



# Procedure (035)

## Environmental

### 1. General Details

- 1.1. Everyone on site has a responsibility to ensure that they do not knowingly or unnecessarily contaminate or pollute their work areas or the surrounding environment
- 1.2. Contaminates coming into contact with the environment should be avoided as far as reasonably practicable. This can be achieved through control measures put in place such as:
  - Proper planning at pre-construction phase
  - Specialist surveys
  - Designated re-fuelling points
  - Using drip trays / plant nappies with associated plant/machinery
  - Storing fuel in purpose made containers
  - Quickly responding to oil spills
  - Silt Management Plans
  - Surface Water Management Plans

**This list is not exhaustive**

### 2. Oil / Lubricant Spills

All sites must be in possession of serviceable spill kits of suitable capacity to deal with any potential spills on site. Spill kits must be maintained in good order, and replaced where necessary

- 2.1. Locations of all spill kits should be communicated as part of the site-specific induction – especially to anybody who will be operating plant
- 2.2. Other equipment such as 110v generators or cement mixers must always be used in conjunction with a proprietary drip tray / plant nappy to catch any leaking fuel / contaminants. Contractors are responsible for providing their own trays
- 2.3. Any major spills must be reported to the site manager and the incident also recorded on the **HSF xxx Environmental Incident Report Form**. The completed form must be sent to the Contracts Manager and H&S Manager
- 2.4. COSHH assessments / Data sheets should be checked for any further controls when dealing with any fuels or oils

### 3. Fuel on Site

- 3.1. Under the Oil Storage Regulations 2001, any fuel on site must be stored in a bunded container with a secondary containment of no less than 110% of the maximum capacity
- 3.2. Only operatives competent in using the diesel bowser must operate the controls. The fuel pump should be subjected to daily visual checks, and a recorded inspection each week on **HSF 024 Work Equipment Register**. Any defects or leaks must be recorded on this inspection and raised with the site manager

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- 3.3. Designated smoking areas must be sited well away from any fuel / oil storage containers to reduce the risks from fire and / or explosion
- 3.4. Petrol which will be used for plant / machinery i.e. cut-off saws, plat compactors etc. must only be stored in purpose made containers, not water bottles, milk bottles etc. and stored away from the build area
- 3.5. Re-fuelling should only be carried out in designated areas away from sources of ignition. Any spills must be attended to

#### 4. Protection of Water Courses (including Silt Management)

- 4.1. Steps must be taken to ensure existing courses are not contaminated with loose soil / silt etc which can affect the ecology and any wildlife in the area
- 4.2. Surface water run-off must be taken into account at the planning stage, and plans drawn up to ensure watercourses are not polluted either as a direct or indirect result of Gleeson Homes construction activity
- 4.3. Poorly planned water run-off management can also cause severe damage to sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS) if not suitably controlled
- 4.4. Steps which can be taken to control water contamination could be:
  - Phasing of works so there are not large areas of cleared vegetation
  - Stripping of vegetation and topsoil in sequence, clearing only the areas which works are needed
  - Minimise the amount of exposed ground and stockpiles of soil on site, this will help reduce amounts of silty water
  - Phase works so mud from vehicles or roads can not enter surface water drainage areas already completed
  - Protection of constructed gullies through installation of 'gully bags', straw or similar, ensuring these are changed regularly to maintain good drainage on site
  - Use of 'silt traps', ' silt busters' etc. to filter sediments before water can reach water courses, land drains or SUDS. These must be maintained throughout the construction phase
- 4.5. Any known contamination of water courses must be reported to the H&S Dept and Regional Technical Manager as soon as possible upon discovery. The incident should be recorded on the **HSF TBC Environmental Incident Report Form**
- 4.6. Failure to report can result in severe penalties from Enforcing Authorities such as Environmental Agency, Canal & River Trust etc. Any contact with these bodies should be recorded on **HSF 013 Enforcing Authority Visit Report** and forwarded to the Ops Director, Contracts Manager, Technical Manager and H&S Manager

#### 5. Tree Protection Orders

- 5.1. Any trees that are identified as having a Tree Protection Order present are to be clearly documented within the Pre-Construction arrangements, and are to be clearly marked on the site traffic management plan for operative's information
- 5.2. Protected trees are to be segregated from site activities by heras fencing to prevent accidental knocks from plant/vehicles, and signage clearly displayed identifying TPO . These measures must remain in place throughout the construction phase

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5.3. Trees under TPO's must not be damaged/removed under any circumstance unless express permission has been granted in writing by the Local Authority

## 6. Protected Species

6.1. Certain species are protected under UK law and cannot be forcibly removed or disturbed under normal circumstances. Common species include:

- Bats
- Badgers
- Great crested Newts
- Rare birds
- Common Dormice

6.2. Any existing protected species present are usually identified in initial ground investigation surveys carried out by specialist contractors. Any findings should be included within the Pre-Construction information and Construction Phase Plan

6.3. Any suspected protected species found on site that have not previously been identified through surveys must be reported immediately to the Ops Director, H&S Manager and Technical Manager for action.

**Works must not continue in the area until specialist advice has been sought**

6.4. Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act & Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act, individuals can face severe fines and/or imprisonment for intentionally or recklessly killing, injuring, taking a protected species or destroying or damaging access to structures or places used by protected species as shelter, breeding or protection e.g. badger sett

### Related Documents

- |           |                                       |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| • HSF 002 | Pre-Construction Information          |
| • HSP 003 | Construction Phase Plan               |
| • HSF TBC | Environmental Incident Report Form    |
| • HSF 013 | Enforcing Authority Visit Report Form |
| • HSF 024 | Work Equipment Register (PUWER)       |

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