

**GOVERNMENT HEALTH AND
SAFETY LEAD****DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**

From Lance Goodall - Director GHSL

**REGISTRATIONS OPEN – PUBLIC SECTOR
'DRIVING SAFELY FOR WORK' CONFERENCE**

Thursday 12th November 2026 at Shed 6 Wellington

Our sponsors have lined up an exciting array of speakers focused on Driving Safely for Work. Registration can be completed [here](#), with more information available on our [website](#).

GHSL SUMMER INTERN PROGRAMME

We are delighted that NZISM will be sponsoring the 2026 Summer Internship Programme. NZISM will help promote the programme, enhance the activities available to interns and reduce costs for GHSL, benefiting all member agencies.

We have received 102 applications for four placements across Auckland and Wellington. A big thank you to our four participating agencies for continuing to provide this cost-effective pathway for attracting new talent and strengthening the pipeline of high-quality health and safety practitioners. Given the large number of quality applicants, there is still time if any agency would like to join the programme - contact Debbie at Deborah.Bridge@mpi.govt.nz or 022 013 4884 for a chat before 7 September.

Also, if you would like to host an intern event this summer, either at your agency or online, highlighting the day-to-day health, safety and wellbeing initiatives underway in your organisation, please contact Debbie.

GHSL ANNUAL SURVEY IS LIVE - YOUR VIEWS ARE NEEDED

This week we're resuming our annual survey, with every response received improving our ability to understand how we're doing and what really matters. Questions are formatted in such a way to protect respondent anonymity, and to extend data provided through previous GHSL surveys and independent four-year reviews. A high response rate allows the public sector's H&S community to have its say on whether a function like the Government Health and Safety Lead function is useful, and how it can best support and influence desired public sector outcomes. Once interpreted we will share findings here, and in the Sector H&S Dashboard, with plans to enhance and repeat this survey each year. [Click here to complete the 5-10min survey](#)

NEBOSH COURSE - AUCKLAND

HSE Global is once again offering a discounted rate for all GHSL and NZISM members for the NEBOSH International General Certificate in health and safety

The course is held over 10 days (two block weeks) in class with online study support from HSE Global experienced tutors through the HSE Global Academy.

Dates: Block 1: 12-16 October 2026 Block 2: 9-13 November 2026

Location: Auckland University

For more information or to enroll in the certificate, please email dan.davis@hseglobal.com



SAFE-GOV MOBILE APP SURPASSES 1000 DOWNLOADS

The initial phase of adoption is progressing well, with steady rates of Safe-Gov work device installs and addition to company portals. More than 350 users (mostly executives and officers) have been authorised to access Safe-Gov.

However, of these only a third have actually signed in, activating their profile, with an even lower proportion then going on to use the additional features to record officer due diligence activities and assist with evidence for reporting and audit purposes.

The future success of Safe-Gov is contingent on it being a useful and practical tool for officers and executives in the public sector. We are reliant on H&S leads and internal experts to explore and promote the functions and ensure it is integrated with organisational systems and governance practice.

Please let me know if you would like the GHSL to demo Safe-Gov at any leadership forum, help resolve any ICT or security issues, or if you have direct feedback on why it does or does not work within your organisational context.

OFFICER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



The GHSL has again partnered with the Institute of Directors to provide the Officer Development training programme. This is aimed at tier 1- 3 leaders and those who have health and safety responsibilities. It aims to clarify the role of an officer under the HSWA and what their responsibilities are compared with those of senior leaders.

The 2027 course dates are:

Course 17, Thursdays, 18th March and 13th May

Course 18, Thursdays, 5th August and 9th September

If you are interested in a place on one of these courses, please contact anita.mcghie-filkins@mpi.govt.nz

WORKSAFE IMPLEMENTATION OF HSWA AMENDMENTS

WorkSafe is engaging with industry and sector bodies in preparation of releasing tranches of guidance through September and October, and an online tool next year, to help businesses and employers navigate what's changing on 1st April 2027.

