



“Take a moment, not a fall”

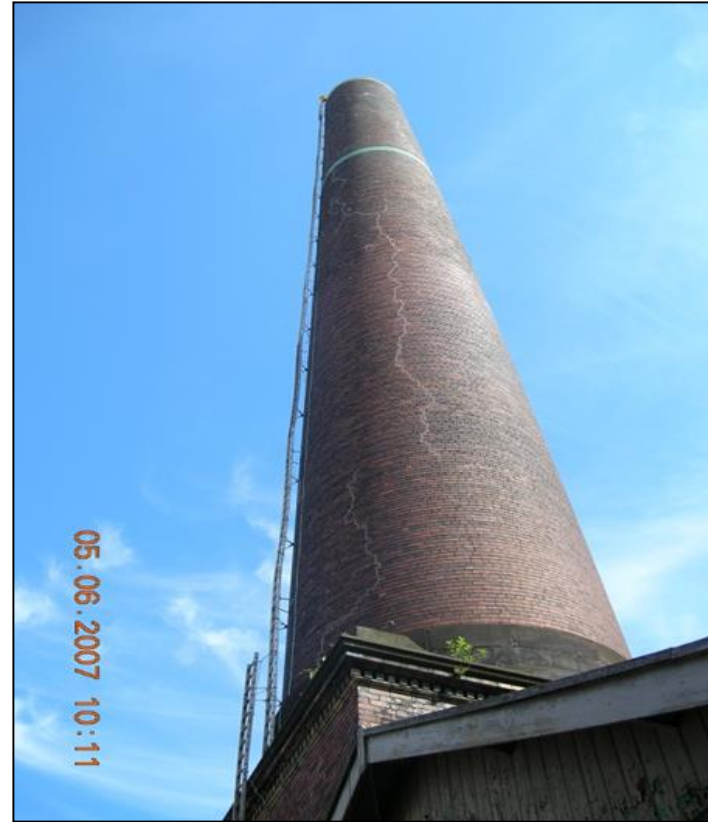
**Warren Pennington
HSE General Manufacturing Sector**

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Some context ... what are we trying to prevent?



**JH, Deceased, Fell
1ft**



**JA, Deceased, Fell
49m**



**JD, Deceased, Fell
6m**

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Some context ... what are we trying to prevent?



TL, Deceased, Fell 7m

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Historic and present legal requirements:



Deuteronomy 22:8 King James Bible: *When thou buildest a new house, then thou shalt make a battlement for thy roof, that thou bring not blood upon thine house, if any man fall from thence.*

Section 29 Factories Act 1961: *Where any person at work is liable to fall more than 6'6" .. means shall be provided by way of fencing or otherwise for ensuring his safety.*

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Historic and present legal requirements:



Reg 6 Work at Height Regulations 2005: .. *Avoid WAH if possible ... if not, suitable and sufficient measures shall be taken to prevent someone falling a distance liable to cause personal injury ... if can't eliminate risk of a fall, then minimise distance / consequences ... provide employee training.*

Reg 7 Work at Height Regulations 2005: ... *collective measures are to be given priority over personal protective measures.*

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Significant improvements in recent times ...



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Significant improvements in recent times ...



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The situation across all sectors of UK PLC:



- Remains the single biggest cause of workplace deaths (averages 27.5% over last 4 years)
- In relation to lesser outcomes - 2950 specified (major) injuries 2014/15
- Over $\frac{2}{3}$ of all major work at height injuries caused by 'low falls' (less than 2m)



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The situation across the UK transport sector:



- There are over 2000 fall from vehicle accidents (all types) reported to HSE each year.
- These are mostly falls from the load area of lorries and vans, lorry cab steps and the fifth wheel catwalk of articulated vehicles.
- Major injuries are usually broken arms or legs, resulting in weeks off work.
- There are probably many more that are not reported.

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The situation across the UK food and drink sector:



- **6% of F&D reported injuries to HSE still relate to falls.**
(640/10196).



