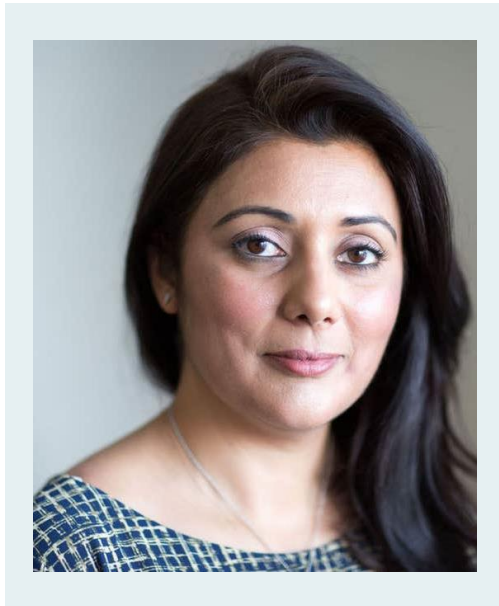
CLC Connect will keep you informed, celebrate success, and help bring us closer together – all in one place every other month.

Some highlights in this issue are:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> staircases. Publication of technical documents due at the end of 2023. The CLC has been working with the Building Safety Regulator to finalise these. A transitional arrangement statement by Michael Gove, SoS DLUHC, about the introduction of the requirement is linked [here](#).
- Series of CLC and BSR webinars started with the first on Building Safety Fundamentals. [Register here](#).

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





# Bi-Monthly Update

## Minister Nusrat Ghani MP

The Minister of State for Industry and Economic Security and the Minister of State for the Investment Security Unit at the Cabinet Office

Welcome to the third edition of CLC Connect- I hope you found the previous editions a useful update on the ongoing work of the Construction Leadership Council.

We have seen progress in several areas this month. The [CLC's new productivity report](#) sets out how we will be looking to improve the sector's productivity, working on the recommendations in partnership with industry and the Government.

The CLC also held a meeting with my Ministerial colleague, Rachel Maclean MP, Minister of State for Housing and Planning at the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, to discuss how the Council can work in partnership with DLUHC on some of the key housing delivery challenges, and there are ongoing discussions between the CLC and officials on these issues.

This month saw the launch of the Green Construction Board's consultation on its [Biodiversity Roadmap](#). This is a key part of our work on Net Zero and Biodiversity, with the Roadmap aiming to ensure support for greater biodiversity and better environmental outcomes are increasingly embedded into the built environment, and support the longer term shift from biodiversity net gain to environmental net gain. Further details, including how to

respond to the consultation, are included in this update.

We are now in a key period for the sector in relation to the implementation of the Building Safety Act. This edition includes details of [how to register](#) for the first in a series of six industry webinars the Building Safety Regulator is hosting, in partnership with us, to inform and educate the sector on the forthcoming changes and raise awareness of the actions you will need to take.

We have continued our public engagement at key events. Earlier this month, a number of colleagues represented our work on Next Generation Delivery and Net Zero and Biodiversity at UK Construction Week. I understand those sessions were popular and well-received. My thanks to all those who contributed on behalf of the CLC.

This update also includes a host of activities being delivered by our other core priorities, and a great piece by Mila Duncheva, one of our young ambassadors, on the challenges facing our work on Next Generation Delivery.

Thank you for reading. I look forward to working with you on the issues defining our industry.





# Young Ambassador Spotlight

Next Generation Delivery from our Young Ambassador

## Dr Mila Duncheva MCIQB

Stora Enso  
Co-Young Ambassador for Next Generation Delivery

It was January 2023 and the new year was pungent with hope when a notification appeared on my phone screen. The Construction Leadership Council were recruiting ambassadors, and the applications deadline was in 2 days. Having just concluded chairing the Built Environment Change Makers at their formation, I knew this was my chance to scale my industry impact. Fast-forward 2 months and I was announcing my appointment with Hollie Rowland as Young Ambassadors in Next Generation Delivery at a CLC Leadership Launch Panel.

