

No Nonsense CDM

Health & safety advisors and CDM consultants



CONTENTS OF THE HEALTH & SAFETY File – CDM²⁰⁰⁷

The HSE's Approved Code of Practice L144 "Managing Health & Safety in Construction" states that the Health & Safety File should include information about the following topics, **where this may be relevant to the health & safety of any future work:** -

- a brief description of the work carried out;
- residual hazards and how they have been dealt with (for instance surveys or other information concerning asbestos, contaminated land, water bearing strata, buried services etc.);
- key structural principles incorporated in the structure (e.g. bracing, sources of substantial stored energy including pre or post tensioned members) and safe working loads for floors and roofs, particularly where these may preclude placing scaffold or heavy equipment there;
- any hazards associated with the materials used (for example lead paint, pesticides, special coatings which should not be burned off etc);
- information regarding the removal or dismantling of installed plant and equipment (for example any special arrangements for lifting, order or other special instructions for dismantling etc.);
- health & safety information about equipment provided for cleaning or maintaining the structure;
- the nature, location and markings of significant services, including underground cables, gas supply equipment, fire-fighting services etc;
- information and as-built drawings of the structure and its plant and equipment (for example the means of safe access to and from service voids, fire doors and compartmentation etc).

The ACoP states that the level of detail should be proportionate to the risks likely to be involved in future work.

Please note the File is not the O&M Manuals, neither does it need to include: -

- the pre construction information or construction phase health & safety plan;
- designers' or contractors' risk assessments or method statements;
- contractors' COSHH assessments or suppliers MSDS;
- details about the normal operation of the structure;
- contractual documents;
- information contained in other documents, but relevant cross-references should be included.

Remember that CDM is intended to encourage the integration of health & safety into project management, not to create paperwork for its own sake.

Eldon House, 2-3 Eldon Street, London, EC2M 7LS

mickstorey1@gmail.com 07932 657934 <http://www.nononsensecdm.com>