

The ROSPA logo features the letters 'ROSPA' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The letter 'O' is replaced by a circular icon composed of three overlapping segments in green, red, and blue. The logo is set against a white background with a thin grey border.

ROSPA

accidents don't have to happen

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents

A close-up photograph of a young child with curly hair sitting in a car seat. The child is smiling and looking towards the camera. A woman's hands are visible, adjusting the black seatbelt straps across the child's chest. The woman is wearing a blue uniform. The background is slightly blurred, showing the interior of the car.

2022-23 Highlights

Welcome

RoSPA is a leading voice in health and safety that campaigns to reduce avoidable accidents. Our vision is to create a life free from accidental injury, and with the support of our members, this is at the core of everything we do. We lobby Government on issues that matter, pioneer the world's largest health and safety awards and provide a suite of RoSPA qualifications that help learners and employers keep their colleagues safe from accidents and ill-health.

We are deeply honoured that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was our treasured Royal Patron for the last 70 years. Her passing in September 2022 was marked by a period of mourning and remembrance at RoSPA.

The year 2022-23 saw RoSPA's influence grow both in the UK and worldwide, with our data-led approach and emphasis on working in partnership with others to share knowledge enabling us to lead the conversation and move forward with our mission and vision to reduce accidental injuries and the pain and suffering they cause.

Our presence online expanded and diversified, with higher engagement on social media and our website, new e-learning training courses and web resources and a series of successful webinars.

Our subsidiary, RoSPA Qualifications, increased its offering of regulated, customised international qualifications and course assurance services across workplace and driving topics, while our joint work with Field Consulting UK culminated in us winning 2022's PRCA Public Affairs Award for Best in-house Consultancy Collaboration, for the Safer Stairs campaign.

Our work is guided by our vision:
**Life, free from serious
accidental injury**





Preventing falls

Our top priority remained the prevention of falls and in May we launched our Falls Charitable Appeal. We urged employers and the health and safety community to use the skills they have developed in fall prevention in workplaces to educate their employees to help prevent falls in the home by delivering our free, twenty-minute Fall Fighter awareness sessions to their staff. Hundreds of organisations responded to our call and created thousands of Fall Fighters across the UK.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), unintentional injuries take the lives of **3.16 million people every year, including over 684,000 deaths due to falls**



Protect Our People

This year also saw the launch of our Protect Our People campaign, which aimed to protect the UK safety standards currently enshrined in law that were threatened by the Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Bill (REUL) and ensure that the UK retains its status as a global leader in health and safety.

RoSPA was the leading voice on this issue among health and safety organisations. The campaign galvanised support from hundreds of our members and allies across many industries and gained widespread media coverage. We also garnered significant support from members of Parliament, including our President, Baroness Judith Jolly, who spoke vociferously on our behalf in the House of Lords. We submitted an amendment calling for a health and safety impact assessment of every law before it was removed, clearly demonstrating the importance of having a robust legal framework in place for the health and safety of the population.



Water and leisure safety

One of our main priorities is to reduce the several hundred drowning deaths that occur every year in the UK. We also provide a wealth of advice and conducted consultancy and site audits.

Highlights this year included:

- The National Water Safety Forum, which is hosted by RoSPA, launched the new Respect The Water campaign to mark World Drowning Prevention Day. The high-profile campaign adverts reached over 50 million people in the UK in the first week alone.
- Over 25 well-known landmarks, as well as emergency service buildings, lit up blue across the UK in support for World Drowning Prevention Day, while RoSPA in Scotland, on behalf of Water Safety Scotland, collaborated with Scottish Water, RNLI and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to host its inaugural Water Safety Open Day, which was attended by 1,500 people.
- A new Drowning and Incident Review for Scotland was created by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and RoSPA, in partnership with Water Safety Scotland. Research on the Review, co-authored by our Leisure Safety Manager, Carlene McAvoy, was published in the BMJ's *Injury Prevention* journal.
- The RoSPA National Water Safety Conference 2023 took place in Cardiff, under the title *With Global calls to prevent drowning: How is the UK responding?*



Image credit:
Paul Watt Photography

In its first week alone, the Respect the Water campaign adverts **reached over 50 million people in the UK**





We received nearly **2,000 entries** to the RoSPA Awards and presented **500 prizes**, with over **2,000 people attending** our ceremonies

Workplace safety

RoSPA worked tirelessly to influence policy and lead thinking in occupational safety and health.

