

Chris Jones: WISH

Work continues on transferring the current waste sector guidance from the HSE website to the WISH website, this includes reviewing and expanding the guidance documents beyond simple compliant practice, to add best practice, case studies and downloadable resources.

Fires in the sector remain a major issue with a great deal of work going into understanding waste sector fires, fire prevention and fire fighting. Substantial funding has been found between the FRS/EA and industry for fire research. Public Health England is now also being engaged so that the public health issues can be better understood and considered. There is significant interest in across Europe in the work that the UK is doing in this area.

One of the major issues has been identified as high energy density batteries in the waste stream which can fail explosively. WISH and its constituent organisations are looking at how public attention may be brought to this serious issue.

WISH's strategic work groups have been commenced on employee involvement and engagement (including behavioural safety) (Led by John McClean of the GMB and Geoff Smallwood of Shanks) and on occupational health and hygiene (led by Dr Peter Sykes of Cardiff University and Dr Toni Gladding of the Open University).