

CDM Coordinator



What is one?

The CDM Coordinator is a compulsory appointment in larger construction projects.

Why do you need one?

To comply with the law, avoid prosecution and effectively plan and manage health and safety to prevent accidents prior, during and after larger construction projects.

When do you need one?

If you are intending to carry out a project which is 'Notifiable' to the HSE under the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007.

A project is Notifiable (i.e. must be notified to the HSE before work can start) if the works are either:

1. expected to take longer than thirty working days to complete; or
2. involve more than five hundred person hours to complete...

... and are for a 'Client' as defined by the Regulations. For this purpose, this definition means a person or organisation who, in the furtherance of a business, has construction work carry out by another or by himself. So, any commercial work is for a Client under the law as well as for a residential property developer but not for your average home owner.

What does it involve?

The Client is responsible for ensuring that a CDM Coordinator is appointed or, failing this, will act as the CDM-C him/her/itself. The CDM Coordinator must be appointed before work starts and is chiefly responsible for:

1. ensuring that the Principal Contractor is competent;
2. assessing the Principal Contractor's Construction Phase Plan for adequacy;
3. liaising with the Client, the Designer and the Principal Contractor throughout the project; and
4. ensuring that the Health and Safety File is prepared at the end of works.