Highlights this year included:

- The RoSPA Health and Safety Awards, which is the largest occupational health and safety awards programme in the UK, received entries from thousands of organisations from the UK and more than 50 other countries, representing a combined total of over seven million employees. Our ceremonies recommenced following a hiatus during COVID, with three dazzling events, in London, Cheshire and – for the first time – Dubai.
- Our 2023 Awards scheme launched with a new trophy recognising exemplary practice in falls prevention, a new headline sponsor and plans for ceremonies in London, Glasgow and Dubai.
- We hosted a garden party for the winners of our COVID Workplace Champions scheme, rewarding those people who went above and beyond to keep their staff safe during the pandemic.
- We also held a People Sustainability event in partnership with L'Oréal and the Capitals Coalition, which attracted prestigious health and safety influencers from across the globe.



Play safety

RoSPA's Play Safety team undertook playground inspections, risk assessments and a wide range of other services to ensure children played in safety.

This year's highlights included:

- Our Virtual Play Safety Conference 2023 looked at managing the use of timber.
- At every playground inspection we undertake throughout the UK, we assess the play value offered to children. The best were shortlisted for our Play Value Awards, with the winners decided by Conference delegates.



Our research found that **e-scooters** have an incident rate of **0.66 collisions for every million miles travelled** – five times lower than bicycles and nine times lower than motorcycles

Road safety

The safety of road users remained a key priority this year, with RoSPA offering an array of training services globally and shaping national policy through its contributions to consultations, research, tools and guidance.

Highlights included:

- A Virtual RoSPA Excellence in Road Safety Conference.
- New online guidance on safe motorway driving, motorcycle safety and training and older drivers.
- A study into the safety of e-scooters which included a set of recommendations.
- The Scottish Occupational Road Safety Alliance (ScORSA), delivered by RoSPA, released a road safety communications toolkit, ran a successful series of webinars and launched a road safety podcast.
- During RoSPA's platinum anniversary year in Wales, the road safety team continued to hold an ongoing integral role in the nation's Road Safety Wales partnership, receiving Welsh Government grant funding to deliver a comprehensive road safety programme, including supporting the development of a new road safety strategy for Wales.



Home safety

Accidents in the home kill and injure thousands of people every year but are not given the attention they deserve. RoSPA continues to be one of the few voices speaking out on the importance of home safety, particularly among those most vulnerable – the under-fives and over-65s.

Highlights this year included:

- The launch of the Safe and Secure button battery safety campaign, funded by the Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS).
- In addition, we joined forces with OPSS to run the #SafeFashion campaign to raise awareness of the dangers of swallowing magnets used as “fake” piercings.
- The Virtual Home Safety Conference 2023 asked *What can we learn to prepare for the way we live now?*
- Our Take Action Today, Put Them Away poisoning prevention project expanded further this year, with South Tyneside becoming the 83rd area of the country to take part.
- As one of the founding members of Airbnb’s UK Trust and Safety Alliance, we provided the Airbnb community with guidance on home safety, attending an event and publishing two guides to help hosts and guests spot potential hazards.
- Further afield, RoSPA, in partnership with L’Oréal, officially launched the Keeping Kids Safe programme in India with a visit to Mumbai, Pune and Baddi to engage with children on the key risks to their safety and provide parents with the advice and tools they need to keep their kids safe.



In the first three months, our Safe and Secure and #SafeFashion



campaigns **were viewed by nearly 50,000 people on social media**





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Patron: Her Majesty The Queen (1952-2022)

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