



The Social Housing Safety Network Scotland NEWSLETTER

Welcome!

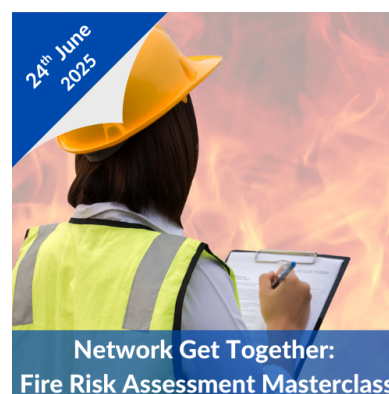
Our Spring 2025 newsletter will bring you up to date with what's happened since the last edition and what we've got coming up over the coming months.

FREE FRA masterclass - Glasgow

Back by popular demand, this 'Masterclass' session has been designed to support social housing providers to understand their responsibilities around fire risk assessment and will share a raft of useful information to help providers choose assessors that are competent and understand the contents of the resultant report.

The session will also include a desktop practical exercise which gives delegates the opportunity to review some fire risk assessment reports.

More details can be found on the session flyer. For any queries or to book a place, just email events@scotlandsafetynetwork.scot



ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2025 Shining a Light on Tenant & Resident Safety in Scotland

Social Housing Safety Network Scotland Annual Conference 2025 Hampden Park - 19th & 20th November 2025

Planning for this year's Annual Conference is well underway, with the venue booked, programme being finalised, and bookings coming through!

We are delighted to see how many members have booked their place even before the programme has been announced, which we feel is testament to the success of the previous two Annual Conferences!

We've also managed to keep prices the same as last year for early bookers! You can [find out more and book your place here](#), or stay tuned for the full programme very soon.

Broodies LLP hoarding webinar recording

Broodies LLP recently held a webinar which discussed the implications of hoarding on the social housing sector.

Broodies have kindly shared the recording for those who were unable to attend.

[This can be accessed here.](#)



The Social Housing Safety Network turns two!



Last month we celebrated our second birthday! We're incredibly proud of what we've achieved over the past two years – from membership growth, to adding new member benefits, giving away free and discounted places on webinars, events and training, networking and much more!

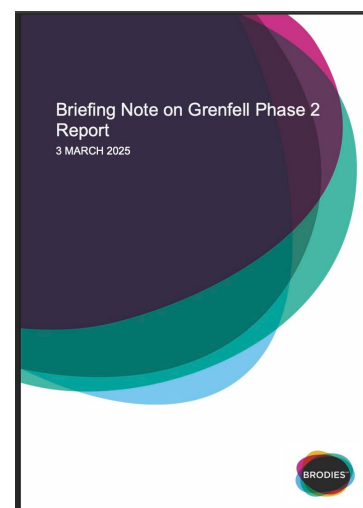
We've put together a snapshot of how the Network has grown, [which you can see here.](#)

We'd like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all our Network members - without you all, we simply wouldn't exist!

Our members are what make the Network and are a mix of housing associations, housing co-operatives and councils across Scotland. These include organisations as far north as Shetland, Inverness and Aberdeen, down to the border in Berwickshire and out to the West Coast in Oban, as well as lots based in the towns and cities in between, including Edinburgh, Paisley, Motherwell, Glasgow and across Fife.

Regulator publishes briefing on Grenfell Tower Inquiry Phase 2 Report and the Social Housing (Regulation) Act 2023

The Scottish Housing Regulator has published a briefing on the potential implications for the regulation of social landlords in Scotland from the Grenfell Tower Inquiry Phase 2 Report and the English Social Housing (Regulation) Act 2023. [You can view the briefing here.](#)





Women in Tenant Safety Scotland (WiTSS)

Connecting, championing and inspiring women...

Woman in Tenant Safety Scotland (WiTSS) was established earlier this year to help to empower and inspire female colleagues across member organisations and give them an opportunity to form a collective voice to help and learn and develop from each other.

The group now has over 40 members - we have an active WhatsApp group and last month held our first meet up, which was well-attended and generated lots of useful discussion.

The WiTSS Network is available to all women who work in tenant and resident safety, property/asset, maintenance teams in organisations who are members of the Social Housing Safety Network Scotland. To join us please [fill in the form here](#).

Mentoring

At the first meeting we talked about mentoring and the establishing of a database that enables mentors to be paired with mentees; many members were interested in joining the database, and we have now begun the process of gathering information from interested parties so that we can start to match people up.

We have put together some application forms so that we can gather more information about what mentees/mentors are looking to get out of this and what support mentors are able to provide.

You can view the [mentoring factsheet here](#). You can access the [mentor form here](#) and the [mentee form here](#).