- 40% fell from ladders**
- 17% fell from vehicles / FLTs**
- 10% fell from machinery / plant**
- 10% fell from platforms**
- 8% fell using stairs**
- 7% fell from roof / false ceiling**
- 4% fell from scaffold / gantry**
- 4% fell from warehouse racking**

Relating to Vehicles:

- 35% fell from a lorry**
- 31% fell from FLT forks**
- 13% from cab steps**
- 9% from top of a vehicle**
- 4% from tanker steps**

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The situation across the UK food and drink sector:



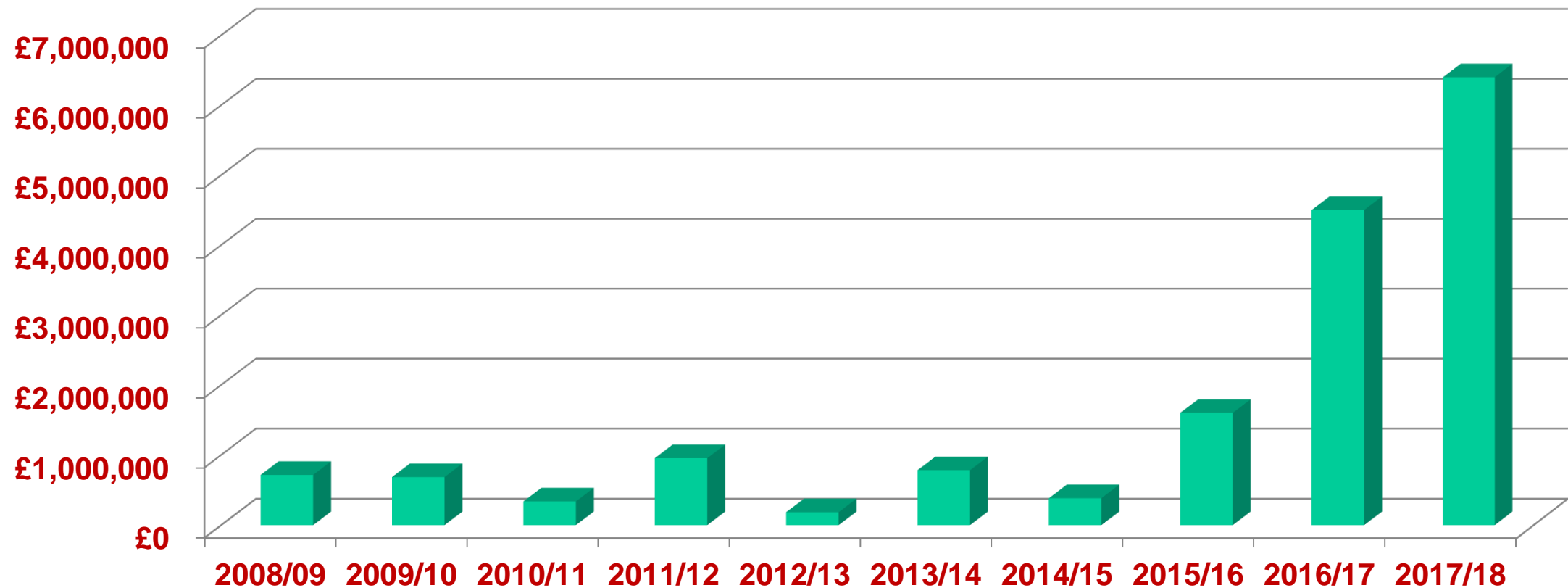
- 12% of annual F&D inspections require enforcement action on WAH issues. Ranked 3rd. (108/902).
- 9% of all Notices served during annual F&D inspections are to resolve WAH issues.
- Over the last 10 years ~
 - 247 HSE total F&D prosecutions - £17m fines. (247/3077), (17/71)
 - 25 HSE F&D prosecutions relating to WAH accidents - £3.5m fines. (25/247).

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The situation across the UK food and drink sector:



Prosecution Fines - All topics F&D Sector



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- **2008: £5000.** Fatal fall from tanker with no guard rails (road haulage).
- **2009: £1500.** Fatal fall (4m) off FLT forks used to inspect load (road haulage). PR of colleague employee.
- **2012: £6000.** Non fatal fall (3m) from vehicle mounted platform when sheeting – could have done job from ground (road haulage).
- **2016: £100,000.** Non fatal fall (2m) from ladder (large malting company).
- **2016: £200,000.** Non fatal fall (5m) from fragile roof (large dairy).
- **2017: £1,000,000.** Fatal fall (3m) from step ladder (large chilled food manufacturer).
- **2017: £2,000,000.** Non fatal fall from mixer when cleaning (large bakery).

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Guidance:
***PREVENTING FALLS
WHILST WORKING
ON MOBILE
REFRIGERATION
UNITS***

- HSE Endorsement for 18 months from guidance release.
- Further content required:
 - Examples of what good looks like – photos etc.
 - Increased emphasis on avoidance and fall prevention via platforms.

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Finally ... a sector challenge:



- Employers / self-employed to plan your WAH activities so that you ensure:
 - **Avoidance** of working at height if possible.
 - Provision of work equipment to **prevent** falls.
 - Instruction and training.
- **Employees to be self-empowered.**
- **Support the BFFF/FSDf guidance.**