

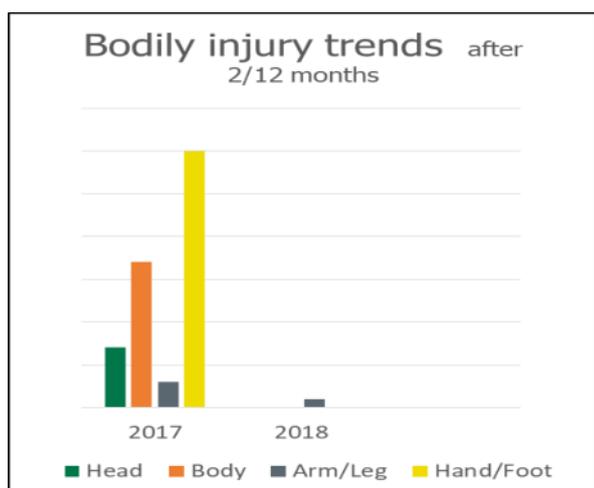
Lessons learnt

Recently an operative missed his footing when climbing down from the cab of a HiAb lorry. He fell and struck his arm on the concrete pavement, hurting himself quite badly.

✓ Make sure you **always** have three points of contact when climbing in and out of a vehicle.



Injury trends



Key influencer engagement

Congratulations to labour managers John Daly (north) and Donatas Jausicas (south) - joint winners of the most key influencer reports for February. Thank you, everyone.



See it, share it



The winner this month is **Patrick Adebowale** at North Woolwich on the ATC Crossrail Project.

The wooden telephone box by the track side was not properly secured and was found fouling the track. This could have caused an accident. Patrick immediately removed it and informed his supervisor.



Text **07876 448 119**

Email **besafe@vgcgroup.co.uk**

Transport for London London Underground



From 5 March 2018, the TSW 029 medical and declaration form for LU has changed. The form to show you hold a safety critical medical, signed by you and your manager, must now be presented before any training or practical assessments can take place. So, before any training or assessments, please make sure you have a completed form, with medical dates valid for every day of the training. If not, you will be turned away.

Needles maliciously placed in fuel pump handles

Please always check the pump lever before you operate. If you see anything suspicious, do not use it - report to the petrol station attendant immediately.



Be extra vigilant if you are refuelling at night time or in poorly lit areas.

Tower lights

Please follow the manufacturer's instructions for erecting and dismantling tower lights.

- The lights must be switched off, and the mast fully retracted and secured, before you move them.
- Make sure exclusion zones are in place when installing or moving tower lights.
- All movements must be planned, supervised and carried out by competent teams.



Women in construction

We launched our Women in VGC network on Thursday 8 March (International Women's Day). If you are interested in joining, please join our Facebook group or contact kimberley.mcginity@vgcgroup.co.uk



Inspire Me campaign

VGC is an official supporter of Inspire Me, which will celebrate the careers of women in the construction industry, and empower them to advance their careers to senior positions.

Infrastructure and construction affects everyone. Women are 52% of the population. But women make up just 13% of the total 3 million construction industry workforce, and only 1% of those work on construction sites.

VGC is a member of NAWIC and a silver member of Women into Construction. We are proud to be part of Inspire Me.



Simon Clamp, learning and development manager

Simon Clamp is our new learning and development manager. He will be driving the VGC apprenticeship programme.

If you know anyone interested in doing an apprenticeship, please ask them to contact Simon on simon.clamp@vgcgroup.co.uk

Scaffolder given suspended jail sentence

Terrance Murray ignored a safe system of work. He did not take reasonable care of his own health and safety, and he set a bad example to a trainee.

Murray was working on a platform 18m in the air wearing a harness that was not attached to anything. A trainee scaffolder was working on the scaffolding below.

He was given a 26 week jail sentence, suspended for 12 months.

The HSE investigation found that his employers had taken reasonable steps to avoid working unsafely at height: Murray was well trained and experienced, and had the correct equipment available to him in order to work safely.

Remember, you can be held personally liable if you do not work safely.

Safety briefings

In February 2018 VGC clients issued 35 safety briefings to us. They include:

- Costain - alert following a weather storm
- Network Rail - use of brush cutters fitted with metal blade
- Skanska - trapped in, under or between objects

All operatives should have received briefings this month. If you have any questions please speak to your VGC labour manager.