



YORK GREEN

SAFETY PARTNERS

THE WORKPLACE SELF-PRESERVATION GUIDE



Why fear has its place at work

A bit of fear keeps you alive. Too little, and you walk into danger. Too much, and you freeze.

Safety isn't about eliminating fear — it's about using it properly.

When something makes you uneasy — a smell, a noise, a shortcut — that's your in-built risk detector doing its job.

The trick is to act on it before it's replaced by "we've always done it this way."



The three ghosts of workplace risk

1 - The Invisible One - Familiar hazards you stop seeing

That loose cable, missing guard, or blocked exit. You've stepped over it so many times it's practically part of the furniture.

Test: If you can't remember when you last noticed it, it's time to look again.

2 - The Polite One - Risks that hide behind procedure

The paperwork says it's fine. The inspection was last year. The sign's still on the wall.

But what's changed since?

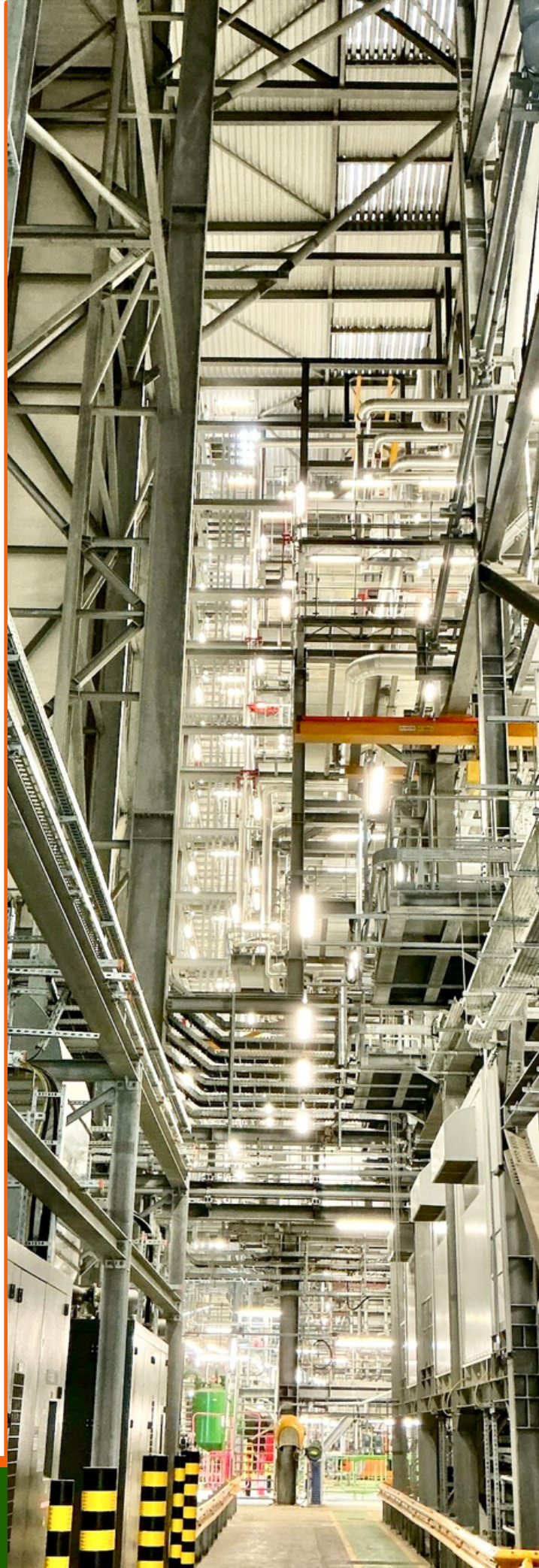
Test: If "the system" says you're safe but your gut says otherwise, trust your gut and check.

3 - The Mischievous One - The quick fix that stayed too long

We all love ingenuity, but temporary measures have a nasty habit of becoming permanent.

Cables, clamps, duct tape... they solve today's problem and plant tomorrow's headline.

Test: Walk your site and tag every "temporary" fix. Count how many birthdays it's had.



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Five signs self-preservation instinct has gone quiet

- You walk past small hazards without even clocking them.
- You hear “we’ve always done it like that” more than once a week.
- You’d struggle to explain why a control measure exists.
- You rely on luck (“it’s never happened before”) rather than evidence.
- You think safety is someone else’s job.

If you ticked two or more — time for a refresh.

When to call in help

If your last formal risk assessment feels like a history lesson, or you’re not sure which ghosts are haunting your site — bring in a fresh pair of eyes.

York Green helps businesses rediscover their instinct for self-preservation with:

Risk assessments Including - **Fire**, **DSEAR** and **PUWER**

Safety training and eLearning

Clear action plans that actually get done

Final thought

Fear shouldn’t paralyse you, it should protect you.

When people understand why they do what they do, safety stops being a rulebook and becomes second nature.

👾 **Scary? Not when you see it coming.**

Re-awakening the instinct

1. Make risk personal.

Show people how an incident would hit them, not “the company.”

2. Tell stories, not statistics.

A near miss someone can picture beats a spreadsheet every time.

3. Reward reporting.

If raising a concern gets a nod instead of a sigh, you’ve already won.

4. Use visuals.

Before-and-after photos, quick clips, even a mock hazard hunt — far more effective than another PowerPoint.

5. Close the loop.

When people see problems fixed, they keep reporting them. Simple as that.

