

### 1) HSE's Risk-reduction through design award

HSE's annual **musculoskeletal disorders 'risk-reduction through design' award** needs nominations!! The award is intended to highlight the important contribution that design changes can make to reduce risks of musculoskeletal disorders. Building on the success of last year's award, explained in 'The Ergonomist' (pages 22-23), we want businesses to nominate design changes that have made a real impact. We are looking for approaches that have worked during the 2019 calendar year from across all sectors and anywhere in the United Kingdom.

The emphasis is on design solutions that have or can reduce the risk of musculoskeletal disorders for the greatest numbers of workers, but we are also interested in novel, innovative or niche solutions that tackle difficult-to-solve problems. Involving the workforce in developing the solution is essential and cross-sector application, that might inspire others to think more actively about design-based solutions, will also be part of the judging criteria. Entries should be submitted on no more than two sides of A4. Tell us about the problem, the solution, the musculoskeletal benefits, any wider benefits, what your workforce think about the changes and your contact details. If you are in contention for shortlisting, we'll come back to you for further details.

Please submit your nominations to [msdpp@hse.gov.uk](mailto:msdpp@hse.gov.uk) by Thursday **31 January 2020**. Further details are available on the [HSE website](#).

### 2) Health and safety statistics 2019

HSE published its latest statistics (2018/19) on work-related health and safety in Great Britain, on 30 October – the [webpages](#) have a range of information (e.g. on different types of work-related ill-health and different industry sectors). Key annual figures on ill health include: 1.4 million working people suffering from work-related ill health; 28.2 million working days lost due to work-related ill health and workplace injury; £15 billion estimated cost of injuries and ill health from current working conditions. Key annual figures for musculoskeletal disorders include: 498,000 cases (new and longstanding) (up from 469,000 in 2017/18); 138,000 new cases (down from 156,000 in 2017/18); 6.9 million working days lost (up from 6.6 million in 2017/18); The affected areas are split between Back (40%), Upper limbs (41%), and Lower Limbs (19%) (similar percentages to 2017/18). The overall long-term rate of self-reported cases and working days lost still shows a generally downward trend (same as last year).



### 3) #Workright

HSE recently launched a [new campaigns microsite](#) which now includes information on our Go Home Healthy campaign and links to the Musculoskeletal disorders webpages. The microsite contains case studies and information on how to reduce the risks of MSDs but also links to wider ill health and work-related guidance and topics.