

KCC Health and Safety Procedure

Dynamic Risk Assessment



A dynamic risk assessment is a process in which a worker continually assesses the risks and hazards in their work environment. They are commonly used by lone workers and those that work in rapidly changing and/or high-risk environments.

Unlike formal risk assessments, which are a legal requirement and completed before any work begins, dynamic risk assessments are carried out by a person when they enter a new environment or when their current working environment changes. They help a person identify any unknown risks and are not a replacement for a formal risk assessment.

STOP and THINK

Assess the environment, situation, tasks, and persons at risk.

Look around and assess the level of risk quickly, identify any immediate hazards to you or those with you. This strategy is important for all work activities, including:

- Lone workers who should run a safety check before or immediately upon entering new working environments.
- Staff working in environments where there is a potential for conflict, aggression, and violence.
- Staff undertaking specific activities e.g. manual handling, working at height, working in confined spaces.
- Staff should ensure they always have an exit strategy in any workplace - check where doors or emergency exits are, or obstructions that may prevent you from making a quick exit.
- Consider if the benefits of outcomes are proportional to the risks for those involved and the likelihood or severity of potential harm.

REACT

Apply all control measures necessary for the work activity to be undertaken safely.

This may include:

Following safe systems of work provided by your service e.g. processes, procedures, and safe working practices.

- Use knowledge and understanding from training to work safely.
- Removing unnecessary hazards e.g. dogs, using alternatives to eliminate high risk activities.
- Wearing personal protective equipment.

CONTINUE or STOP

The work activity must be stopped immediately if there is a high risk of harm with or without control measures.

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