



Eye Protection Safe Working Practices

To enable the Council to fulfil its legal obligations under the existing Health and Safety legislation it is essential that the requirements of the Personal Protective Equipment Regulations 1992 are strictly observed.

The purpose of the regulations is to provide protection to the eyes of persons who are required to carry out functions which are hazardous to the eyes and also to protect the eyes of other persons who may be affected by such functions.

The Regulations require risk assessments to identify specific operations which require eye protection. The operations which are likely to be carried out by Council operatives are as follows:-

1. The blasting erosion of concrete by means of shot or other abrasive materials propelled by compressed air.
2. The striking of masonry nails by means of a hammer or other hand tool or by means of a power-driven portable tool.
3. The chipping of metal and the chipping, knocking out, cutting out or cutting off of old rivets, bolts, lugs, pins, collars and similar articles from parts of any structure or plant by means of a hammer, chisel, punch or similar hand tool or by means of a power-driven tool.
4. The chippings or scurfing of paint, scale, slag, rust or other corrosion from the surfaces of metal and other hard materials by means of a hand tool or by means of a power-driven portable tool or by applying articles of metal or such materials to a power-driven tool.
5. The use of a high speed metal cutting saw or an abrasive cutting wheel or disc which in either case is power-driven.
6. The driving in or on of bolts, pins, collars or similar articles to any structure or plant, or to part of any structure or plant by means of a hammer, chisel, punch or similar hand tool or by means of a power-driven portable tool where in any of the foregoing cases there is a reasonably foreseeable risk of injury to the eyes of any persons engaged in the work from particles or fragments thrown off.
7. The breaking, cutting, cutting into, dressing, curving or drilling by means of a power-driven portable tool or by means of a chisel, pick or similar hand tool other than a trowel or any of the following:-

- 7.1 glass, hard plastics, concrete, fired clay, plaster, slag or stone (whether natural or artificial);
 - 7.2 materials similar to any of the foregoing;
 - 7.3 articles consisting wholly or partly of any of the foregoing;
 - 7.4 stonework, brickwork or blockwork;
 - 7.5 bricks, tiles or blocks (except blocks made of wood).
8. The cutting of wire or metal strapping under tension where there is a risk of injury to the eyes of any person engaged in any such work from flying ends of wire or flying ends of metal strapping.
 9. The welding of metals by means of apparatus to which oxygen or any flammable gas or vapour is supplied under pressure.
 10. The cutting, boring, cleaning, surface conditioning or spraying of material by means of apparatus to which air, oxygen or any flammable gas or vapour is supplied under pressure excluding any such process elsewhere specified where in any of the foregoing cases there is a reasonably foreseeable risk of injury to the eyes of any person engaged in the work from particles or fragments thrown off or from intense light or other radiation.
 11. Truing or dressing of an abrasive wheel where there is a reasonably foreseeable risk of injury to the eyes of any person engaged in the work from particles or fragments thrown off.
 12. The dry grinding of materials or articles by applying them by hand to a wheel, disc or band which in any such case is power-driven or by means of a power-driven portable tool where in any of the foregoing cases there is a reasonably foreseeable risk of injury to the eyes of any person engaged in the work from particles or fragments thrown off.
 13. The machining of metals, including any dry grinding process not elsewhere specified where there is a reasonably foreseeable risk of injury to the eyes of any person engaged in any such work from particles or fragments thrown off.
 14. The operation of equipment where flying missiles (i.e. stones or glass) are likely to cause injury to the eyes (e.g. when using grass cutting machines).

All eye protectors must comply with the relevant British and European Standards Specification and be suitable for the jobs they are required to perform.

All injuries received to the eyes whilst at work should be recorded on the Accident Form (see Accident Reporting).