

# Your bitesize construction bulletin

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July 2025

# Contractors sign sustainability initiative

Sustainability

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## What is it?

Project Green is a new voluntary sustainability programme which more than 30 contractors have signed up to.

## What should I know?

- It aims to address underperformance on environmental goals.
- Tier One contractors who have already signed include Kier, Wates and BAM.
- Since its launch in May, participants have offset 3,604 tonnes of carbon, planted over 16,000 trees and delivered over 400 hours of sustainability training.



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# New law forces tower block cladding fixes by 2029

Housebuilding and regulations

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## What is it?

A new law will be introduced requiring landlords to remove dangerous cladding from high-rise buildings.

## What should I know?

- Landlords must remediate buildings over 18m by 2029, and those between 11-18m by 2031, or face unlimited fines or prison.
- Homes England and councils will step in if landlords fail to act.
- The crackdown is part of the second phase of the Remediation Acceleration Plan.



# HS2's latest challenges

Market conditions and challenges

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## What is it?

HS2 has faced nine legal challenges by public bodies, adding costs and delays to the project.

## What should I know?

- Land which was safeguarded for the Birmingham to Yorkshire leg will now be released.
- The government may consider further action to prevent delays to approved infrastructure projects.
- According to an estimate from 2024, phase one of HS2 between London and Birmingham will cost £66 billion.



# Concerns over landfill tax reforms

Market conditions and challenges

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## What is it?

The UK government is consulting on landfill tax reforms that could significantly increase disposal costs for inert construction waste.

## What should I know?

- The reforms aim to cut landfill use by raising tax on certain waste materials. From 2030, all waste could face the higher standard tax rate.
- Critics warn this could raise costs and disrupt housing and infrastructure plans by making waste management even more complicated.
- The tax hike aims to support circular economy goals.



**You're all caught up!**