



**18<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

**LETTER TO THOSE UNDERTAKING INSPECTIONS OF INFLATABLE PLAY EQUIPMENT**

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE), Register for Play Inspectors International (RPiI) and Professional Inflatable Play Association (PIPA) have been working closely together to ensure that all applicable standards, rules, and legislation are followed by those working within the inflatable play industry.

HSE has been consulting with a number of Local Authorities who are investigating several serious incidents that have occurred on multi-unit inflatable play parks across the UK and have been provided with copies of the reports detailing the inspection work undertaken on these installations.

HSE's initial findings have highlighted serious concerns that although the inspection reports do provide limited basic details and address some safety matters, many inherent safety critical risks associated with these more complex multi-unit inflatable devices have been either overlooked or not sufficiently addressed.

Due to these concerns, HSE approached both the RPiI and PIPA to clarify the scope of the respective schemes, and the purpose of this joint letter is to remind members of both the RPiI and PIPA as to what can be inspected under the respective memberships.

The RPiI confirm that their membership scheme and training modules only covers inflatable devices which are in scope of:

- BS EN 14960-1:2019 - Inflatable play equipment Part 1: Safety requirements and test methods

In addition, the RPiI have provided the additional RPiI CPD for the inspection of devices that are in scope of:

- BS EN 14960-2:2019 -Inflatable play equipment. Additional safety requirements for inflatable bouncing pillows intended for permanent installation.
- BS EN 14960-3:2020 -Inflatable play equipment. Additional safety requirements and test methods for Snappies.

PIPA confirm that their inspection scheme and training modules only covers inflatable devices which are in scope of:

- BS EN 14960-1:2019 - Inflatable play equipment Part 1: Safety requirements and test methods

In addition, PIPA allows inspectors who have completed the additional PIPA learning hub modules to inspect the following devices:

- Non-ride-on games.
- Toddlers play zones.

The RPII and PIPA confirm that no inspector registered to either scheme should provide any certification or an inspection report for a device referencing either the RPII or PIPA, unless it is within scope of the RPII and PIPA schemes as set out above.

#### **INFORMATION FOR INSPECTORS INSPECTING MULTI -UNIT INFLATABLE PLAY PARKS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT NOT COVERED BY THE RPII AND PIPA SCHEMES**

HSE acknowledge that there are RPII and PIPA registered inspectors and inspection bodies who inspect multi -unit inflatable play parks and other equipment as part of their undertaking.

HSE would like to reiterate that there is no legal impediment to inspecting these types of devices, but to comply with the relevant health and safety law the person(s) carrying out the inspection work must be able to demonstrate that they have the requisite combination of training, skills, experience, and knowledge to complete the work safely.

HSE would strongly advise that if an inspector or inspection body is unsure as to whether they have the requisite combination of training, skills, experience, and knowledge to perform an inspection safely the inspection should not be undertaken, and the device owner/operator notified that the inspection has not been completed.

Inspectors should also note that if they undertake any inspection work, whether that be on a device covered by the RPII or PIPA or not i.e., a multi-unit inflatable play park, should it be identified that the inspection has failed to identify and address any relevant safety issues, HSE and/or the Local Authority may take enforcement action against that inspector.



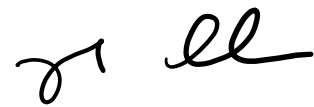
**John Simmons**

Director RPII



**Mark John**

Chair PIPA Leadership Group



**David Kivlin**

HM Inspector - HSE  
Entertainment, Leisure,  
Commercial & Consumer  
Services Sector.