

On the horizon



Building Safety

Landmark step as BSR becomes standalone body

The Building Safety Regulator (BSR) has officially moved to a standalone organisation, paving the way for creation of a single construction regulator - a key recommendation of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry.

The move from HSE to an arm's-length body under the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), represents a significant moment for the built environment.

Lord Roe, Chair of BSR, said: ***"While the creation of BSR in 2021 was a watershed moment, this is about looking forward to a single construction regulator that brings coherence to a once-fragmented system."***

"We will know we are successful when residents acknowledge we have made the built environment safer. This move is about continuing to support homes being built safely while fulfilling our primary mission: ensuring we are all building better and living safer, together."

Gateway 2 update shows continued positive momentum

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The update from the BSR demonstrates a continuing positive momentum against a backdrop of:

- increasing decisions and applications for new high-rise residential building units
- further reductions in complex legacy cases
- a renewed focus on remediation projects

Closed applications continue to exceed previous rates with 639, including 273 invalidations over the past 12 weeks. The number of live applications of all categories is 1,212.

During that time, 108 new build applications have had decisions, with 82 new applications received. 65% of all decisions across all categories over the past 12 weeks related to London cases.

New building safety web pages

As part of the transition to a standalone organisation BSR has launched a new GOV UK page for updates, guidance and news.

The existing Making Buildings Safer campaign site will also continue to showcase useful resources for industry and dutyholders, as well as the ongoing Your Home, Your Safety residents' campaign.

Over the coming months, BSR will also be launching its own new social channels.

HRB telecommunications building work consultation

MHCLG is seeking views on proposals to refine the application process for some types of building work within the higher-risk building regime.

For building work to fibre optic infrastructure, this also includes the local authority and registered building control approvers routes for non-higher-risk buildings.

Proposals aim to address limitations of the current system and ensure regulatory processes remain proportionate, effective and focused on maintaining resident safety.

Help shape the future of Approved Documents

Industry input is needed by BSR to help support ideas for the review and development of Approved Documents.

They are seeking views from architects, building control, fire engineers, structural and other engineers, as well as contractors.

Participation is voluntary, with a monetary incentive offered as a thank you. All responses remain confidential.

Verian, who is carrying out research is independent from BSR.

To find out more email Research@veriangroup.com and include your area of work.

Remediation plan to accelerate building safety works

The BSR has introduced a comprehensive Remediation Improvement Plan aimed at increasing the speed of essential high-rise building safety works across England.

The Remediation Improvement Plan is aimed at improving the efficiency, quality and timeliness of applications for essential high-rise building safety works across England.

At a ministerial round table hosted by Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government The Rt Hon Steve Reed OBE MP, BSR Board Chair Lord Roe introduced the plan and the regulator's deadline of 30 April 2026 to clear the majority of remaining remediation applications from 2024.

Key measures in the plan include:

- mirroring the success that the Innovation Unit has delivered for new-build applications, creation of a Remediation Multi-disciplinary Team (MDT) cohort and the introduction of Account Managers to streamline communication and processing
- a recruitment drive to increase Regulatory Lead capacity, reducing individual caseloads to the benefit of applicants and processes
- using "Approval with Requirements", where appropriate, allowing projects to mobilise while distinct technical issues are resolved later
- publication of remediation-specific guidance and supporting information to help industry avoid common application errors

Built Environment Competence Hub now live

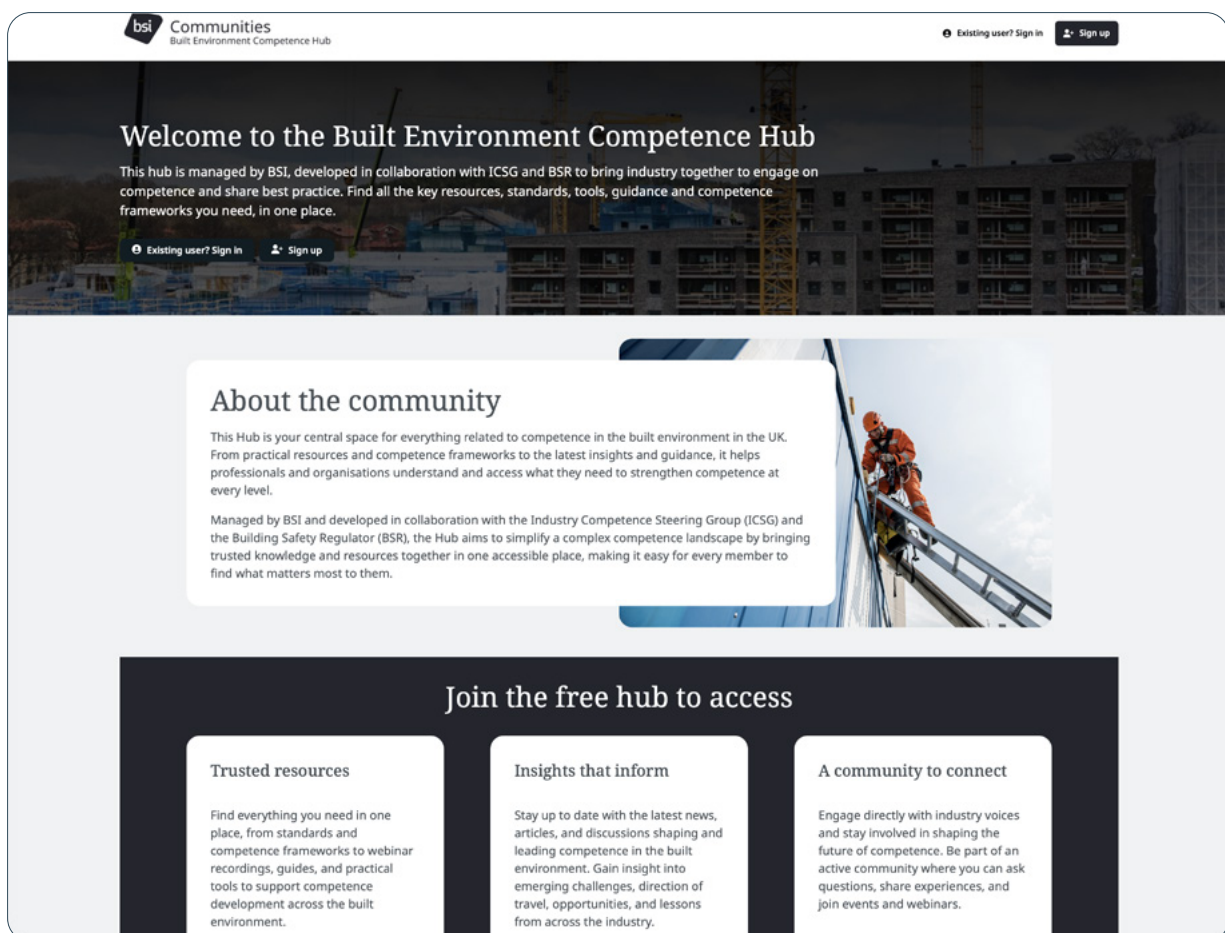
A central space to access competence frameworks, standards and guidance for the built environment is now live.

