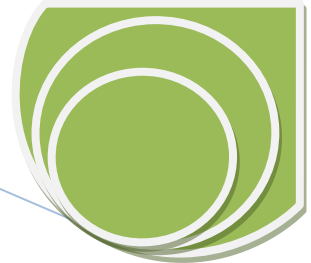


SHREC SHEET



NO 13 CONSTRUCTION (DESIGN AND MANAGEMENT) REGULATIONS (CDM) 2015 -

“WELFARE ARRANGEMENTS”

INTRODUCTION

The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations CDM (See SHREC Sheet CDM Regulations) apply to a wide range of construction related activities on structures* including building work, demolition, installation and maintenance work.

* structures mean buildings, phone masts, roads, silos, etc.

It is a requirement of the CDM regulations that arrangements are made to provide everyone who works on any site (irrespective of size and period of work) to have access to adequate toilet and wash facilities, a place for preparing and consuming refreshments, somewhere to warm up and somewhere for storing and drying clothing and personal protective equipment. This applies to fixed construction sites and transient or mobile teams of construction workers (e.g. road repair and pipe laying gangs)

The availability and maintenance of welfare facilities should be considered at the planning and preparation stages of every construction project, before any construction or demolition work.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The client: Clients must ensure that adequate welfare facilities are arranged for every project. Details of client welfare requirements or arrangements (e.g. site rules, client provided services, etc) should be provided by the client as part of the pre-construction information (see SHREC Sheet – Pre-construction information).

Note: Clients do not have to provide the welfare facilities, they just have to ensure that welfare arrangements are in place.

Principal Contractors: should ensure that suitable welfare facilities are provided and maintained for the duration of the project.

Contractors (including the self employed): should ensure that there are adequate facilities for workers under their control.

PLANNING

The nature and scale of facilities required will depend on the size, location and type of project.

The following should be considered when planning welfare provision: -

- Positioning on site - welfare facilities should be sited, and traffic movement managed, to ensure

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- that vehicles and pedestrians are adequately segregated.
- Safe installation and removal procedures from site.
- The nature of the work and the associated health risks.
- The number of people who will use the facilities.
- The distance workers may have to travel to get to the facilities.
- The duration of the work and the number of locations.
- Cleaning and maintenance of the facilities.
- Whether there is a need for the facilities to be moved during the construction phase.

FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED

Toilets

The number of toilets needed, will depend on the number of workers on site and the type of facilities provided. Men and women may use the same toilet so long as it is in a lockable room and partitioned from urinals. Sanitary waste disposal should be provided in facilities used by female workers.

Where reasonably practicable, flushing toilets and running water connected to mains water and drainage supply should be supplied. Where this is not possible, provide facilities with a built in water and drainage supply.

Chemical toilets are only acceptable if there is no other alternative. Toilets should be adequately ventilated, well lit and clean and provided with adequate supplies of toilet paper.

The frequency of cleaning will be dependant on use - daily cleaning may not be sufficient.

The number of portable toilets needed depends also on the frequency of emptying. Where toilets are emptied weekly the recommended provision is 1 for every 7 workers.

Washing Facilities

Washing facilities need to be located next to toilets and changing areas and include: -

- Suitable lighting and ventilation.
- Sinks large enough to wash face, hands and forearms.
- A supply of hot and cold/warm water - running water so far as is reasonably practicable.
- Soap or other cleansing agent.
- Towels or suitable means of drying hands.

Unisex showers can be provided so long as they are in a separate, lockable room and accessible by one person at a time.

Showers for use where the work is particularly dirty, or there is a potential for exposure to hazardous substances, will need to be sited away from the main facilities.

Drinking Water

A supply of clean drinking water should be available and wherever possible supplied direct from the mains. Cups or similar should be provided.

If water is stored in containers they should be clearly labelled, if necessary, protected from contamination and the water regularly changed to prevent it becoming stale or contaminated.

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Changing Rooms

Men and women should be able to change separately. There should be provision for secure storage of personal and work clothing on the site, as well as a means whereby wet clothing can be dried. Contaminated clothing needs to be stored away from clean clothing.

Rest Facilities

Rest areas should provide protection against the weather and should be adequately heated by means of either electrical or LPG heaters.

If LPG heaters are used: -

- Cylinders should be used and stored in safe, well-ventilated places outside the accommodation or in purpose-built ventilated storage areas.
- Ensure appliances have been properly installed, checked and maintained by a competent person.
- Provide adequate combustion ventilation (provide fixed grilles at high and low level) and ensure that it is not blocked off in cold weather.
- Check that cylinders are properly turned off when not in use.
- Provide wall or ceiling-mounted carbon monoxide detectors.

There should be a sufficient number of tables and chairs (with backs) and a means of heating food and water for drinks e.g. heating ring or microwave.

Rest areas should not be used to store plant, equipment or materials.

TRANSIENT OR MOBILE SITES

The above standards should be provided or made available to workers on transient (short duration work) or mobile sites.

It is acceptable to make arrangements to: -

- Use the existing facilities provided by the owner of the premises where the work is being undertaken.
- Use local public facilities.
- Use facilities belonging to nearby businesses.

However, a clear agreement should first be reached with the provider of the facilities.

Particular attention is required to prevent transferring any contamination from the work area to the facilities used.

Workers will need to be made aware of the arrangements and the location of the facilities.

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