



accidents don't have to happen

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents

Accidents don't have to happen

2025 – 2026 Impact Report



RoSPA

Our Purpose:

To prevent accidents which needlessly kill, injure, and maim people.

For more than a century, RoSPA has occupied a unique and trusted position at the heart of the health and safety world. We work across road, work, home and leisure safety, operating at the intersection of evidence, policy, and practical action. This breadth gives RoSPA a rare, holistic perspective on how accidents happen – and, crucially, how they can be prevented.

That role has never been more important. Accidental harm remains one of the leading causes of preventable death and serious injury in the UK and globally. Through our global accident prevention work and our Annual Review of Accidents, RoSPA continues to provide independent, authoritative insight into emerging risks, long-term trends and where urgent action is needed. At the same time, our training, consultancy and awards programmes translate evidence into action, raising standards, building competence and recognising excellence to create safer working environments across sectors. At a time of rapid technological change, workforce pressures and growing inequality, evidence led safety leadership is essential.

This impact report reflects what has been achieved over the last year through collective effort. We are deeply grateful to our partners, whose collaboration strengthens our influence and reach, and to our members, whose commitment underpins everything we do. We thank our Trustees for their governance and strategic oversight, and our Presidential Team for their leadership. In particular, we are delighted to welcome Baroness Watkins of Tavistock, who joined our presidential team in May, bringing invaluable experience and advocacy for safety and skills.

Together, we are working to make life safer for everyone.



Becky Hickman
CEO of RoSPA

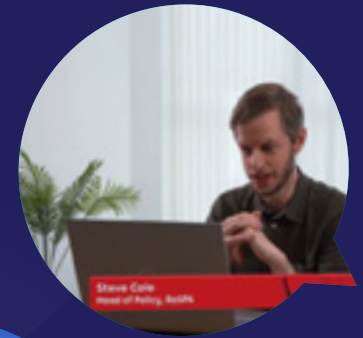
2025 – 2026 in numbers

Our Mission:

Together with our members we create a safer society by convening leaders, setting standards, sharing excellence and driving change.

Influencing Safer Behaviours

RoSPA reached millions through national and regional media, with **5,931** press features generating an estimated **232.8** million views.



RoSPA Awards



This year saw **2,775** entries across all categories from **56** countries and **31** industry sectors.

Training



1,888 drivers were trained in safer driving
4,490 people received workplace health and safety training.

Media

Our website was visited **1,232,283** times by **509,066** users.



Across our Social Media channels we reached **519,244** users.

Setting Standards

Calling on the Government to introduce a National Accident Prevention Strategy.

On 17 July 2025, RoSPA's Presidential Team played a pivotal role in a House of Lords debate, led by Baroness Crawley and attended by Lord Jordan, spotlighting the urgent need for a National Accident Prevention Strategy. The discussion highlighted the fragmented nature of government responsibility for accident prevention and called for a joined-up strategy with clear ministerial leadership.



Crucially, the discussion placed accident prevention on the parliamentary record and highlighted its absence from the NHS 10 Year Plan as a critical strategic gap. This intervention marked an important step in building political awareness and consensus, strengthening the foundations for future policy change and reinforcing RoSPA's role as the authoritative voice on national accident prevention.



RoSPA's work on a National Accident Prevention Strategy has been supported through a longstanding partnership with Speedy Hire, reflecting a shared commitment to prevention, leadership and improving safety outcomes nationwide.

Shaping Policy, Raising Standards

On behalf of our members RoSPA's had **7** meetings with ministers and shadow ministers in Westminster (UK), Holyrood (Scotland) and the Senedd (Wales) and **25** meetings with MPs, MSPs, MWP's and Peers.

Alongside planned campaigns and responses to consultations, RoSPA issued frequent press releases responding to incidents, new data and emerging concerns, ensuring safety remained part of the public conversation throughout the year. By combining expert insight with accessible messaging, our press work continues to raise awareness, change behaviour and prevent avoidable harm in homes, communities and workplaces across the UK.



RoSPA Awards



The RoSPA Health and Safety Awards recognise organisations, teams, and projects across sectors for their outstanding commitment to protecting lives and maintaining high safety standards.

The 2025 awards had:

- 2,775** Entries across all categories from **56** countries
- 31** Industry sectors
- 15** Trophy Winners (including 2 Commended)
- 4** Inspiring Women Winners (including 2 Commended)
- 4** Inspiration Award Winners
- 88** Fleet Safety Awards Winners
- 1,847** Occupational Awards Winners.

A **RoSPA Gold Award** displayed at L'Oréal's New Zealand facility reflects a long standing global partnership and a strong, embedded safety culture. L'Oréal sites were among the sector award winners at the 2025 awards, recognised as a benchmark organisation and continuous improver in health and safety across global manufacturing operations.



The 70th RoSPA Awards were successfully launched on October 15 2025

Aramark UK was awarded the Sir George Earle Trophy, RoSPA's most prestigious honour for health and safety excellence. Established in 1956, the trophy is awarded to the highest performing organisation selected from across the sector award winners.



