

## Employment E-Brief - 6

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### WORKPLACE ASTHMA - CODE OF PRACTICE

This summer the Health and Safety Commission is introducing a new, legally binding Approved Code of Practice on the control of substances that cause occupational asthma as an appendix to the new Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations 2002.

The main causes of asthma at work include: latex gloves, flour dust in bakeries, isocyanates used in painting and other processes, solder fumes, wood dust, glues and resins - workers most at risk include nurses, woodworkers, painters and lab technicians.

Given that latest estimates assess that around 7,000 people develop asthma through their work each year, the law is intended to ensure substances that cause occupational asthma are properly controlled.

*This update is for guidance purposes only and should not be regarded as a substitute for taking specific legal advice from your usual Metcalfes' contact.*