



Product Safety Representatives Group – Actions

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2 Meeting overview

Title of meeting	Product Safety Representatives Group	Time	10:00 – 12:00
Date	23 April 2026	Venue	MS Teams
Chair	Debra MacLeod, OPSS		
Attendees	Lynda Reynard (LR), Kent (TSSE)	Imogen O'Dea (IO), MHCLG	
	Becka Smith (BS), Leicestershire (TSEM)	Deborah De Beukelaer (DB), MHCLG	
	Shauna Lagan (SL), Mid and East Antrim (EHNI)	Izzy Lewis (IL), MHCLG	



	Sarah Noonan (SN), Stoke-on-Trent (CENTSA)	Cat Manson (CM), OPSS
	Michaela Monk (MM), Trafford (TSNW)	Giles Chapman (GC), OPSS
	Clare Cunningham (CC), Thurrock (EETSA)	Stuart Key (SK), OPSS
	Rachel Charlton (RC), Edinburgh (SCOTSS)	Nathan Greenfield (NG), OPSS
	Nick Cunningham (NC), Fife (SCOTSS)	Phil Bevin (PB), OPSS
	Jennie Hamilton (JH), North Yorkshire (YAHTSG)	Vicki Maguire (VM), OPSS
Apologies	David Ellerington (DE), Newcastle (NETSA)	

3 Introductions, previous actions and feedback

- Actions from the last meeting confirmed as completed

Training

- LA Reps explained that training courses are sometimes oversubscribed before they are able to book themselves on to them and have requested that LAU monitor take-up before advertising to LAs via Heads of Service and other outreach platforms.

Quarterly Live Briefings

- LA Reps confirmed that they find live briefings useful but would prefer more targeted and detailed communications relating to specific topics, including training and noted that they found the most recent briefing on Asbestos containing play sand particularly useful.
- OPSS noted it is considering facilitating more topically focused live briefings in the future, in line with this feedback.

Asbestos in play sand

- LA Reps raised concerns about OPSS's prioritisation of Asbestos in Play-Sand, given the ubiquity of the substance across society in general.
- Reps also noted concerns over wording relating to compensation regarding product recalls.
- Noted that issue of asbestos containing sand relates to an extremely wide range of products, not just toys.
- One rep noted that they are not urging LAs in their region to enforce the recall.

Construction products PIP



- Reps noted the usefulness of Construction Products PIP packs shared via Regulators' Companion, which can be found here [Product Information Packs \(PIPs\) | Regulators Companion](#).

Estimating Harm Report

- LA reps considered this document to be useful in assisting LA trading standards and EHNI officers in demonstrating the impact of their work, in the highly competitive environment of LA funding.

4 OPSS update

Product Safety Framework Reform Consultations

- The Government has published three separate but complementary consultations, setting out the government's ambition to modernise and simplify the UK's product safety legislation.
 - [The UK's new product safety framework](#).
 - [Enforcement and market surveillance reform](#).
 - [Furniture fire safety reform](#).
- The consultation launch webinar can be found here:
<https://www.regulatorscompanion.info/resource/product-safety-framework-reform-consultations-stakeholder-launch-meeting-13-april-2026-0>
- The consultations are open for 12 weeks until Tuesday 23 June 2026.
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OPSS Community Contracts funding

- OPSS Community Contract funding is an opportunity for organisations to bid to receive up to £9,999 to deliver consumer focussed, community-based product safety projects.
- We would like to thank Local Authorities for supporting us in this work through applying for funding, delivering projects and promoting the initiative within your local areas.

Officer guidance on borderline cosmetic and aesthetic products

- Officer guidance on borderline cosmetic and aesthetic products has now been published on Regulators' Companion. The link can be found here:
<https://www.regulatorscompanion.info/resource/officer-guidance-borderline-cosmetic-and-aesthetic-products>
- The document was prepared by members of the Product Safety Representatives Group.

Update on OPSS risk assessment for products with sand that contain asbestos



- More detailed advice can be found on testing at [Testing for asbestos in sand - GOV.UK](#), and on risk assessment at [Regulators' Companion](#).
- [Product Recalls and Alerts - GOV.UK](#)

MHCLG fire safety advice update: e-bike and e-scooter lithium-ion batteries

- MHCLG has updated its fire safety advice in relation to the risks posed by [e-bike and e-scooter lithium-ion batteries](#). This has been developed in collaboration with [OPSS](#) and other government departments to make sure it aligns with important consumer safety advice.

Construction Products Reform (MCHLG)

- In February 2025, the Government published and consulted on the [Construction Products Reform Green Paper](#). The government has now published the construction products reform white paper. The White Paper outlines proposals for ambitious system wide reforms. MHCLG is also consulting on a– **general safety requirement for construction products**

Building LA capability training sessions

- Free training for local authorities is available through the OPSS-funded Building LA Capability programme. Spaces are now open for the following sessions:
- All future courses will be advertised on the [CTSI website](#).

Sampling Protocol

- OPSS LAU noted that samples cannot be tested prior to the launch of the 2026/7 Sampling Protocol.
- Testing outside scope of Sampling protocol will not be funded
- Additional information regarding amendments to the 2026/7 Sampling Protocol is being compiled for publication on Regulators' Companion.
- It is vital that LAs understand and comply with the requirements of the scheme as non-compliance jeopardises our ability to secure funding going forward. This includes ensuring relevant PSD records are up to date where funding has been tested by OPSS.

5 Presentations

- MHCLG, **White paper and general safety requirements – Consultations**
- Cat Manson, **Asbestos in Sand**
- Giles Chapman, **Product Threat Assessment**
- Syed Raza, **Estimating detriment from unsafe and non-compliant products on the UK market - February 26**



- Stu Key, **OPSS Sampling Protocol**

6 General comments

It was agreed that at future meetings more time and focus should be on Reps updates and discussion of regional work. This will be reflected in future agenda.

7 Actions table

Action	Owner
LAU to looking at ways to effectively check course has available prior to advertising to LAs.	OPSS
LAU to think about how OPSS shares the Estimating Detriment report and the detail within it and ensure that LAs are made aware of it.	OPSS
LA reps to inform LAU of training they would like OPSS and CTSI to prioritise.	LA Reps
DM to highlight reps concerns over companies who create websites with co.uk addresses without affording buyers the correct consumer rights with OPSS Consumer Information and Policy colleagues.	OPSS
• Highlight TikTok dumping toys/squishy buns with Incident Management Team and online enforcement team after it was flagged by Reps. • Reps raised the issue of airbags not deploying in car accident because they were bought as part of a subscription service and LAU will share this with the Innovation and Incident Management Teams	OPSS
Ensuring that LA concerns are fed into thinking on OPSS high-risk areas.	OPSS
Reps to organise a pre-meet to take place prior to next meeting.	LA Reps

8 Date and time of next meeting

Wednesday 4 November, 10:00 – 11:30