Within Next Gen I specialise in Design for Manufacture and Assembly (DfMA) and its productivity measurement. Just like in DfMA the project management strategy is front-loaded, I have front-loaded my professional development with achievements in policy, academia and industry. I may often be the only young, female & non-native person in meetings, yet I am often also the most highly qualified and the one with the widest range of professional experience. My hard work to earn a seat at the table translates into confidence to participate proactively in Next Gen workstreams.

I firstly attended an in-person workshop setting a direction towards platforms-DfMA, where I was one of the first people to speak up among all senior leaders. I then wrote a summary of established productivity metrics for a policy paper proposing a solution to the UK's decades of construction productivity stagnation. This is noteworthy because how efficiently we use our shared resources impacts all people and, even more importantly to me personally, the natural environment.

We then brainstormed relentlessly the industry's roadmap to industrialisation, an elusive topic on which it was refreshing to talk on a technical level. I directed the communication strategy with personification using dialogue as a force for change, and I discussed this on the main stage of UK Construction Week alongside the heads of DfMA at fellow blue-chip businesses.

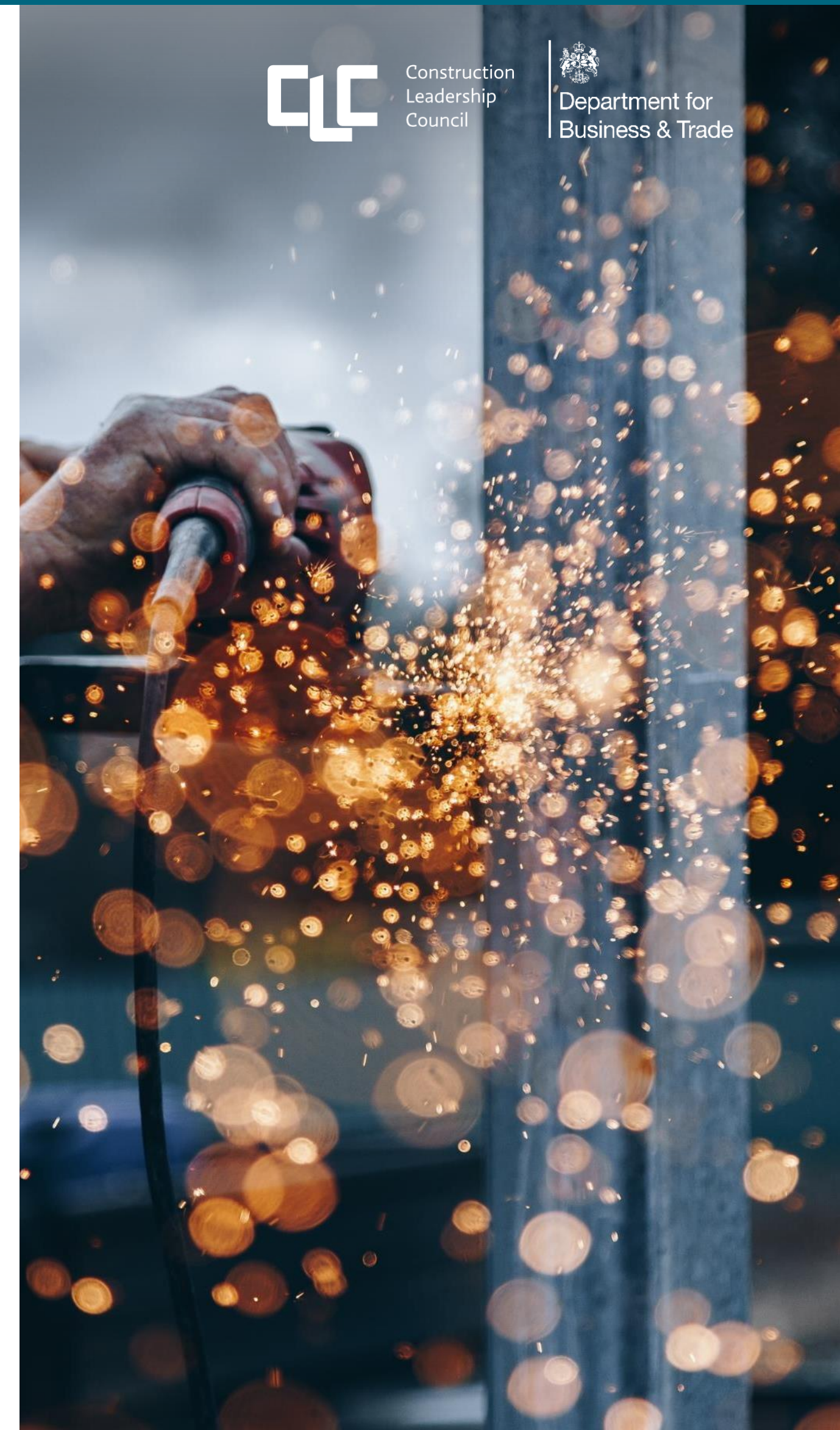
The new people have been the highlight of my CLC journey and I am confident that together we will amplify the built environment's positive impact.



# Bi-monthly Update

## Short Term Priorities and Actions

- **New Planning Group** - The CLC has established a new planning group whose role is to i) develop the CLC's position on planning policy and practice, and ii) support the creation of a more effective and efficient planning system for homes, infrastructure and commercial buildings. This group will act as a key focus point for CLC's engagement with HMG on planning issues.
  - **RAAC** - The CLC recently held its 7th meeting of the Industry Response Group on RAAC and will shortly be publishing a set of FAQ's for industry. [Link to the CLC's RAAC page](#)
  - **Tax Credits** - Following the CLC's recent [response](#) to the consultation, we are now exploring further engagement opportunities with HMT to discuss the issues raised in more detail.
  - **Commercial Terms** – recognising harder commercial environment across the sector the CLC is focussed on business models work particularly around retentions and quality, contract terms and fair payment look for more on this in the next newsletter.
- Links to recent Fair Payment resources**
- [Contract Terms Recommendations](#) - Updated guidance by Build UK
  - [Construction Sector Payment Performance](#) – Data published under the Duty to Report on Payment Practices and Performance. Build UK benchmarking the payment terms of its members and the wider industry
  - PPN 03/23 - [Use of the Common Assessment Standard](#)
  - The CLC [Business Models and Fair Payment Workstream](#)



# CLC Priority Progress

## Net Zero and Biodiversity

### Construct Zero

#### Electric Vehicles project

- We launched this, in partnership with Balfour Beatty, on 10<sup>th</sup> October. This project is open to existing Construct Zero members only and will work in partnership with Government to produce an evidence-based assessment of the barriers impacting the construction sectors' adoption of Electric Vehicles (cars and vans). If you're interested in joining the project, but not yet a member of Construct Zero, please do reach out to us for further details on how to join.

#### 7<sup>th</sup> report

- Preparations are well under-way for publication of our 7<sup>th</sup> report- thank you to all who have contributed metrics and suggested case studies. Minister Ghani will be launching it at [London Build \(15<sup>th</sup> November\)](#), with pre-recorded remarks, alongside two exciting panels (including a speech from Michaela Chan, our Young Ambassador for Net Zero and Biodiversity).

#### Business Champion and Forum

- The latest of these popular forums, brought together a range of our 220+ supporting companies across the sector to share lessons and best practice. We are seeing in real-time, companies sharing information and taking learning from each other in our collective drive to Net Zero.

### Green Construction Board

- Our main output this month was issuing a draft Biodiversity and [Environmental Net Gain roadmap](#) for consultation. The consultation is open to 17th November- we would welcome responses.
- In parallel, work at the National Retrofit Hub continues in earnest, with five of the six working groups up and running by the end of October. Commercial sponsors are being sought to support funding into 2024 and beyond.
- GCB members presented at UK Construction Week on circular economy thinking (resources and waste), low carbon concrete and PAS 2080.



## Getting to know you



### CO<sub>2</sub>nstruct Zero Business Champion

Joanna Amis

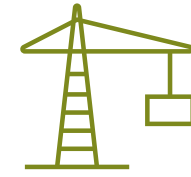
**Head of Marketing** 'overseer' of all things Construct Zero!

Adair Limited

Adair is an independent multi-disciplinary property and construction company with an excellent track record in both the public and private sectors founded in 1994.

**Adair have been a CO<sub>2</sub>nstruct Zero Business Champion, since round five of the programme.**

Adair's vision is to be recognised as a leading provider of property and construction consultancy services, attracting the very best clients, projects and people in the industry.



**What is your role in a Nutshell?** My role is to raise awareness and communicate our CO<sub>2</sub>nstruct Zero initiatives internally and externally, through all available channels and keeping abreast of new ideas/initiatives on net zero within the construction industry. I work closely with the team to produce and highlight case studies on projects we are working on, demonstrating the most measurable progress against the 'nine priorities' and attend CO<sub>2</sub>nstructZero events, meeting and networking with other champions to share and gain insight.



**Why did Adair Limited become a CZ Business Champion?** As a Net Zero Business Champion, Adair has a platform to influence and inspire the construction industry to consider other alternatives to improve the industry's footprint. We are a vibrant forward-thinking company, full of energy and focus who strongly believe the transition to net zero is the right thing to do for future generations, for nature and biodiversity. We believe that standards are everything and CO<sub>2</sub>nstruct Zero provides a standard for the whole industry to get behind. Engagement from the leadership team and harnessing next-generation skills is helping to shape the future of our business and set us on the right path towards the all-important goal of net zero and doing our bit to fight the climate crisis in construction.



**What added value, as joining CZ provided?** I believe there a couple of things: Joining CZ has given the company a focus and a strategy for business. It has added value for our clients. Along with financial viability, quantified embodied and operational carbon are key factors in determining the suitability of future construction projects. Our Quantity Surveyors are increasingly undertaking this quantification as a natural extension of their skill in measuring, quantifying and pricing the installed cost of building materials on construction projects. It has enhanced our brand and reputation as a business and given us a competitive edge. Clients increasingly expect companies to make sound ethical decisions on their behalf and wish to work with companies like us. Internally, the staff are proud to be part of Construct Zero and collaborate with other companies making a difference.



**What is your proudest Net Zero moment so far this year?** Becoming more environmentally friendly as a company. Earlier this year, Adair commissioned a report aiming to illuminate the carbon emissions associated with the company, depicting the different channels through which the company generates Carbon Dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e), and producing strategies and resources to monitor and reduce the company's carbon emissions. With this data, we have started to set out a pathway to carbon neutrality through effective communication across the business, to ensure we are making the most of our opportunities to reduce our carbon emissions, e.g. championing construction activity on one of current projects located in Surrey.



**Will you be heading to any Net Zero events this year?** - Yes! We are co-hosting a roundtable breakfast for developers in November discussing all things ESG. We will be attending London Exp and The Sustainability Stage to learn about the latest developments, innovations and case studies from leading experts driving change across the industry.



# CLC Priority Progress

## Next Generation Delivery (page 1 of 2)

### Digital & Data Workstream

- **Revised information management mandate: the push the industry needs**

Among many proposals put forward in the [CLC's recent Productivity Report](#) was [a revision to the information management mandate](#) (introduced two years ago), making it more data-driven and focusing on the whole-life cycle of assets.

Anne Kemp told [BIMplus](#): "We've been talking about it for quite a while. There is an information management mandate – it's in the [Transforming Infrastructure Performance: Roadmap to 2030](#). But with no offence intended, it's kind of buried – it's not come to the surface, people aren't really aware of it.

A revised information management mandate should become data-driven, enabling whole-life management of data and information and therefore better understanding and decision-making across an integrated built environment sector. The mandate should also aim to provide the platform and motivation for continual transformation of our sector and provide a focal point for building a simplified value chain for data and information management.

Ultimately, this will enable a better quality of decision-making and drive performance improvements through an evidence (data) based approach.



