

**GOVERNMENT HEALTH AND  
SAFETY LEAD**

# DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Lance Goodall - Director GHSL

## OFFICER DEVELOPMENT

We now have dates for the Officer Development 2026 course.

Below are the dates – if you would like to register for one of these courses, please email [anita.mcghie-filkins@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:anita.mcghie-filkins@mpi.govt.nz)

- Course 15 – Wellington - Thursday 12 March and 14 May, 8:30am - 1pm
- Course 16 – Wellington - Thursday 20 August and 24 September, 8:30am - 1pm

This programme is essential for those leaders with Health and Safety responsibilities under HSWA 2015 and now is a great time to lock it into calendars before they fill up.

## WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBER

This month I'm delighted to welcome Worksafe as our newest GHSL member agency.



**WORKSAFE**  
NEW ZEALAND | MAHI HAUMARU  
AOTEAROA

## GHSL MOBILE APP UPDATE

Work on the GHSL mobile app continues to progress and it now has a name and icon: Safe-Gov. During October the Safe-Gov app will undergo user testing, applications for app stores and security assessments. It is currently on track to be released by the end of this year. If there are any related content or events you think public service officers would benefit from having available to access or view at launch within the app please let Liam know.  
- [liam.bourne@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:liam.bourne@mpi.govt.nz)

**Safe-Gov**

## SUMMER INTERNSHIP UPDATE

We've completed recruitment for our 2025/26 HSW summer internship programme. With just 12 placements available, three very impressive candidates narrowly missed out and are looking for work. If you could use some support and have any casual or fixed term placements available, please contact Debbie Bridge on 0220134884.

Also, one of our standout GHSL 2024/25 interns is now finishing up university and actively seeking full-time employment, starting in February 2026. Again, please contact Debbie for more information.

# MAXIMISING MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

Australian Psychological Services (AUS) has kindly provided us with a copy of their [checklist](#), designed to help assess whether Mental Health events and initiatives follow best practice and are safe. Not every activity has a positive impact on people, so thinking across a broader scope helps to ensure there are no unintended consequences.

## DISCONTINUING THE GHSL 0800 NUMBER

The GHSL has had its own 0800 number for many years (0800 HS LEAD). However, almost all the enquiries coming through the 0800 number are not related to the GHSL and our work and have needed to be redirected within the public service and elsewhere. This isn't a cost effective use of our time and funds and I have made the decision to decommission this service. All individual GHSL contact details are publicly available, so there will be no difficulty in contacting any of us directly.

## SHAKEOUT NEW ZEALAND - THURSDAY 16 OCTOBER

New Zealand [ShakeOut](#) is our national earthquake drill and tsunami hīkoi (evacuation). ShakeOut 2025 is happening on Thursday 16 October! Take some time to talk with your team about the ShakeOut drill and emergency preparedness, and get ready to practice your Drop Cover Hold.



## CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

- T2 HSW Leaders Breakfast on **23 October 2025**, will feature Hugo Vitalis (DCE, Public Service Commission) launching the new resource “Your Complaint, Your Rights” with Richard Waggott (DCE, Corrections) leading an agency discussion to share experiences of managing behaviour-based complaints. Please encourage your T2 HSW Leader to attend this interesting session.
- NZISM – Brent Sutton roadshows – on [NZISM website](#)
- [Mental Health Awareness Week](#) – **6-12 October 2025**~~
- [LegalSafe conference 2025](#) – **21-23 October**~
- [New Zealand Occupational Hygiene Society's Occupational Hygiene Training Association courses](#):~~
  - Health Effects of Hazardous Substances (Auckland) – **20-24 October 2025**~
  - Asbestos and Other Fibres (Christchurch) – **17-21 November 2025**.~~
- New Zealand Asbestos Awareness Week 2025 is coming up in **November**. Keep your eyes peeled for more information on our social media channels~
- Leading Safety's next [Executive Health and Safety Leadership Programme \(ELP\)](#) - Auckland on **20 and 21 November**.

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