

GATEWAY 2 DELAYS STALL MORE | ILLAPG MEET THAN 150 PROJECTS

The CPA has warned that the current government's pledge to deliver 1.5 million new homes is at risk unless it can resolve severe delays at Gateway 2, the approval system for higher risk buildings.

Gateway 2 - introduced under the Building Safety Act 2022 - requires developers to secure approval from the Building Safety Regulator before work can begin on high rise schemes. Designed to strengthen fire and structural safety, it has instead created a bottleneck.

A CPA survey of members found that more than 150 high rise projects - with more than 60 percent in London - are currently stalled, with cranes standing idle and supply chains in limbo. Members reported delays of over 40 weeks on projects that should have been cleared within a fortnight.

Contractors' associations have warned that unless Gateway 2 is fixed, the backlog will get worse, costs will rise, and confidence across the supply chain will start to erode.

The HSE has launched a Call for Evidence for a review of the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998. The Government seeks to reduce unnecessary bureaucracy, enhance regulatory efficiency, and ensure legislation keeps pace with technological advancements and modern working practices.

The HSE has invited feedback through a series of questions, mostly focused on thorough examinations, reporting and associated costings. The review is not a comprehensive overhaul of LOLER, but a focused effort to ensure it remains proportionate, effective and aligned with current and emerging technologies. A wider consultation will be launched in February next year.

The CPA is producing a collective response through its lifting related interest groups and encouraging members to respond individually. It is also liaising with the Industry Lifting Lead AP Group and other organisations. The Call for Evidence closes on November 11th.

HE IMPORTANCE OF MEI

WELLBEING

CPA careers manager Katie Kelleher spoke at Get Construction Talking's **Construction Mental Health Summit** at the end of September, bringing together unions, contractors, consultants and universities for frank conversations about mental health in the sector.

Key takeaways from panel sessions included:



L-R Fred Mills of B1M & Get Construction Talking Brett Smith of Gardiner Builders, Katie Kelleher of CPA and Steve Kerslake of Construction sport

- · Health must be valued as much as safety
- · Time for medical appointments should be protected, not pressured
- · Gambling and substance abuse need to be openly addressed, not brushed aside
- · Real change comes from honest conversations, not just policies
- · Engagement and buy-in from the ground up is essential
- We can influence external and internal pressures by making a better workplace for everyone
- On time payments need to be prioritised, why give people financial worries on top of everything else

GALA DINNER

The CPA will host a formal dinner at the stunning St George's Hall in Liverpool on Thursday, November 6th. Tickets can be booked through the CPA at www.cpa.uk.net/cpa-gala-dinner-2025.

The Industry Lifting Lead Appointed Person Group (ILLAPG) held its 39th meeting on October 9th at GGR's facility in Haddenham, with over 80 participants - 20 in person and 60 online.

Chaired by Darren Biggs of Sir Robert McAlpine and supported by Tom Pawson of Costain and Katie Kelleher of CPA, the meeting covered current projects, regulatory updates, and technical best practice.

Andrew Lloyd of Select Plant Hire gave a presentation entitled 'Piking Crawler Cranes on Luffing Jibs - Best Practice (Our Opinion)', exploring safe planning, responsibilities, and procedural considerations. *(in case you are wondering Piking is not a misspelling - more on that later).

The meeting also reinforced the importance of sharing knowledge with others in the lifting industry, highlighted by Sir Robert McAlpine's 'Tower Crane Schedule of Common Lifts', now freely available online. Other agenda items included updates on the LOLER Call for Evidence, standards activity (BSI, CEN and ISO), and work from the Tier 1 Fatal Risk Group.



The Vertikal team had never come across the term piking before and were scratching our heads, Katie at CPA - an experienced crawler crane operator - informed us that it was the out of service configuration in which the main boom is lowered to around 50 degrees and the tip of the luffing jib placed on the ground, as in the drawing provided. Jib top wheels ideally required.

Most of us were familiar with the configuration but not the term piking so we have asked contacts in other English speaking countries and some German crawler crane manufacturers. The USA was fastest to come back and gave us the following terms:

· Knuckled down · Knifing · Spiking · Parked

