

Poor roads are the UK's biggest killer

Sir,
With reference to your recent articles on corporate killing, we, the British Aggregates Association, have always been aware that it is, in fact, the public sector that is the biggest 'killer'.

It was civil servants who were lobbying the hardest, albeit behind the scenes, to delay this legislation.

The biggest cause of death in the construction industry is driving to work.

There are 3,400 deaths every year on roads – many of which are well past their sell-by date – a quarry not far from here lost three men one morning on their way to work.

The HSE does not of course have any focus on publicly

owned roads – too expensive in terms of upkeep and legal costs perhaps?

If *Construction News* really wants to save life then it must take a less parochial view. Not only corporations must be held accountable.

There is a growing body of opinion that the massive amount of paperwork that site managers are now responsible for is actually having a negative effect on safety.

Their time for hands-on supervision is greatly curtailed and, human nature being what it is, people's first priority is to protect themselves and their own jobs.

Robert Durward
Director of British
Aggregates Association