Butterfly Bursary

We are also delighted to introduce the 'Butterfly Bursary', a training and development fund which has been established to offer FREE training places on courses delivered by Housing H&S Compliance UK Ltd & HHSC Learning to members of Women in Tenant Safety Scotland (WiTSS).



The Butterfly Bursary has been established and will be an integral part of WiTSS' ongoing commitment to supporting women working in tenant and resident safety in social housing in Scotland and aims to provide training and learning opportunities to members to enhance their knowledge in a range of safety subjects.

To find out more, [please visit the website](#).

Scotland Safety Network Advisory Panel (SSNAP)

The Scotland Safety Network Advisory Panel (SSNAP) is formed of the co-founders of the Network alongside a small group of tenant and resident / compliance / health and safety colleagues from within member organisations operating in the social housing sector who have volunteered to help shape the network, bringing ideas and expertise together to drive the network forward.

Since the panel was established in October last year, we've had three meetings where key discussions have included:

- Planning for the Annual Conference 2025
- Delivered and planned events
- Ideas for future webinars and 'Get Togethers'
- Good/shared practice items for distribution
- Ways to spread the word about the Network further

Thanks goes to the members of SSNAP for their valuable time and input.

As a Network we always welcome member feedback, suggestions, requests and ideas. Feel free to contact us if there is anything that you would like to see developed as part of the Network.

Ryan hits the top...

Many of you will know Ryan Hodgson, one of H&S Compliance UK Ltd's valued associates and a co-founder of The Social Housing Safety Network Scotland; you may have even worked with him or attended one of his training sessions.

Well, we are absolutely delighted to let you know that Ryan has been quietly working hard in the background on a qualification to further develop his skills, knowledge and experience and we he been awarded the Level 7 NVQ Diploma in Strategic Health and Safety Leadership and Management.



We have put together a bit of an insight into Ryan's career and what studying and completing the qualification has added to Ryan's already impressive skillset, as well as what passing this qualification means to him.

You can read the full post [on the HHSC website](#).

Policy and procedure workshops



Last month, Network Co-founders Vicki and Ryan had a great week in Glasgow, meeting Network members and running two days of free in-person 'Network Get Togethers' in the shape of two policy and procedure workshops. The sessions brought together colleagues from several member organisations to get some handy hints and tips about developing their own organisational policies and procedures, sharing ideas and networking.

Interaction and participation from colleagues was fantastic and there was much discussion. Some of the excellent feedback included:

'I really enjoyed what turned out to be a very informative session from Ryan! I'd highly recommend this session for anyone responsible for creating and implementing policies and procedures in relation to tenant and resident safety'

'The session gave me a clearer understanding of where policy and procedures separate - great knowledge of subject from Ryan and Vicki'

Stay tuned for more policy and procedure workshop dates being announced for later this year!

Exclusive member benefit: 'Big 6' Policy & Procedure Check

As part of your network membership, one of our specialist practitioners can carry out a confidential review of your tenant/resident safety policies and procedures.

We will spend up to two hours reviewing your policies and procedures and follow this up with a confidential feedback session (virtual), lasting up to an hour.

We'll take a look at whether your policies and procedures:

- Are up to date in terms of current legislation
- Cover the key points expected in terms of recognising statutory obligations
- Cover the key work streams and arrangements
- Set out clearly defined accountabilities and responsibilities within the organisation
- Sufficiently define how you will deliver and evidence compliance
- Document assurance and oversight arrangements.



[Visit the website for more information.](#)



Welcome to our new members!

Since our last newsletter, our Network has grown and we're delighted to welcome the following organisations:

Glen Oaks Housing Association

Hillcrest Homes

Provanhall Housing Association

Garrion People's Housing Co-Operative

Ferguslie Park Housing Association

Craigdale Housing Association

Regulator writes to social landlords with advice on preparing their next Annual Assurance Statement

In March, Scottish Housing Regulator (SHR) wrote to all social landlords to provide advice on preparation of their next Annual Assurance Statement which is due to be submitted to SHR by 31 October 2025.

February 2024 SHR guidance explained that SHR may ask landlords to provide specific assurance on a particular issue in the Annual Assurance Statement. This year, SHR have decided to continue with their request that landlords provide specific assurance on their compliance with relevant obligations in relation to tenant and resident safety.

You will be required to confirm whether you meet all duties in relation to tenant and resident safety, and in particular that you have obtained appropriate assurance about your compliance with all relevant safety requirements including gas safety, electrical safety, water safety, fire safety, asbestos, damp & mould and lift safety.

[Read the letter here.](#)

Exclusive member benefit: Tenant & Resident Safety Self-Assessment

An exclusive member benefit available to Network members, is our Tenant & Resident Safety Self-Assessment, which covers all tenant and resident safety workstreams.

We can provide you with a copy to complete and populate with your current position.