The British Standards Institution's (BSI) Built Environment Competence Hub, developed in collaboration with the Industry Competence Steering Group (ICSG) and BSR, is designed for anyone working in the built environment sector.

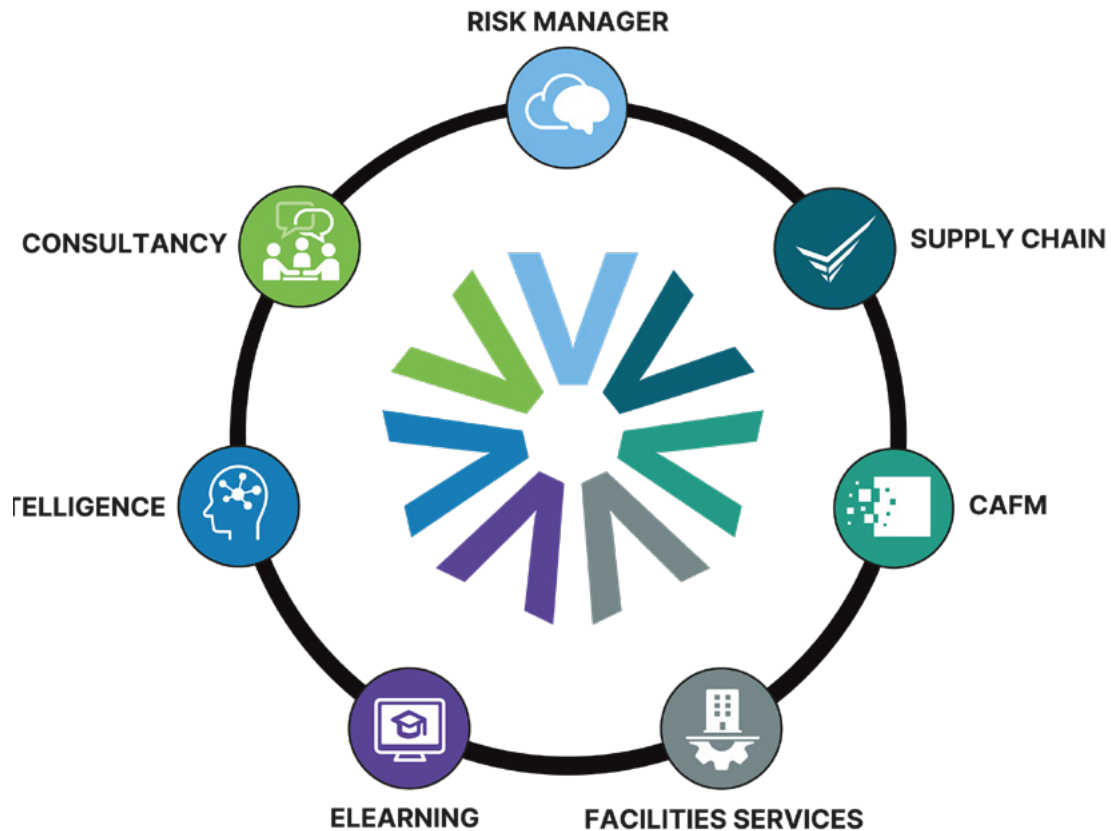
The free-to-access hub, which already has more than 1,600 members, is divided into dedicated areas covering:

- design
- construction
- construction products
- in-use and building management
- cross-delivery functions

To sign up for access to the [hub here](#).



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