



The Waste Industry Safety and Health (WISH) Forum

Keep an eye on collections with new WISH information sheet

Effective monitoring of refuse and recycling collection activities should be a core element of any local authority or private contractor health and safety management system, according to a new information sheet issued by WISH (Waste Industry Safety and Health Forum). The information sheet looks at the issues around monitoring the safety performance of collection crews, who are often out on their own on the road all day and difficult to track using traditional safety inspection methods.

The new sheet was put together by a WISH work group comprising both local authority and private contractor members. It includes best practice from around the country, and example monitoring checklists and other tools to assist managers and supervisors of waste and recycling collection activities. As with all other WISH publications, the new information sheet is available to download free of charge from the WISH web site at <https://wishforum.org.uk>.

Nina Camm, Environment Manager for North Kesteven District Council, was one of the members of work group. Nina commented: "The opportunity to be involved in the WISH supervision and monitoring work group has been a great experience. The reason I volunteered was to challenge how North Kesteven District Council currently undertook monitoring of its in-house refuse/recycling collection service and to get best practice from others. The opportunity to establish contacts in other local authorities and the private sector has been added value that I never expected to get out of it. The work the group has delivered is now embedded at North Kesteven District Council, with its benefits being shared among colleagues in other Lincolnshire authorities through our Lincolnshire Waste Health and Safety Officers group."

According to WISH, the new information sheet and its example checklists are aimed at providing practical guidance that can be adapted to suit any collection operation and that can help give a consistent approach to allow organisations to check that policies and procedures are being followed during waste and recycling collections.

-ends-

Notes for editors

1. The WISH forum is a multi-party group made up of organisations broadly representing the waste and recycling industry. WISH members include representatives from HSE, main trade associations, professional associations, trade unions, recycling organisations and national and local government bodies involved in waste management and recycling. Its purpose is to provide information, identify solutions and stimulate action across the industry to ensure the health, safety and well-being of those working in the industry and those affected by its activities.
2. For more information on WISH, its activities and the guidance it has produced for the waste and recycling industry see the WISH web site at <https://wishforum.org.uk>.
3. Press enquiries on this release and WISH should be directed to Geoff Smallwood (geoff.smallwood@shanks.co.uk) or Chris Jones (chris.jones@coryenergy.com).
4. Date of release: June 2017.