



Guernsey Occupational Safety & Health Association – www.gosha.org.gg

GOSHA AGM 2025

Chairman's Report

The past 12 months has been a good year for GOSHA.

Our membership has remained stable, with around 40 members in all, mainly corporate memberships, some individuals and some charities.

We are fortunate to have a good management committee, with some experts in health and safety and some, like myself, enthusiasts from different backgrounds. The Committee has been:

Secretary: Jon Coyde

Finance: Gordon Snell

Committee Members: Joey Naidoo, Seamus Gillespie, Adie Bailey, Simon Welch, Angus McLellan, Dan Espley, Jordan Peacock. We were glad to welcome Alison Cranmer as a co-opted member until this AGM. Unfortunately, Darren Bishop was unable to take part due to other commitments and Dave Correia has had to withdraw due to enhanced work commitments.

I'd like to record my and GOSHA's sincere thanks to each individual who gives freely of their time, ideas and expertise for the benefit of GOSHA, its members and the wider Guernsey community.

One of GOSHA's key principles is to be inclusive to all who are interested in making their workplaces a better, safer place for all who occupy/use them. You don't need to be a member to benefit from GOSHA's activities and, through the year, many non-members benefit from the work that we do.

And in this respect, the continuing members are so important in giving GOSHA both the financial resource to operate and the support we need to function properly as a management committee and organisation. I sincerely hope that you benefit from being members too. Our aim is to educate and share knowledge and to promote good health and safety practices within Bailiwick businesses, charities and other organisations.

The Guernsey HSE Team, led by Robin Gonard, take part in our activities and assist our management committee – they attend our meetings and provide speakers for a range of topics. We are very grateful for their on-going input, expertise and support.

Paul Freeman has continued to provide us with internet connectivity with all who are members or otherwise interested through the management and updating of our website. You will have noticed a significant change in the site as we lost the original design and content this year due to an outside attack and complete loss of the site through the provider.

Many thanks to Paul for his hard work in rebuilding www.gosha.org.gg. There is so much benefit to readers from viewing our site and in helping us to both keep members informed and providing access to helpful information and news of our activities. One of the videos, recalling the development of good health and safety practices since the 1960s and 1970s is worth viewing as without out law, the work of the HSE and organisations like GOSHA, people would still be going to work not knowing if they'd be fit (or alive!) when it was time to return home. I grew up in that period in a small neighborhood of 7 families and, of those, one died of mesothelioma from workplace exposure, three others suffered injuries from accidents at work requiring more than a week of absence (one ended up with a long-term limp) and three families were ok – but someone may have suffered a long-term complaint (I lost touch when I moved away). And even doing a boring office job in those days wasn't that safe – in my first week at work a commuter fell out of a packed train carriage and was killed (the door lock opened) and a couple of years later my colleague's travel partner was killed when he was killed by a dropped scaffold pole – no safety netting in those days! And my colleague had long-term anxiety as a result.

We now look forward to the coming 12 months with meetings, hopefully at least one site visit, ongoing liaison with third party organisations such as GBTEA and various other professional bodies in Guernsey, the judging of the Construction Industry's Health and Safety awards, the creation of a workplace health & safety bursary scheme (thanks to Jordan Peacock in particular for the idea and his work to bring it to fruition) and the writing of further GOSHA articles for the Guernsey Press and the Construction and Property Magazine.

Thank you for being members of GOSHA – your continuing support is vital for the well-being of GOSHA and is greatly appreciated.

Andrew Mills
Chairman, GOSHA
16 October 2025