

Want construction work done safely?

A QUICK GUIDE TO THE CONSTRUCTION (DESIGN AND MANAGEMENT) REGULATIONS 2007

WHO NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT THE REGULATIONS?

Any one having construction or building work carried out has legal duties under the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007 (referred to and known as CDM 2007).

If you live, or will live, in the premises where the work is carried out you are termed a 'domestic client' and you will not have any duties under CDM 2007.



WHAT WILL CDM 2007 DO?

The Regulations will help ensure you that your construction project is safe to build, safe to use, safe to maintain and delivers you good value.

Good health and safety planning can also help to ensure your project is well managed and that unexpected costs and problems are minimised.

WHAT DO CLIENTS NEED TO DO?

As a client you have a big influence over how any works are carried out. Where potential health and safety risks are low, there is little to do but conversely where risks are higher you need to do more.

CDM 2007 is not intended to create unnecessary and unhelpful paperwork. It is about choosing a competent team and helping them to work safely and efficiently together.

You will need to do the following for ALL construction projects:-

- Appoint the right people - employ only competent designers and contractors.
- Allow adequate time - rushed projects are invariably unsafe and poor quality.
- Provide information to the team - existing hazards, asbestos, dangerous structures etc.
- Communicate and co-operate - clients, designers and contractors must talk early about buildability and keep regular dialogue throughout.
- Ensure management arrangements exist - this is normally the responsibility of the contractor and you should make sure the processes are documented.
- Ensure adequate welfare facilities are on site - toilets, drying facilities, changing and mess facilities are the minimum.



In addition to the above, if the project is 'notifiable' (work lasting longer than 30 days or involving 500 person days of work) you will have to do the following additional things:

- Appoint a CDM co-ordinator as soon as possible before the design phase to
 - advise and assist in your CDM duties
 - advise on selection of competent designers and contractors
 - co-ordinate arrangements for health and safety during planning phase
 - notify project to HSE
 - advise on contractor's construction phase safety plan
 - prepare a health and safety file
- Appoint a principal contractor
 - normally the main contractor
 - manages and plans the health and safety elements of the works
- Ensure a health and safety plan is in place
- Keep the health and safety file



ACORUS AS DESIGNER

All work undertaken by the Acorus design team is carried out in accordance with the precise designer duties required by CDM 2007.

ACORUS AS CDM CO-ORDINATOR

Acorus consultants will:-

- a) Give suitable and sufficient advice to help clients comply with their duties;
- b) Notify HSE about the project;
- c) Co-ordinate design work, planning and preparation for construction where relevant to health and safety;
- d) Identify pre-construction information and advise the client on any significant gaps;
- e) Provide pre-construction information to contractors;
- f) Manage the flow of health and safety information between clients, designers and contractors;
- g) Advise the client on the suitability of the construction phase plan and the welfare facilities; and
- h) Produce a health and safety file at the end of the construction phase.

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