



Construction Work Policy

All Saints' Church, Walsoken

Please refer to Church document H&S_Doc_001 for all General Health & Safety requirements

Specific Policy

This Health & Safety (H&S) sub-policy controls construction work at church at church.

Definition of 'Construction Work'

The definition of 'construction work' is very comprehensive and includes the alteration, renovation, repair, upkeep, redecoration or other maintenance of a structure. For these projects a decision must be made if the CDM regulations need to be followed. It is therefore useful to define when the CDM regulations do not apply for projects that are non-construction work.

Definition of 'Non-Construction Work'

CDM regulations specifically target construction activities. Therefore, if your project doesn't involve construction work, the regulations won't apply. Non-construction activities include:

- 1) Routine maintenance that doesn't involve significant alteration or construction work.
- 2) Interior decoration that doesn't involve structural changes or significant work at height.
- 3) Minor repairs that don't impact the building's structure or involve construction activities.
- 4) Maintenance or repair of fixed plant which mainly involves mechanical adjustments, replacing parts or lubrication is unlikely to be 'construction work'.
- 5) CDM will not apply to tasks that don't resemble construction work, don't require construction skills, and don't use construction materials.

Reference Documents

The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974.

The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM)

Procedure

Volunteer Work

Very small works that don't involve significant risks can go ahead by a volunteer with the permission of the churchwardens who will seek, as appropriate, any other permissions required ahead of any start. CDM does not apply if the works are as in the list above (Definition of 'Non-Construction Work'). The churchwardens must be confident that the volunteer is capable of the very small works safely and competently. If the work is other than what would usually be considered very low risk domestic work a risk assessment must be carried out.

CDM regulations are relatively complex, and professional advice should be sought, however: Generally, & for information.

Works With Only One Contractor

Very small works that don't involve significant risks can go ahead by a contractor with the permission of the churchwardens who will seek as appropriate any other permissions required ahead of any start. CDM does not apply if the works are as in the list above (Definition of 'Non-Construction Work').

If the works are classed as 'construction work, with only one contractor then the CDM regulations apply.

There are three roles under CDM only using one contractor:

- 1) **Client:** This is our church, the person or organisation commissioning the construction work. They
 - a. Initiates the construction work
 - b. Instructs the design (what needs to be done).
 - c. Decides when and by whom.
 - d. Appoints construction contractors.
 - e. Heads up the construction procurement (buying services).

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- 2) **Contractor:** The professional carrying out the works. The contractor is anyone who, in the course or furtherance of business, carries out, manages or controls construction work. This could be an individual, a self-employed worker or a business that carries out, manages or controls construction work as part of their business.
- 3) **Designer:** A CDM designer is an individual or organisation who prepares or modifies designs for construction projects, or arranges for, or instructs others to do this. The designs include drawings, specifications and design calculations.

Works With More Than One Contractor

If the works are classed as 'construction work, with more than one contractor then the CDM regulations apply, and two additional roles are required.

- 1) **Principal designer:** A principle designer is the organisation (or individual) in control of the pre-construction phase. They have the duty to plan, manage, monitor and co-ordinate the pre-construction phase of a project involving more than one contractor.
- 2) **Principle contractor:** principle contractor is the organisation (or individual) in control of the construction phase. They have the duty to plan, manage and monitor the construction phase of a project involving more than one contractor. They coordinate matters relating to health and safety during the build and break down of structures

Note: It is necessary for the client (Church) to notify the Health and Safety Executive if the construction works meets one or both of the following criteria.

- 1) The project will last for more than 30 working days on site and there will be more than 20 persons working simultaneously at any one time.
- 2) The project involves more than 500 person days on site.

Forms

F10 Notification to the Health and Safety Executive

Diagrams

None

Appendices

None