



Any person undertaking demolition work will have duties under health and safety legislation aimed at controlling the risks to both the workforce and the public.

Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012 (CAR 2012)

All asbestos liabilities associated with a structure must be identified before the commencement of the demolition work. This requires a pre-demolition survey by a competent and accredited asbestos surveyor in accordance with the standards set out in the published guidance HSG: 264 Asbestos: The Survey Guide. **This survey will be fully intrusive and involve destructive inspection**, as necessary, to gain access to all areas, including those that may be difficult to reach and is intended to identify all asbestos materials within a structure. In most cases, this survey should be undertaken before tendering and be made available by the client to those bidding for the work. It is available to buy or download free from HSE Books. <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/books/hsg264.htm>

All asbestos materials must be removed in a controlled manner in accordance with CAR 2012. **Asbestos Insulating Board (AIB), asbestos pipe lagging and a wide range of other asbestos products may only be removed by a licensed asbestos removal contractor.** Asbestos cement and other commodities including asbestos containing vinyl floor tiles may be removed by a non-licensed contractor however, work should be undertaken in a controlled manner to minimise breakage and spread, in accordance with relevant guidance.

(Further useful references include L143 (Second Edition) Managing and Working with Asbestos <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/books/l143.htm> and HSG210 (Third Edition) Work with Asbestos which does not normally require a licence. <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/books/hsg210.htm>)

Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM)

The CDM regulations apply to all demolition work

For all demolition work, the **work should be planned and carried out in such a manner as to prevent danger** (or where not achievable reduce danger to as low a level as reasonably practicable). The arrangements for demolition work should be recorded before the work commences.

Demolition works should be securely fenced off from public areas and exclude persons not directly involved with the work. Any person or organisation undertaking the work should be formally appointed by the Client and have the necessary competences, experience and equipment to undertake the work in a safe manner.

Any works of demolition, which will last more than 30 days or, that form part of a continuous construction project which will last more than 30 days should be notified to the HSE in accordance with the CDM Regulations. Clients have further duties in respect of projects exceeding 30 days duration, which include the appointment of a CDM Co-ordinator. The Approved Code of Practice L153. "Managing health and safety in construction" provides practical guidance on complying with regulatory duties. It is available to buy or download free from HSE Books. <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/books/l153.htm>

For free advice and information call the HSE Infoline on 0845 345 0055 or visit the HSE website. www.hse.gov.uk. Most of the guidance identified above is available to download for no charge on the HSEs web pages.