

## Did you know?

The Sentencing Council was set up to promote greater transparency and consistency in sentencing, whilst maintaining the independence of the judiciary. The primary role of the Council is to issue guidelines on sentencing which the courts must follow. Last year the Sentencing Council issued new 'definitive' guidelines for health and safety offences and Corporate Manslaughter. As a consequence certain fines have increased dramatically with some companies being fined between £1m and £5m for serious injuries. This poster provides further details and some indications of what has happened since the guidelines were introduced.

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### A 41% INCREASE IN FINES

£20.6 million vs £14.6 million when we compare the first half of 2015 vs 2016

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### NUMBER OF £1 MILLION+ FINES RISES

There have been more £1m+ fines in the past 12 months than in the past 20 years COMBINED

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### CASES AGAINST SENIOR MANAGERS HAVE TRIPLED

Senior leaders are increasingly facing prosecution for health and safety failures

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### UNLIMITED PENALTIES NOW A POSSIBILITY

The largest fine in 2016 was 250% larger than the largest fine in 2015

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### LARGER FINES NO LONGER JUST FOR FATALITIES

Near misses can now carry the same prosecutions and fines as a fatality.

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### CUSTODIAL SENTENCES ARE MORE LIKELY

Individuals who intentionally flout Health and Safety law, may be subject to 26 weeks to 2 years imprisonment.

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### CUSTODIAL SENTENCES CAN BE UNLIMITED

The charge of gross negligence manslaughter can carry a maximum sentence of life imprisonment

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### KEY FAILINGS COME UP TIME AND TIME AGAIN

Inadequate risk assessment, lack of training and supervisory failings.

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### IMPORTANCE OF ROBUST PROCEDURES CLEAR

Robust processes are needed to manage risk, protect staff and avoid prosecution.

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### LEAD HEALTH AND SAFETY FROM THE TOP

Ensure that leaders are setting the standards and implementing a sound safety culture.