"It was incredible to receive the news that we had won the Hotel and Catering Sector Award but when we realised that we had also been shortlisted for the Sir George Earle Trophy it was a real wow moment. We had no idea we would actually go on to win it. I know there were a few tears shed with the sheer pride of winning the very top RoSPA Award and being from a sector that had never won the trophy in the 69 years that the Awards have been running."

Fran Collison

Aramark's Safety Director UK



A Global Approach to Accident Prevention

RoSPA's mission to prevent accidental harm extends well beyond the UK. Through research, convening and international partnerships, we work to share evidence, influence policy and strengthen safety leadership worldwide.

Global accident analysis

In January, RoSPA published *Accidental deaths and life changing injuries: A global tragedy, our most comprehensive global accident analysis to date*. Drawing on international datasets, including World Health Organization data, the report demonstrated the scale of accidental harm as a global public health crisis. **An estimated 3.1 million people die each year from preventable accidents – around 8,000 deaths every day.** More than 1.8 million of these deaths occur among working-age adults, placing significant economic strain on families, employers and governments.

The report highlighted stark global inequalities, with people in low- and middle-income countries facing far higher risks due to weaker infrastructure, regulation and enforcement. It positioned accident prevention not only as a public health necessity, but as a driver of economic resilience and global equity, reinforcing RoSPA's long held message that accidents are predictable, preventable and solvable.



Convening global leaders

RoSPA continued to play a convening role in the international safety community. The RoSPA Safety Summit 2025, held in Dubai on 24 September, brought together global safety leaders under the theme *Changing Hearts and Minds*. The summit explored the shift from compliance driven approaches to cultures of care, with sessions on HSE leadership, women in safety, road risk management, climate resilience, ESG, and worker wellbeing. Practical case studies and networking strengthened collaboration across high risk industries and regions.



Sharing Excellence

Single Handed Care Qualification Launched

“Developed in collaboration with key partners and supported by sector leaders, this qualification is designed to enhance the skills and knowledge of professionals, empowering them to deliver safer and more effective care.”



RoSPA launched its new Level 2 Proportionate Single Handed Care Qualification at the House of Lords on 2 April, bringing together leaders from social care, the NHS and the Department of Health and Social Care. The qualification equips care workers to safely carry out more moving and handling tasks independently, improving person centred care while increasing workforce capacity and supporting hospital discharge. In the months since the qualification was launched over 50 people have gained the qualification.



RoSPA Membership

RoSPA's membership network continues to bring together a diverse range of organisations across sectors, sizes and locations. Our members are champions of safety, shaping workforce and public behaviours, advocating for higher standards, and ensuring the voice of the safety community is heard. What unites them is a shared commitment to the wellbeing of staff, suppliers, clients and customers.



RoSPA Academy

The RoSPA Academy is a comprehensive training hub, offering a wide range of courses and qualifications designed to promote best practice and reduce accidents. The Academy delivers diverse training programmes, including driver assessments, advanced motorcycle training and workplace health and safety courses, all aimed at improving competence and preventing harm.

This year RoSPA delivered:

- **903** fleet delivery days. Delivering driving and riding training to **1,228** UK delegates.
- **684** OSH delivery days. Delivering workplace health and safety training to **4,490** UK delegates

In April, RoSPA and JLR signed an agreement to deliver driver training through RoSPA's fleet training services, supporting the development of safer drivers and safer roads. As JLR continues to advance vehicle technology, RoSPA will work in partnership to deliver and evolve client centred driver training and assessments, helping protect JLR colleagues, assets and other road users.

Alongside training, RoSPA's consultancy services provide tailored health and safety advice, including practical consultancy, safety audits and ongoing support. Together, these services help organisations ensure compliance, strengthen safety culture and continuously improve their safety performance.



RoADAR (RoSPA Advanced Drivers and Riders)

RoADAR supports safer driving and riding through structured, evidence-based development of advanced road skills. The programme brings together a nationwide network of volunteer-led local groups, providing high quality tutoring and assessment to help drivers and riders improve decision making, hazard awareness and roadcraft.

RoADAR's 3,883 members play an important role in promoting lifelong learning and a proactive approach to road safety, reinforcing RoSPA's wider mission to prevent serious injury and loss of life on the roads.

Convening leaders

OSH Skills Commission launched

In January, RoSPA launched the OSH Skills Commission to tackle growing skills gaps in occupational safety and health. Senior leaders from IOSH, Policy Connect, the Society of Occupational Medicine, BSI and Unite attended the launch, underlining strong cross sector support. Over three months The Commission held a series of discussions on:

- Recruitment of Competent People
- Technology in OSH
- Consultation and worker representation
- Wellbeing, Culture and psychological safety
- Retention of Competent People.

The Commission's findings and recommendations will be published in June 2026 setting out a clear, evidence led roadmap for strengthening OSH capability across the workforce.



Women in Safety

“The expertise and dedication to empowering women in safety leadership have left a lasting impact on me, and I am truly grateful for the teams mentorship.”

