

# Toolbox Talk

## Slips, Trips and Falls – Safe Site

### BBLP Clocktober Campaign 2022

October has an average of 15 days of rainfall each year, presenting an increased risk of slips compared with summer months. Days also start to become much shorter as winter draws in; decreased visibility on sites around sunrise/sunset increases the likelihood of slips, trips and falls. Attention to important details such as the layout of the whole workplace, identifying safe walking routes, the adequacy of storage facilities, and maintenance is required. Effective housekeeping is an ongoing process throughout the life of the project or contract (regardless of season). Periodic 'panic' clean-ups are costly and ineffective at reducing accidents. Good housekeeping is the responsibility of all involved in the project at all levels.

#### **Together we can control the risk of injury from Slips, Trips or Falls in the Autumn:**

Consider working areas, office spaces, parking facilities and any other areas that people are required to work, walk on or travel across.

#### Site Set-Up

- Are walkways sufficiently wide, level, flat and marked for pedestrians?
- If the floor is fitted (such as inside an office), has it been fitted correctly and maintained well?
- Are all stairs suitable and stable? Are fixed handrails in good order?
- Are ladders the correct equipment for the work? Are they tied at the top?
- Are walkways set away from any unnecessary distractions?
- Are mats being used to stand on when working on rebar?
- Try to remove any potential trip hazards - if this is not possible (for example steps) then they should be clearly highlighted.

#### Housekeeping

- Are walkways cleared of all debris and obstructions?
- Are spillages or areas that water collects in cleared up quickly?
- Is all wiring fixed down or hung above head height effectively?
- Are bins/skips and storage space available and accessible?

#### Drainage

- Are walkways set up in areas where water drains away?
- Are there any locations where water pools after rainfall? If so, are wet areas marked clearly?

#### Lighting

- Are walkways sufficiently lit throughout the working day?
- Are work areas lit enough to see clearly and allow for jobs to be done safely?
- Are head torches available for those who need them?