

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

From Lance Goodall - Director GHSL

MENTALLY HEALTHY WORK

The full series of four [MHW development modules](#) intended to prime Executive and Functional Leaders with the information necessary to drive conversations on psychological health and safety, maturity and the desired next steps are available now. Any enquiries on how you can make optimal use of these modules within your own organisational context please e-mail liam.bourne@mpi.govt.nz.

Massey University's Healthy Work Team have also made great progress on the Mentally Healthy Work - Practitioner Course. Trialled initially by a public sector cohort as part of the 2023 programme pilot this online micro-credentialled course has been further improved upon for content currency and to boost national capability in the area. Now available for H&S, HR and other practitioners both public and public working in the field to register, costing \$1200 (exc. GST), the next cohort is planned to run between April-June 2025. Early expressions of interest or questions can be e-mailed directly to Associate Professor (and Course Lecturer) Dr. David Tappin D.C.Tappin@massey.ac.nz (see [course brochure](#) for further details).

WELCOMING A NEW GHSL REFERENCE GROUP MEMBER

I'm delighted to officially welcome Harry Maher, Head of Safety with the Department of Conservation, to the GHSL Reference Group. Harry's expertise and insights will be a valuable addition to the group. For those unfamiliar with the Reference Group's role, it serves as a key advisory body, ensuring our programme remains aligned with the sector's needs. You can learn more about what the Reference Group does for the GHSL [here](#).

A core part of our Reference Group meetings is hearing what's 'top of mind' for members and their current work programmes. These discussions help us ensure the GHSL's initiatives align with the sector's evolving priorities.

I also value the ongoing engagement I have with all of you. To keep our work relevant and impactful, I encourage you to keep sharing what's on your radar—your challenges, successes and focus areas. Your input is critical in shaping the GHSL's direction and ensuring we continue to support you effectively.

GHSL HEALTH AND SAFETY REP OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Nominations for the GHSL Health and Safety Rep of the Year are now open, with both Individual and Team Awards up for grabs. Winners get to keep a beautiful Award from Corrections, carved by an inmate as part of their rehabilitation and a training voucher from +IMPAC. The forms and guidelines are attached to this Email and also available on our [website](#). Nominations close on Friday 28th March - for examples of previous finalists and the work they have done, check out our website page [here](#).

05 JUNE 2025

SHED 6

Wellington

Government
Health & Safety Lead

LOOKING AHEAD: GHSL 18-MONTH PROGRAMME OF WORK

To help you keep up to date with what we are doing, [here](#) is a link to the GHSL 18-month event calendar, which outlines our engagement activities. This provides an overview of key initiatives, workshops and forums, ensuring transparency in our approach and alignment with sector priorities. I look forward to your feedback as we move ahead.

2025 CAPABILITY PROGRAMMES

Acknowledging the fiscal constraints still being faced by our member agencies, we are hoping that in 2025 we will be able to continue building capability across the public sector with our targeted programmes such as Officer Development, Public Sector Early in Careers Health and Safety Certificate and the Summer Internship Programmes.

- Officer Development courses – Targeted particularly at our Tier 1 & 2 leaders, we will be running two courses: one starting in March and another starting in August. Registrations are open, please contact Anita McGhie-Filkins. (Cost \$1,000 +GST) per person.
- Early in Careers Programme – Targeted at our H&S co-ordinators, new Advisers or H&S Reps seeking professional development, we are looking to run two courses in March and July. (Cost \$1,165+GST) per person.

INTERN PROGRAMME

In November, the eighth Summer Internship programme started. This year, we have welcomed eight interns, with three located in Auckland and five in Wellington. These successful candidates were selected from 350 applications. We would like to acknowledge this intern cohort is the first time we will have had a cohort that covers two geographically separate groups of interns. If you are looking ahead for budgeting purposes, the internship costs \$15,568 (for three months' salary @\$27.80 per hour.) If you would like more information about the 2025/26 Intern Programme, please contact Debbie Bridge.

TIER 2 HSW LEADERS – SECOND T2 BREAKFAST EVENT CONFIRMED

Following the success of our inaugural breakfast event in October, we have booked our second breakfast event for 30 April. Superintendents Kelly Ryan and Melanie Aitken, along with Deputy Commissioner Chris de Wattignar, from New Zealand Police will share their Tactical Response Model in the context of health, safety, and wellbeing and how they put this model together in place to keep their people as safe as possible following the murder of Constable Matt Hunt.

FREE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS KŌRERO FOR CHANGE SESSION

Given that traditional emergency planning often overlooks the needs of disabled people, including accessible communication, evacuation protocols, and essential resources, Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People is supporting a free session, hosted by Access Matters Aotearoa, exploring ways to make emergency preparedness inclusive and effective for all in Aotearoa New Zealand.

This kōrero will focus on Emergency Preparedness for the disabled community. Inclusive emergency preparedness means having accessible evacuation routes, support systems, and resources that accommodate diverse needs, ultimately ensuring no one is left behind. This approach not only benefits disabled people but also enhances community resilience and collective safety, fostering a culture of inclusivity and respect.

Webinar Details

- Date: Wednesday, 11th December 2024
- Time: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Where: Via Zoom
- Registration: [Register via Zoom](#)

MARITIME NZ V GIBSON

Following the guilty plea of Ports of Auckland (PCBU) in 2023 in relation to the tragic death of Pala'amo (Amo) Kalati, a stevedore who died of crush injuries when a shipping container fell, on the 27th November Mr Gibson (Former CE of Ports of Auckland) was also found guilty (pending appeal). The judge found Mr Gibson failed the 'reasonably practicable test' in complying with his proactive section 44 officer duty to exercise due diligence over the Port, marking the first guilty verdict in this area of personal liability since the introduction of the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 (specifically strengthened to further hold to account those with significant control and influence over health and safety matters within an organisation). The Business Leaders' Health and Safety Forum have scheduled two webinars for members exploring this judgment and including expert opinion to be held on the 17th and 18th of December. Dentons have also produced a brief legal Summary [available here](#).

UPDATED INTEGRITY FRAMEWORK - LAUNCH EVENT

[The integrity Framework](#) for the public sector has been recently updated by the Office of the Controller and Auditor General, providing an integrated approach to examining the values, systems and norms in a workplace. This framework supports senior leaders and governors to close the gap between the culture an organisation wants to have and actual practice, developing public trust in Government and the wider public sector. For those interested in attending the online launch event, including a section on positive workplace cultures/safe systems of work in the context of raising and responding to concerns, [please register to attend here](#).