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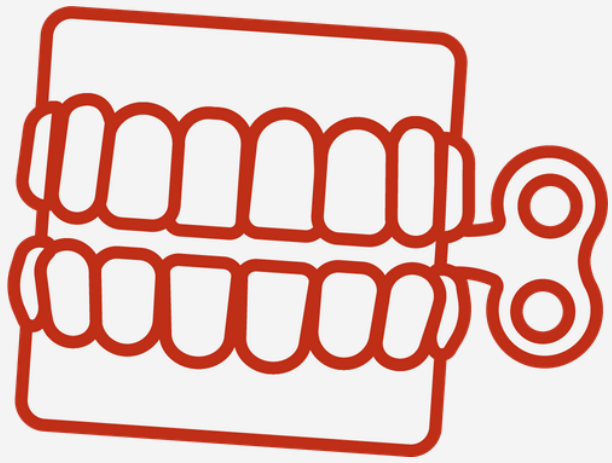
Bitesize construction bulletin

September 2026



Regulation and compliance

Construction businesses face new right-to-work requirements

New right-to-work requirements are coming into force from 1 October, meaning construction businesses need to make sure their recruitment and checking processes are up to date.

- Employers have a legal responsibility to check that workers have the correct immigration status before they start work.
- The updated rules will also apply to certain workers engaged under worker contracts and individual subcontracting arrangements from 1 October.
- Businesses that do not carry out the required checks correctly could face civil penalties, making it important to review processes before the changes take effect.

Skills and workforce

Lighthouse warns of growing pressure on construction workers

Construction charity Lighthouse has reported a sharp increase in demand for support from workers and families facing financial, emotional and physical pressures.

- Enquiries to Lighthouse have increased by 51%, while food deliveries have risen by 65% as more construction workers seek support.
- The charity supported more than 6,000 families and delivered over 8,000 meals in the first seven months of the year.
- Lighthouse is calling on the industry to raise £200,000 by Christmas to help maintain its support services as financial pressures continue to affect construction workers.

Help to Buy found to have boosted housing supply

An official evaluation of the Help to Buy equity loan scheme has found that it provided good value for money and increased housing supply, reigniting discussion around demand-side measures to support the housing market.

- The government-commissioned analysis found that Help to Buy increased the number of homes being built and supported additional housing supply.
- The findings have prompted calls from housebuilders for further measures to stimulate demand and support the housing market.
- The report provides a fresh assessment of the impact of Help to Buy as the industry continues to face challenges around housing delivery and market demand.

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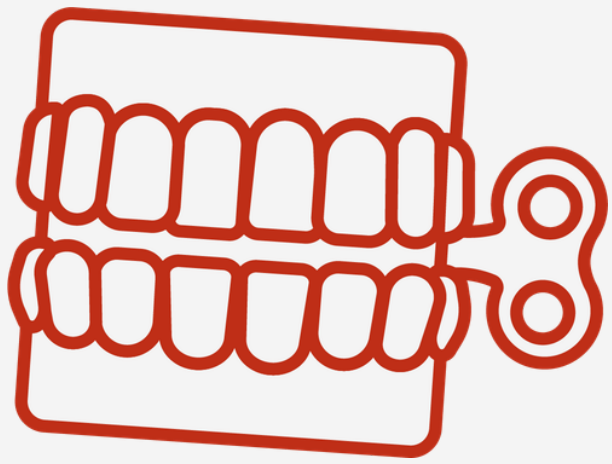
You’re all caught up!