"The revision will strengthen the mandate, make it more appealing, it will be much clearer why and what the opportunities are."

**Anne Kemp OBE**





# CLC Priority Progress

## Next Generation Delivery (page 2 of 2)

### Business Models and Fair Payment Workstream

#### • **Pilot project to cut defects**

CLC is running a pilot project on a scheme developed by the contractors' umbrella body [ActuateUK](#) to tackle project defects at source with the long-term aim of removing the need for payment retentions. It takes previously successful data gathering schemes used to address health & safety concerns and late payment as its inspiration, with a similar focus on using anonymous data to tackle the root causes of our defects 'culture'. Both these earlier schemes produced tangible results and had a profound impact on the prevailing culture.

- Clients and contractors are invited to take part in **the pilot** by sharing their project data, which is non-attributed and will help to build up a picture of why defects come about and how we can set about eliminating them. Defects will be collected from completion certificates using processes developed by the Get It Right Initiative (GIRI). They are compared and rationalised against the overall value of the contract, to enable comparison between projects and produce a score that can be used to evaluate a solution.

- This initial stage working with Cranfield University is strictly a proof of concept, a test that the data can be collected and collated from projects. But getting this right could unlock benefits for all parties. Please use this [link](#) to submit your data.
- For further information and questions please contact the [CLC](#).

### Wider Update

- **Fair Payment Charter** - The British Property Federation (BPF) has, through its Construction Committee, developed voluntary guidelines that all BPF members are encouraged to adopt in their approach to payment. A fair and transparent approach to payment is essential for ensuring a successful construction industry. The [Charter](#) sets out a number of important areas where construction clients are well placed to drive up standards, including mechanisms to cascade fair payment down the supply chain and approaches to demonstrate transparency of payment terms.

### Links to recent Fair Payment resources

- [Contract Terms Recommendations](#) - Updated guidance by Build UK
- [Construction Sector Payment Performance](#) – Data published under the Duty to Report on Payment Practices and Performance. Build UK benchmarking the payment terms of its members and the wider industry

- PPN 03/23 - [Use of the Common Assessment Standard](#)
- The CLC [Business Models and Fair Payment Workstream](#)



# CLC Priority Progress

## Building Safety (page 1 of 2)

### Wider HMG / Regulator / Industry Update - Building Safety

- **Building Safety Regulator (BSR)** - On 1<sup>st</sup> October, the BSR became the Building Control Authority for all higher-risk buildings (HRBs) in England. More information can be found [here](#). [Guidance](#) is published on how to submit and manage a building control application to the BSR.
- **Fire Safety Guidance** - The Home Office have published two new pieces of fire safety guidance - [Fire Safety Order: enforcement and sanctions for non-compliance](#) and [A guide for persons with duties under fire safety legislation](#).
- **Fire Safety in Buildings E-Learning Course** - The new free [eCourse](#) has been developed by CITB in partnership with Build UK and fire industry experts, with the aim of improving the sector's knowledge of fire safety measures in buildings.
- **Principal Accountable Persons (PAPs) and Accountable Persons (APs)** - The BSR has published four new guidance documents:
  - [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 Principal Accountable Persons](#) - how to assess and manage building safety risks in high-rise residential buildings.
  - [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.

- **Registered Building Control Approvers - [Guidance](#)** to understand the role, legal duties and how to register as a building control approver in England, with the BSR.
- **2<sup>nd</sup> staircases** – Publication of technical documents due at the end of 2023. The CLC has been working with the Building Safety Regulator to finalise these. A [transitional arrangement statement](#) by Michael Gove, SoS DLUHC, about the introduction of the requirement to have second staircases in new residential buildings above 18m in height, which allows 30 months for developers to meet the new regulations. Any approved applications that do not follow the new guidance will have 18 months for construction to get underway in earnest.
- **Building Control Competency Assessment Scheme** - The BSR has approved the Building Control Competency Assessment (BCCA) scheme, provided by Total Training Development Ltd. Competence assessments are the first step in becoming a registered building inspector. Under the Building Safety Act 2022, all building control professionals will need to be registered by April 2024 to continue working in the profession.

