

Health & Safety Matters

July 2015

WARWICK
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Departmental Points of Contact

Single points of contact for facilities and building related matters are currently being established within departments to improve the way in which the University manages its spaces, such that Estates staff, contractors and others can engage with departments more effectively. This should improve the reporting and remedy of defects and general management of spaces that we all use, improving the work environment for all.



Management of Contractors

Anyone engaging contractors to carry out work is responsible for ensuring that health and safety considerations form part of the selection criteria for the contractors, that the contractors are informed of the University's health and safety requirements, and that the contractors comply with these requirements.

The latest [Construction \(Design and Management\) Regulations](#) place explicit duties on those engaging contractors to work on their behalf.

Contractors must be given information on any hazards in the area of work in which may include the presence of asbestos or other hazards being produced by those working in the Department which may include students, staff or other contractors in the work area.

Contractors are expected to provide method statements and risk assessments for their work activity and activities, particularly those of high risk should be monitored to ensure that they are working in accordance with these.

Sterilisation & Disinfection of Waste

Guidance on sterilization and disinfection techniques for the inactivation of biological waste is now available via the Health and Safety webpages using the following link: <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/healthsafetywellbeing/guidance/biologicalsafety/disinfection/>

Statutory Inspection and Testing

There is a legal requirement to regularly inspect, test and maintain certain work equipment such that it remains safe for use and fully operational. Particular items of equipment that require statutory testing include:



- Lifting equipment and associated accessories (slings, shackles etc) including those that lift goods and people
- Pressure systems (inc. boilers and steam heating systems; compressed air systems; pressure cookers, autoclaves; heat exchangers and refrigeration plant). A written scheme must include pressure vessels and parts of pipework, which if they failed could give rise to danger.
- Local exhaust ventilation systems
- Power presses



Departments owning equipment requiring a statutory inspection and test and/or written scheme must ensure that there is a competent person appointed to carry out the statutory test and that suitable records are maintained. Equipment that has not been examined at the required frequency, or has failed its test must be taken out of use.

Departments are responsible for ensuring that the statutory testing register contains details of all of their relevant equipment. The Estates Department manage a range of statutory inspection and testing contracts. To add or remove items from the statutory testing register use the online form from the following link: <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/healthsafetywellbeing/guidance/statest/resperson>

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Useful links

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[Health & Safety webpages](#)

[Need advice on health & safety](#)

