



# THE HOME BUILDERS FEDERATION

## HBF HEALTH AND SAFETY FORUM

THURSDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2015

LEA MARSTON HOTEL  
HAUNCH LANE  
LEA MARSTON  
SUTTON COLDFIELD  
B76 0BY

<b>Present</b>			
Vince Coyle (Chair)	Barratt	David Ford	Redrow Homes
Greg Johnston	Stewart Milne	Diana Parums	Story Homes
Steve Morris	CALA Group	Dave Hickman	Miller Homes
Steve Foley	Avant Homes	Martyn Price	Crest Nicholson
Richard Hardy	Davidsons Developments	Dave Watson	CCS
Steve Acaster	Persimmon	Simon Longbottom	HSE
Edward Woods	Taylor Wimpey	Mark Dyche	Safety For Design
Michelle Shani	Countryside	Steve Garrington	Kier Living
Matthew Stubblefield	Croudace	Craig Donelan	Keepmoat Homes
Keith Carnegie	Bovis Homes	Ian Viveash	Berkeley Group
Tracey Taylor	Bellway	Barry Oliver	Berkeley Group
Steve Ashworth	NHBC	Paul Haxell	Bovis Homes
Steve Dudman	Westleigh Developments	David Bolton	Morris Homes
<b>In Attendance</b>			
Dave Mitchell	HBF		
<b>Apologies</b>			
Garry Rapson	Croudace	Rick Theaker	Gleeson Homes
Steve Allix	Fairview Hew Homes	Chris Epps	NHBC

### Meeting Notes

#### 1. Welcome and Introductions

VC opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Apologies were accepted from those listed above. As there were a couple of new members present VC asked if everyone would introduce themselves.

## **2. Considerate Constructors Scheme – David Watson**

DW gave a presentation to the group entitled 'Improving the Image of Construction'

A brief Q and A followed the presentation with members of the group.

Copies of the presentation will be circulated

## **3. Notes of previous meeting including Action Log update**

Meeting notes from the meeting on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January were taken as read.

VC took the group through the Action log dated 29<sup>th</sup> April 2015. VC will update the Action Log accordingly and it will be circulated with the meeting notes.

## **4. Dust in Construction – Dave Hickman**

The 'Dust in Construction' draft launch pack was circulated to the group by VC on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2015. This was discussed at length by the group with regards to content and best way of moving forward with it.

General consensus was that something was required for suppliers of equipment clearly indicating the direction they should be looking to go with the equipment required. Also that a presentation pack was required for employers. Both of these would need to be short and illustrative.

DH suggested that HBF become a member of HAE. This would help not only on dust issues but also other health and safety areas such as HAV, Noise and safe use of tools and equipment.

An HBF membership for a year would be in the region of £350. DH to explore in more detail the potential benefits for members if HBF were to join HAE.

Feedback required to DH on both the discussions and the Dust in Construction document.

DH to report back to group at next meeting in July.

## **5. HSE/HBF review of working at height within homebuilding.**

- a. Guide to a Scaffold Specification  
VC reported that he had received some comments on the specification via Ray Cooke of the HSE and would be reviewing these. The comments were mainly around stability of the progressive access scaffold and links with TG20

- b. **Soft Landing Systems**  
A meeting was held with HSE to discuss the use of soft-landing systems in homebuilding. The current position remains that soft-landing systems correctly installed to manufactures instructions would meet requirements. The HSE have arranged a meeting with Forest Safety products as the main supplier of soft-landing bags to the industry to review the product and testing that has been undertaken.

**6. Statistics update (Reportable Injuries and Dangerous Occurrences/Fire Incidents/ Fee for Intervention) including annual report update and update on collection of data.**

MP took the group through the accident stats data. Projecting forward to 4<sup>th</sup> quarter (which although ended on 30<sup>th</sup> March and stats are still being collected) It can be seen that accidents etc will be above those of last year. Whilst the group are not happy about this – it is probably down to increase in production, sites and staff.

DM took away an action to circulate the group asking for final 4<sup>th</sup> quarter figures to be sent into HBF asap. So that these can be collated into the yearly report which can then be tabled in draft form at the next meeting.

Discussions took place re including HSE visits in data collecting. No concise view on this. VC to circulate group asap for views to be returned back so that a majority consensus can be formed on the way forward.

**7. Guidance/Sub Group Updates:**

**Contact list**

Updated contact list was issued with meeting papers. As always DM asked group to ensure that it was up to date and any changes required to be sent to [marian.macdonald@hbf.co.uk](mailto:marian.macdonald@hbf.co.uk)

**Health and Safety Charter**

Updated copy of charter (rev 4- March 2015) sent out with meeting papers. Any changes to be notified to VC asap.

**Charter Action Plan**

VC updated the group on the current position of the Charter Action plan. This will be updated and to be projected to show future work

**Installation of Roof trusses/Work at Height sub-group**

Initial draft of this put together. This Group requires feedback from members.

An update to be given at next meeting.

### **CDM sub-group**

Sub group met back in Feb to discuss draft guidance and presentation required for NHBC seminar events.

Presentation for NHBC seminars prepared and presented by group members. The presentation was entitled 'CDM2015 A House Builders perspective' and highlighted the changes and how this will effect house builders.

The HBF consortium agreement has been updated to take in the principal designer's role. HBF to ask the legal group to look at this.

Members will need to look at their policies surrounding CDM with a view to being able to show how they will now comply with CDM2015 and how if required they can produce an audit trail to prove compliance.

The CDM Working Group Sub-Committee will meet to review existing HBF guidance and where necessary produce additional advisory documents to compliment HSE and CONIAC/CITB Guidance issued with the introduction of CDM 2015.

As well as offering general industry guidance the working group will look at any specific points that were raised by Forum Members and where necessary provide advice on how to meet the requirements of the new regulations.

SA would like the members to provide him directly with questions, points or comments on any area of the new regulations that you believe require the HBF Working Group to consider and provide further information and guidance on by 22 May 2015.

## **8. Update from CONIAC**

PH gave the group a update on CONIAC work. They may look at establishing working groups that will further its aims. Currently the following groups exist. Asbestos Liaison group, Safety working group, Working Well together group and Health Risks working group. CONIAC's plan of work centres around CDM2015, Inspection – health and safety, Investigation and working with industry. Also they have recurring challenges. These include such topics as falls from heights. Talks about should CDM have an ACOP continue. Whilst there is support for one it needs to have value. Any ACOP/s would need to be signed off by the minister.

The work of smaller house builders is also on their agenda.

BO updated the group on a project he is chairing on Health and Safety in Multi-Storey structures and requested that other members of the group could assist. All requested to contact BO with nominations.

#### **9. Impact Wrenches for tightening scaffold fittings**

A member reported experiencing a number of issues around the use of impact wrenches with scaffolders that is challenging his business. In a number of cases it is suggested scaffolders will charge us an addition percentage if we do not allow them to use impact wrenches for erection/ dismantling. Members were asked if they were experiencing the same problem.

#### **10. Structural Timber Association – Guidance for Smaller Sites**

Letter from HSE to STA re STA guidance for smaller sites less than 600m<sup>2</sup> was issued to the group with the papers for today's meeting. STA had been in to HBF offices to discuss the contents of this letter – hence it being discussed today.

We have as a group made our feelings known to the HSE in the past surrounding this and SL (HSE) who was at today's meeting suggested that this was taken forward by the STA with the HSE.

Members suggested that if as a result of this any new requirements which need to be developed needs to be discussed with the industry. STA will be informed of this.

#### **11. Next meeting date:**

- Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2015 – Hilton Garden Inn, Birmingham B1 2HW