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Spotlight on Work at Height

Despite all the Work at Height advice and guidance given since the introduction of the *Work at Height Regulations 2005*, there is still a disproportionate number of completely avoidable accidents and incidents resulting in fatal or life changing injuries each year.

So, at this time of year when gutter cleans and emergency roof leak repairs are widespread, what should a business be asking regarding work at height?

1. Can you AVOID working at height in the first place?

- Look to relocate serviceable equipment to ground level
- Invest in extendable tools for cleaning and maintenance
- Use drones or other relevant technologies for surveys

2. If working at height cannot be avoided, can you PREVENT a fall from happening?

- Collective protection such as parapets, guardrail, demarcation systems, fall proof covers
- Use work equipment such as mobile elevated work platforms (MEWPs), as well as tower and fixed scaffolds
- Personal protection such as work restraint 'mansafe' or 'deadweight' anchors using the appropriate fall restraint PPE

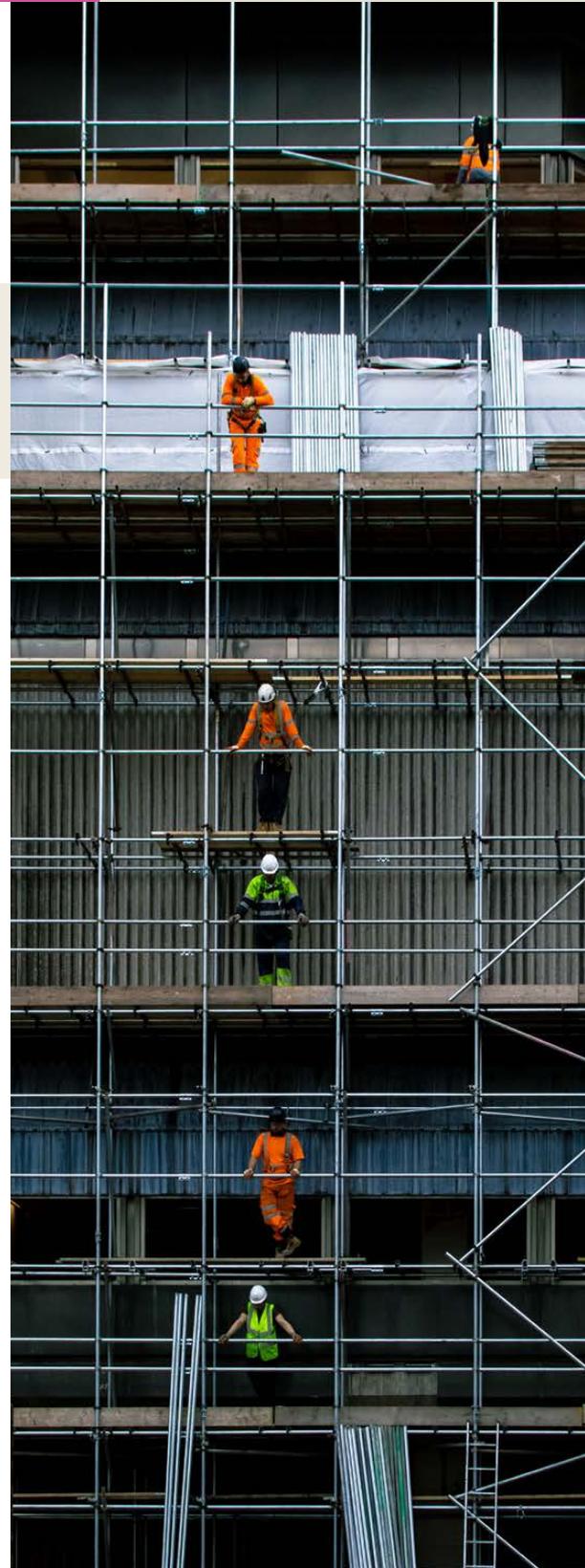
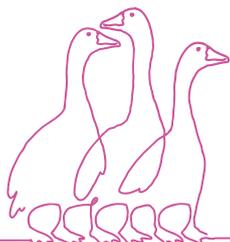
3. If fall prevention mechanisms are not possible, can you MINIMISE the consequence of a fall?

- Safety nets and soft-landing systems such as airbags
- Personal protection such as fall arrest 'mansafe' or 'deadweight' anchors using the appropriate fall arrest PPE
- Use specialist height workers such as Rope Access Technicians or Steeplejacks

These questions are vital, as a business that repeatedly asks them can identify the correct level of training and monitoring necessary for their workplace; and in doing so will ensure the work at height risk is managed by creating safe systems of work with appropriate method statements and risk assessments in place.

4see can train and audit your staff, and through our Roof Safety Management system, we can bring together a synchronised safety offering that could help you avoid future work at height risks and assist you in meeting your responsibilities to your workforce.

For more information on how 4see can help you to reduce your work at height risks, please contact us on 01327 811166 or enquiry@4see.co.uk.



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