A copy of WorkSafe's presentation to the Industry Guidance Advisory Group can be viewed by those with access to the [Member H&S Resource Hub](#). We will also co-host a webinar with Worksafe on the 8th October, invitations will follow shortly.

HSE GLOBAL H&S REP PATHWAY

The HSE Global H&S Rep eLearning Pathway, developed with the GHSL and three member agencies, provides a low-cost, easy and flexible approach that can dovetail into existing training programmes, providing the key H&S concepts from worker engagement through to risk identification and incident awareness.

These 10 online modules have been specifically developed for the public sector and are designed to help H&S Reps to apply their knowledge and skills immediately and to strengthen their confidence, while fitting learning around work commitments. The modules are available at a GHSL exclusive cost of just \$200 per learner for all 10 and are aligned to the NZISM H&S Rep Competency Wheel.

👉 Start learning today <https://lnkd.in/eyQJ7CMc>

JOB VACANCIES

If you know of any H&S entry level advisor role vacancies, a few of this year's interns on fixed term contracts are finishing up and are looking for their next H&S role. Please contact Debbie Bridge, at Deborah.Bridge@mpi.govt.nz for more information.

Member Health & Safety Resource Hub

Monthly focus:



Capability and Capacity

The number of documents loaded into the GHSL H&S Resource Hub is steadily growing, with increasing numbers of member agencies contributing (access is for approved individuals only).

We frequently receive enquiries related to H&S function or job design for organisations looking to ensure consistency of practice and approach across the public sector.

Please can you upload any recent Job Descriptions, artifacts that cover how the H&S function is designed and delivered, or competency and development frameworks into [Capability and Capacity folder](#) pictured (or e-mail Deborah.Bridge@mpi.govt.nz and she can upload them for you).

For other enquiries please contact liam.bourne@mpi.govt.nz

STROKE AOTEAROA AND HEALTH15 UPDATE

At the 2026 GHSL H&S Reps Conference, 97 participants took part in voluntary blood pressure checks. The results highlighted an important health concern, with 80% showing elevated or high blood pressure levels.



More than half of those tested (53%) fell within the high blood pressure category, and 7% recorded readings consistent with a hypertensive crisis, requiring immediate follow-up. These findings reinforce the importance of regular blood pressure monitoring and early intervention to help prevent serious health issues. You can see the full range of statistics in the [infographic here](#). Please contact strokenz@stroke.org.nz if you would like to discuss getting Health15 on site at any time

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSING CAREER PATHWAY

A national project is underway to develop a clear, consistent and nationally aligned career pathway for Occupational Health Nurses across Aotearoa New Zealand. The project is being developed collaboratively by Occupational Health Nurses and key sector partners, including NZOHNA, ANZSOM, GHSL, and major employers. Together, these organisations are working to create a practical and sustainable pathway that supports workforce development and helps build Occupational Health Nursing capability nationally by providing greater clarity around career development, capability expectations and progression opportunities across the profession. Debbie Bridge was invited to assist with the project, to bring a public sector health and safety perspective to support the development of this career pathway. I look forward to sharing progress and opportunities for engagement as this work develops.



NZISM REGIONAL ROADSHOW 2026 – INCREASING YOUR INFLUENCE

Technical expertise can identify risk. Influence creates change.

NZISM is bringing Craig Marriott to 15 locations nationwide (with an online option), between September and November, for the [Regional Roadshow 2026: Increasing Your Influence](#).

This practical and thought-provoking workshop explores four critical areas of organisational influence; Understanding influence and modern safety leadership, delivering persuasive arguments that resonate, understanding your audience, and building credibility and trust.

**28 OCTOBER
2026**

Hnry Stadium, Wellington

**29 OCTOBER
2026**

Eden Park, Auckland

**29 OCTOBER
2026**

Livestream, Livestream

**30 OCTOBER
2026**

Christchurch Town Hall,
Christchurch

Register now for early bird pricing!

Available until 22 Sep 2026

SAFEGUARD
LegalSAFE 2026
HEALTH & SAFETY LAW CONFERENCE



Thomson
Reuters