### Upcoming Events

- First in a series of Building Safety webinars:  
3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023- 10:00-12:00- BSR and CLC Webinar – Building Safety Fundamentals. [Register here](#).



# CLC Priority Progress

## Building Safety (page 2 of 2)

- **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** - The BSR and the Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) have signed a [MoU](#) to co-operate in areas relating to their regulatory responsibilities. Both will have access to wide-ranging powers to regulate the safety of high-rise buildings and the respective construction products used within them.
- **Higher-Risk Buildings (Keeping and Provision of Information etc.) (England) Regulations 2023** – The [Regulations](#) were laid on 17<sup>th</sup> October and set out the golden thread information that the people responsible for an occupied higher-risk building need to keep, and what information they need to provide to others including residents of the building. DLUHC consulted on these proposals last summer. Alongside the Regulations, the [Government response](#) to the consultation has also been published.
- **Guidance on the criteria for being a Higher-Risk Building** – DLUHC have published new and updated guidance for:
  - [The design and construction of new higher-risk buildings.](#)
  - [Building work in existing higher-risk buildings.](#)
  - [The occupation phase of the higher-risk regime.](#)

### **Industry Safety Steering Group & Competence Steering Group**

- [CSG](#) are in the final stages of putting together their final report before their transfer to the Building Safety Regulator. As part of this process, Graham Watts will step down as chair and they will select a replacement.
- [ISSG](#) has no substantive updates.

### **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](#)
- The Construction Leadership Council [Building Safety Workstream](#)
- [Guidance on the criteria for being a Higher-Risk Building](#)
- [Higher-Risk Buildings \(Keeping and Provision of Information etc.\) \(England\) Regulations 2023](#)
- [Building Safety Update - Latest news from the BSR and OPSS](#)
- [CITB Launch Fire Safety in Buildings E-Learning Course](#)
- [Publication of New Fire Safety Guidance](#)
- [Pilot Project to Cut Defects](#)



# CLC Priority Progress

## People and Skills

### UCAS launches new apprenticeship service

- UCAS has officially added apprenticeship vacancies to its website so that students can consider them as an option alongside degrees. Skills Minister Robert Halfon MP called the change “fantastic” and said putting apprenticeships on the same footing as university degrees is one of his “top priorities” as Minister. Jennifer Coupland, Chief Executive of the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education, said the new service was a “massive step forward for apprenticeships”.

### Advanced British Standard

- The DfE has published a [written statement on the Advanced British Standard](#) for 16 to 19 year olds, announced by the Prime Minister at the Conservative Party Conference. The ABS will bring together A Levels and T Levels into a single, overarching qualification to ensure both academic and technical qualifications are placed on an equal footing. The statement provides information on how £600m will be provided over the next two years to lay the groundwork for the new qualification. Delivery and implementation is expected to take up to ten years with extensive consultation across industry, CLC is engaging with DfE to ensure the new qualification works for the construction industry.
- CLC will be developing an FAQs document for the industry which will be issued shortly.

### Level 3 Post 16 Qualifications Review Update

- As part of the Government’s reforms to post-16 qualifications at level 3 in England, DfE has published the [final list of technical qualifications](#) that have been assessed to overlap with wave 3 T Levels. In a [Ministerial Statement](#), the Government confirmed that reforms are now part of the work to prepare the landscape for the ABS by removing duplicative, low-quality courses, that don’t deliver the skills employers need. However it is anticipated the change will take 10 years to deliver.

### Competence Super Sectors

- The Super Sector Competence programme continues to engage with industry stakeholders to roll out competence frameworks for installers, focussing on the Envelope Super Sector first. If any employers are interested in assisting the installer competence frameworks, please contact the Super Sector Programme Director, [Faye Burnett](#).



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Thank you for reading this issue of CLC Connect. If you would like to provide feedback then please email [construction.enquiries@businessandtrade.gov.uk](mailto:construction.enquiries@businessandtrade.gov.uk)

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



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