

Rt Hon. Rachel Reeves MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer
HM Treasury
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Dear Chancellor,

Recognising the many economic challenges faced by the Nation, we urge you to place worker wellbeing at the heart of the next Budget on 26 November, understanding that healthier, happier and more productive workers are essential to the Government's mission for growth.

The Government has shown its commitment to ensuring people in work are better protected through its landmark reforms to worker rights, the Employment Rights Bill. We think it can and must go further if it is to reap the productivity and profitability benefits that work-related wellbeing has to offer.

The economic case for the Government to support and incentivise employers to invest in workplace wellbeing is compelling. Healthier and happier workers are more productive, boosting profitability and driving economic growth on a local, regional and national level.

Additionally, we know that healthier and happier workers are more risk-aware so are likely to have fewer accidents, helping to reduce the number of workplace injuries and fatalities. In turn, this reduces the economic, social and personal costs associated with work-related sickness, ill health and fatalities.

British Safety Council stands ready to support you and the Government with this mission, recognising that a healthy workforce is representative of both a healthy nation and a healthy economy.

Our clients and members know that worker wellbeing is at the heart of the successful economies of the future by boosting individual and collective productivity and economic activity. Those nations that invest today will reap the rewards tomorrow. The UK has long been a global leader in occupational health and safety, and we now look to the Government and the Treasury to make the UK a wellbeing leader of today and tomorrow.

In 2024, we published our Health, Safety and Wellbeing Manifesto containing seven ambitious calls to increase productivity through improved occupational health, safety and wellbeing in the UK.

Ahead of the Autumn budget, we now renew these calls and ask that you:

- Incentivise investment into new and developing technologies that offer meaningful safety advancements, such as artificial intelligence (AI), augmented reality (AR), and virtual reality (VR).
- Create an environment in which employers are encouraged and incentivised to invest in training that goes above statutory minimums.
- Put wellbeing at the heart of our economy, supporting workers, workplaces and our economy to thrive.

Recent research commissioned by British Safety Council with YouGov found high levels of support from both employers and employees for greater Government action and intervention to improve worker wellbeing. Indeed, the most popular policy options were placing more obligations on employers, offering them new tax incentives and/or financial subsidies and agreeing a statutory definition of workplace wellbeing.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you, to discuss how British Safety Council can work with the Government, through this Parliament and beyond, to create a productive and growing economy built on a thriving workforce.

Yours sincerely



Mike Robinson
Chief Executive



Peter McGettrick
Chair of the Board of Trustees

