

# Comment

## Tradespeople Losing £Thousands In Lost Income

A recent Market Direct study asked over 300 skilled tradespeople what impact being injured had on them physically, mentally and financially. It turns out that 35% of those people miss 1-2 weeks of work a year due to work-related sickness or accidents. Based on the average day rate of £238, those that have had to take up to two weeks off work would be losing over £2,380 annually. But 23% have been known to take four months off for an injury – losing up to £20,508. Nearly half of tradespeople don't have insurance to cover their lost income.

Please, please take this to heart. Accidents happen. Illness happens. And we all know that the strain of running a business can eventually put us off work.

Not having enough money coming in to allow you to take necessary time off is hugely stressful in itself. When you simply can do nothing else but take time off, not having an income can rack up debt – and as we know, debt becomes a vicious cycle in itself.

Take care of yourself. Take care of your health. Read more on this story on our News Pages. And take some guidance from our Wellbeing Column on Page 25.

## Dispelling The Myths Around U-Values

Another one from our News Pages, Paul Booth, the R&D director at AluK, writes on the topic of U-Value compliance – more companies are banging the honesty drum...but not all according to Booth who says there are still some shady doings in the windows and doors market – quelle surprise. He also knocks a few myths on the head about how you can comply with regulations.

## No Workers, No New Homes

The Labour government's plans to build 1.5 million new homes has come in for a bashing again. The UK's construction sector faces a critical skills gap with 244,000 apprentices needed by 2032 – and no new workers means there will be no (well obviously some) new homes.

## Twenty-Year Report On Window & Door Trends

I did find this interesting but I had to click through to the report...how things have changed and how things have stayed the same. Again, you'll find this story on our News Pages – our News Page that have been serving this industry for a little bit over twenty years...seems like only yesterday, I started doing this.

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