As part of this exclusive benefit, one of our specialist practitioners can also carry out a confidential review of the completed assessment and follow this up with a virtual feedback session lasting up to one hour.

[Visit the website for more information.](#)



**Self-assessment
Checklists**

Lithium-ion batteries



In recent months we have shared several stories of fires caused by rechargeable lithium-ion batteries.

Rechargeable batteries are found in lots of household items such as mobile phones, laptops, e-bikes and e-scooters.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service have shared some useful information about lithium-ion batteries, including how to spot the signs of a damaged battery, and how to safely charge and store batteries. [You can view the information here.](#)

Product safety alerts, reports and recalls

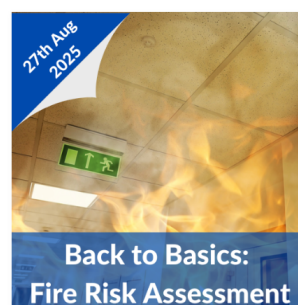
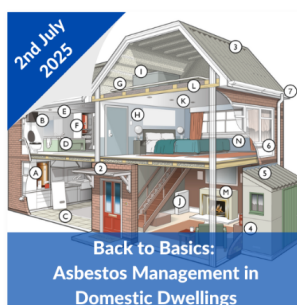
Information on products that present a risk to health and safety is provided by the Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) and [available here.](#)

You can search the list and also subscribe to email updates for new products added.

The three types of alert added to the list are product recalls, product safety reports and product safety alerts

FREE Back to Basics Webinar Series

Our 'Back to Basics' series of webinars which will take a look at a specific safety-related subject and tell you what you should be doing to comply with the Regulations and standards – sometimes, it's about more than holding a certificate or assessment and ticking a box. [Visit the website](#) for more information and to book.



Spotlight on training

All Network members are entitled to a discounted rate on Housing H&S Compliance UK Ltd training courses. Here are few upcoming courses...

Highfield Awarding Body of Compliance (HABC) Level 2 Award in Legionella Awareness – Hot and Cold Water Systems (RQF)

'Live online' public course

18th June 2025

Click the banner for more info and to book places...



This HABC accredited qualification has been designed to prepare delegates for understanding the health risks associated with legionella bacteria within hot and cold water systems and is aimed at individuals who work in environments where legionella growth is a risk.

It aims to raise awareness in how to prevent waterborne disease caused by legionella bacteria, however, our course looks specifically at the risks associated with hot and cold water systems with real examples from the social housing sector.

[You can find out more and book your place here.](#)

Understanding a Survey Report and Asbestos Condition Re-inspection

Face-to-face course - Glasgow

27th August 2025

Click the banner for more info and to book places...



The aim of this full day session is to provide an insight into asbestos surveys, which are an essential part of an organisation's asbestos management 'toolkit'. In addition, we will detail what should happen after the survey has been received.

The first session of the training is designed to improve knowledge and awareness of the contents of an asbestos survey, the caveats that may be included and what the next steps look like.

As part of the training, delegates will be shown examples of an asbestos survey (they can also bring their own along to the training).

The second part of the training has been designed to provide an understanding of asbestos re-inspections and explains the two recognised algorithms (material and priority) and how these relate to overall risk as well as limitations.

[You can find out more and book your place here.](#)

RoSPA Routine Playground Visual Inspection Course

Following interest from members, we are hoping to hold this training course on:

Friday 13th June 2025, 9:30am – 4:30pm (approximate timings)

(Please note this will only go ahead if we receive sufficient bookings – in order to keep costs as low as possible, we have based prices on a full course of 12. Given the initial interest from colleagues, we hope to be able to fill the course).

Location: Calvary Housing Association, Barlanark Rd, Glasgow G33 4RE

We are able to offer a Social Housing Safety Network Scotland member rate of £299 + VAT per person (with non-member rates set at £339 + VAT). This is significantly less than the current RoSPA public course cost.

Our price also includes lunch and all refreshments throughout the day, the provision of two playparks to inspect and RoSPA handouts - it does NOT, however, include the RPII exam, which would be an extra £130 on top of the (this is cost price, with no VAT payable). There is no obligation to take the RPII exam; if you choose not to, then you will receive a RoSPA certificate of attendance.

Please [see the flyer](#) for full course details and [email HHSC training](#) with any questions or to book places (places are first-come, first-served).

And there are more upcoming training courses...

Click the banners for more information and booking forms.

Gas Safety Awareness

'Live online' public course

4th June 2025

Click the banner for more info and to book places...



**Housing H&S
developed course**

Managing Your Electrical Testing Programme and Understanding Documentation

'Live online' public course

12th June 2025

Click the banner for more info and to book places...



**Housing H&S
developed course**

Condensation, Damp and Mould: Causes & Cures (Technical Officers)

'Live online' public course

18th June 2025

Click the banner for more info and to book places...

