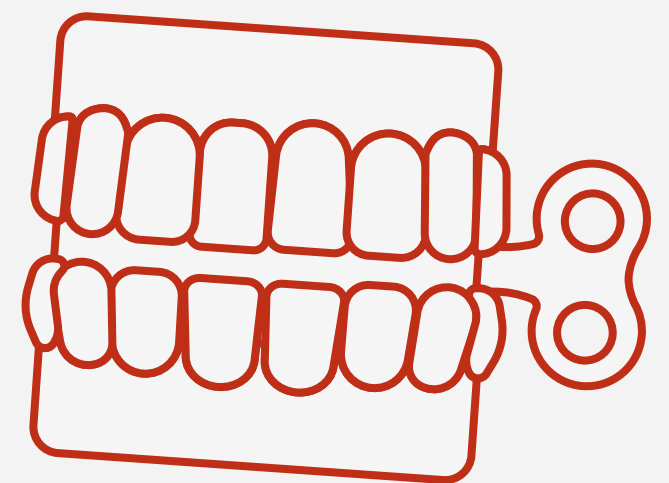


# Your bitesize construction bulletin

October 2025



# Recruitment slows due to market conditions

## What is it?

The Builders Merchants Federation and Construction Products Association warn that challenging market conditions are forcing employers to cut back on hiring, apprenticeships, and upskilling.

## What should I know?

- Despite thousands of applications, employers aren't recruiting in the housebuilding, domestic repair, maintenance, and improvement (RMI) markets.
- Some small areas of growth remain, including in energy generation and efficiency.

**Market conditions  
and challenges**



# Fire chiefs' warn over building safety

## What is it?

The National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) has warned that progress on building safety remains too slow.

## What should I know?

- The NFCC is calling for an urgent construction skills strategy which includes a programme of work to identify critical professions that need more regulation.
- It has also highlighted a need to fill critical role shortages such as in fire engineering, fire risk assessment, and regulatory staff.



# New British Standard on sustainability

## What is it?

The Construction Industry Council (CIC) has approved a new British Standard on sustainability competence.

## What should I know?

- The Standard is based on the 'Competence Framework for Sustainability in the Built Environment' which was released in February.
- The new British Sustainability Competence Standard aims to provide clear, consistent framework that supports professionals in delivering projects aligned with the UK's net zero and resilience goals.



# Awaab's Law comes into effect

## What is it?

The law is named after Awaab Ishak, a two-year-old boy who unfortunately passed due to a respiratory condition caused by mould exposure in his home. It will protect tenants from unsafe living conditions.

## What should I know?

- The legislation was passed in July 2023 and came into effect earlier this week for social renters.
- It's designed to protect against hazards such as mould, and give strict timescales on investigating and fixing issues, and alternatives should the problems continue.

**Housebuilding  
and regulations**



# Employer support for T-level placements

## What is it?

The Department for Education (DfE) is launching a new support scheme in 2026 to help employers in England offer T Level industry placements.

## What should I know?

- The £1.2m initiative aims to raise awareness, tackle misconceptions, and make it easier for businesses to host students while aligning placements with workforce needs.
- The scheme will provide targeted advice, myth-busting resources to address common concerns, and guidance on structuring placements.

**Market conditions  
and challenges**



**You're all  
caught up!**

