

Press release
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BUILDING SAFETY: IWFM INFLUENCE GROWS AS GOVERNMENT RECOGNISES INSTITUTE-LED ALLIANCE

‘Three years ago we welcomed the Hackitt report’s call for stronger competency in building management because it recognised the role of facilities professionals in life safety. IWFM has been a key actor on competency development ever since, ensuring that FM best practice is factored into this work. In bonding the facilities profession firmly to safety and wellbeing, this latest development is a breakthrough for the Building Safety Alliance and for IWFM’s influence.’

This was Head of Policy Sofie Hooper’s reaction to the news that the Institute’s ongoing work on building safety has been recognised by the government. [Guidance published last week](#) acknowledges the efforts of the Building Safety Alliance to establish a register of statutory Building Safety Managers (BSMs) and accepts the role a register can play.

IWFM is a leading member of the industry-led Alliance, established in July to oversee the competence arrangements for a certification scheme and hold the public register.

Confirming that there will be no state-run and maintained register of BSMs, the government guidance, published last week, said that industry should determine whether and how to identify those competent to perform the role.

Recognising the sector’s efforts to develop the competence framework for BSMs and specifically the Building Safety Alliance’s work to establish a register of competent practitioners, the guidance acknowledges a role for public registers in helping to assure Accountable Persons when appointing a Building Safety Manager and in promoting transparency to residents.

This is a key moment for the newly formed Alliance, a collaboration of expert stakeholders working in the spirit of the Hackitt recommendations to drive culture change and competence throughout the occupation phase to give residents safe homes.

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Media Enquiries

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About IWFM

The Institute of Workplace and Facilities Management (IWFM) is the body for workplace and facilities professionals.

We exist to promote excellence among a worldwide membership community of around 14,000 and to demonstrate the value and contribution of workplace and facilities management more widely. We empower professionals to upskill and reach their potential for a rewarding, impactful career. We do this by advancing professional standards, offering guidance and training, developing new insights and sharing best practice.

It is our vision to see workplace and facilities management as a distinct profession – recognised beyond the built environment for its ability to enable people to transform organisations and their performance. The IWFM was established in 2018. It builds on the proud heritage of 25 years of the British Institute of Facilities Management.