

GREEN MAN

COMPLIANCE

FIRE RISK ASSESSMENTS - FACT SHEET

Part of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 was the introduction of an individual termed the 'responsible person'. This person's role in any organisation is to ensure fire safety precautions are effectively introduced into the workplace. The 'responsible person' must carry out and regularly review a fire risk assessment of the workplace premises. This will identify what needs to be done to prevent fire and keep people safe. As with any risk assessment, a written record of the main findings must be completed if 5 or more people are employed.

The fire risk assessment is like any other risk assessment in that it identifies hazards, the people at risk and the control measures either in place or required to remove or reduce the risk. The fire risk assessment is not a one-off process but requires regular reviews and potentially updates.

A comprehensive fire risk assessment will consider the following:

- emergency routes and exits
- fire detection and warning systems
- fire-fighting equipment
- the removal or safe storage of dangerous substances
- an emergency fire evacuation plan
- the needs of vulnerable people, eg the elderly, young children or those with disabilities
- provision information to employees and other people on the premises
- staff fire safety training

Our consultants at Green Man Compliance have the experience and knowledge to formulate your fire risk assessment quickly and efficiently. A comprehensive written report will be provided that highlights areas of concern and what remedies are required to ensure ongoing compliance with legislation and best practice.

A fire risk assessment by an independent assessor is often more beneficial than undertaking the activity solely in-house. Like many inspections or audits, when you work in a particular place for any length of time you tend not to notice certain things or take other health and safety aspects and issues for granted. A new pair of eyes often picks up some elementary problems. Ideally, an assessor along with a member of the client staff familiar with working patterns and processes would make an ideal combination for a thorough fire risk assessment!