Hélène Prichonnet
EH&S Manager, Center of Excellence

The Women in Safety programme empowers women in health and safety roles globally, fostering leadership development, mentorship, and a robust support network ultimately improving diversity in the health and safety sector.

At the end of 2025 the programme has directly benefited 140 women from 22 countries.

Women in Safety won the “Most Innovative Institute Approved Programme” award at the Institute of Leadership Awards 2025, announced in November. The award recognised the Women in Safety Leadership (WiSL) programme, developed by L’Oréal and delivered in partnership with RoSPA, Nike and Leaderlike, for its innovative approach to building leadership capability, addressing gender imbalance in occupational safety and health, and driving cultural change across the sector.

Driving Change

Road safety strategy reinstated after sustained RoSPA campaigning

Following years of partnership campaigning, the UK Government reinstated a national Road Safety Strategy for the first time since 2015. Launched on 7 January, the strategy introduces clear and ambitious road safety targets, providing a renewed framework for accountability and progress. RoSPA is actively engaging with government to ensure these targets are supported by robust data, regular reporting and effective enforcement, and that public confidence is secured through evidence-led, life saving measures rather than punitive approaches.

World Drowning Prevention Day

RoSPA played a leading role in national efforts to raise awareness of drowning as a preventable global issue. As host of the National Water Safety Forum (NWSF), RoSPA supported the UK-wide “Find Your Float” campaign, promoting floating as a life-saving self-rescue technique. New data from the Water Incident Database (WAID) revealed that young people aged 10–29 account for over a quarter of accidental drowning deaths in the UK, reinforcing the need for targeted education. The campaign kick-off event at the house of Lords showcased the research behind the campaign and the importance of inter-disciplinary work in drowning prevention. A Scottish Parliamentary reception, supported by MSP Clare Adamson, recognised the collaborative work of RoSPA, NWSF, RNLI, and others in advancing water safety. The day’s theme, “Your story can save a life,” aligned with RoSPA’s mission to prevent serious accidental injuries through shared experiences and practical interventions.



Safety at home

Following coroners' reports into accidental deaths caused by poisoning among adults with dementia, RoSPA has launched new guidance on preventing accidental poisoning, including a dedicated webpage and a practical checklist for carers. As Britain's population ages, home safety for vulnerable adults will become increasingly important. Providing professionals who work with this demographic, as well as families caring for loved ones at home, with expert and accessible advice is a vital, life saving intervention.



In partnership with Wales & West Utilities, RoSPA's Carbon Monoxide Hub campaign reached 4,312,548, raising awareness of this "silent killer" at scale.



The P&G and RoSPA partnership is driving measurable impact through the launch of 'Ten Top Tips for keeping children safe at home' resource, supported by digital campaigns and training over 140 childcare practitioners to extend trusted, life saving advice into communities.



Safer Stairs Campaign

Since 2022 RoSPA have campaigned to embed BS 5395-1:2010 into Part K of Building Regulations as it has been shown to reduce the likelihood of falls on stairs by 60%. As a respected and influential developer, Berkeley Group have supported the Safer Stairs campaign. Consultation is underway to review Part K and the associated Approved Document. This presents ideal opportunity to embed BS 5395-1:2010 into Approved Document K and move toward regulatory inclusion.



RoSPA campaign prompts new hot water bottle safety standards

RoSPA successfully campaigned for the review and reinstatement of safety standards for hot water bottles after highlighting a sharp rise in burn injuries and the withdrawal of the previous standard in March 2024. Through targeted lobbying and high profile media work, RoSPA urged BSI and the Office for Product Safety and Standards to act, helping drive changes that will improve consumer safety. Burn units in England and Wales treated 968 hot water bottle related injuries in 2024, underlining the urgent need for action.



Looking ahead

Despite decades of progress, accidental harm continues to cut lives short, place pressure on health services, and cause deep and lasting impact for families and communities. The evidence is clear, the solutions are known, and the cost of inaction is too high.

Over the coming year, RoSPA will continue to champion a preventative, evidence-led approach to safety that recognises accidents as neither inevitable nor acceptable. We will intensify our call for a joined up National Accident Prevention Strategy, ensure that skills and standards keep pace with a changing world of work, and strengthen the case for safety as a social, economic and moral imperative. From global collaboration to local action, we will keep convening leaders, influencing policy and translating evidence into practical interventions that save lives.

But RoSPA cannot do this alone. Prevention succeeds only when governments prioritise leadership, when organisations embed safety into culture and decision making, and when individuals are empowered with the knowledge and confidence to act. That is why partnership sits at the heart of everything we do.

We are calling on our members, partners and supporters: to use evidence boldly, to advocate relentlessly, and to challenge complacency wherever it exists. Together, we can shift the narrative from responding to harm to preventing it; from fragmented responsibility to shared accountability; and from avoidable tragedy to safer outcomes for all.

With your continued commitment and collaboration, RoSPA will keep pushing boundaries, raising standards and driving change because accidents don't have to happen.





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