

Provision and Use of Work Equipment (PUWER)

DSO Event – March 2023 Andrea Eccles Assistant Director, Safety Office

Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998

- NOT new legislation
- Health and Safety Management Audits flagged up issues across Depts.
- Improvements were required
 - Updated guidance document
 - Training provision



Background-What is PUWER?

A legal obligation to effectively manage **ALL** work equipment

- o It is 'safe to use'
 - Fit for purpose / right tool for the job
 - Guarded effectively
 - Installed /used in the right environment
 - Maintained / Inspected
- It is 'used safely'
 - Instructions / training

Essentially this is all done by RISK ASSESSMENT



Background-Who does it apply to?

- The regulations apply to all University Departments who use work equipment irrespective of whether the equipment is owned or not, or who provide work equipment to others to use (e.g. for loan or hire).
- Work equipment covers any machinery, appliance, apparatus, tool or installation for use at work

Examples of items in and out of scope

In Scope:

- Toolbox & Hand tools
- Single Machines e.g.
 - Circular Saw
 - Dumper Truck
 - Photocopiers
 - Autoclaves
 - Lawn Mowers
- Ladders
- Laboratory equipment
 - Bunsen burners
- Catering equipment
 - Coffee machines
 - Fridges

Out of Scope:

- Domestic kitchen equipment
 - Microwaves
 - Kettles
 - Fridge
- Extension Flexes
- Fan Heaters
- Office equipment
 - PC's / Printers / Monitors
 - Chairs / Desks
- Private Vehicles

• • Overlap with other Legislation

There are overlaps between PUWER and other Regs.

- LOLER / PSSR
- The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations
- DSE
- PPE
- CDM
- The Work at Height Regulations
- The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regs.

If you comply with the more specific regulations above, it will normally be enough to comply with the more general requirements in PUWER.

• • Departmental Responsibilities

o HoD

 Overall responsibility for implementation of PUWER

Designated Responsible Person for Machinery Safety (DRPMS)

implements PUWER in the dept.

o DSO

 Ensures documented procedures are in place



Departmental Responsibilities

- Managers / Supervisors of areas with work equipment
 - Complete training for competency in work equipment risk assessments
 - Maintain an asset list for their area
 - Write risk assessments for equipment
 - Ensure training is completed by users
 - Ensure maintenance / inspections are carried out

Departmental Responsibilities

Work Equipment Operator

- Complete training for the equipment
- Adhere to the risk assessment
- Follow dept. procedures.
- Wear appropriate PPE
- Report all accidents

• • Risk Assessment

- Suitability of Work Equipment
- Maintenance of Work Equipment
- Inspection of Work Equipment
- Specific Risks
- Guarding of Dangerous Parts
- Protections against Specified Hazards
- Controls
- Information, Instruction and Training
- Conformity with Community Requirements



Guidance



Health and Safety Executive

Safe use of work equipment

Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998

Approved Code of Practice and guidance



L22 (Fourth edition)

This Approved Code of Practice and guidance is aimed at employers, dutyholders and anyone who has responsibility for the safe use of work equipment, such as managers and supervisors. It sets out what is needed to comply with the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998. The Regulations, commonly known as PUWER, place duties on people and companies who own, operate or have control over work equipment. PUWER also places responsibilities on businesses and organisations whose employees use work equipment, whether owned by them or not.

Changes since the last edition:

- The guidance material has been revised and updated, and there are small changes to some ACOP paragraphs to clarify and update information. Time-limited information has been removed or updated, and more use has been made of lists.
- This edition updates references to legislation and links to further guidance.

HSE Books



January 2023

Provision and Use of Work Equipment (PUWER) - Arrangements and Procedures

Health, Safety and Regulated Facilitie

HSD088P (Version 2)



• • • Appendices in Guidance

- Work Equipment in Scope and Exemption Listings
- Example Asset Register for a Lab/Work Area
- Suitability of Work Equipment Checklist
- Maintenance Schedule / Log
- Equipment Inspection Programme Template
- Equipment Training Records
- Safety Checklist



• • • Further Training Courses

- If you want to attend the 2 day IOSH
 Work Equipment and Machinery Safety
 training course please contact the Safety
 Office
- There is a charge for attendees
- If you have enough people in your dept.
 it can be run within your dept.

• • Questions??



Please contact the Safety Office if you have any questions once you have read the guidance document, which can be found on the safety office website.