

Brought to you by Richard Elliott and Feila Scally representing GBM, we aim to make CDM easier to understand through simplification and common sense.

Main aim of CDM

The key aim of CDM2007 is to integrate health and safety into the management of the project and to encourage everyone involved to work together to:

- Improve the planning and management of projects from the very start;
- Identify hazards early on, so they can be eliminated or reduced at the design or planning stage and the remaining risks can be properly managed;
- Target effort where it can do the most good in terms of health and safety; and
- Discourage unnecessary bureaucracy.

Duty holders

There are 5 legal duty holders required in the regulations. These people all need to fulfil certain legal requirements. For all construction work there is:

- Client
- Designers - anyone (including the client) who prepares or modifies a design
- Contractors

When the works last for more than 30 days or involves more than 500 person days (for example 50 people working for 10 days) then the client has to appoint:

- CDM Coordinator and
- Principal contractor



Key duties

There are many duties under the regulations but there are a few key themes that run throughout. In very simplistic terms CDM requires

- COMPETENT people to be in place
- SUITABLE MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS ensured by the client
- ADEQUATE TIME AND RESOURCE
- COOPERATION AND COORDINATION
- INFORMATION FLOWS TO THE RIGHT PEOPLE AT THE RIGHT TIME
- PRINCIPLES OF PREVENTION applied by all with a focus on early design decisions

Key documents

There are 4 main documents required under CDM when the project becomes notifiable. For non notifiable works, a reduced version of the Pre Construction Information (PCI) and Construction Phase Plan (CPP) can be produced. They must however contain site specific relevant information in proportion to the level of risk.

The relationship between these documents is shown below:

