

HEALTH AND SAFETY (FIRST AID) REGS 1981

DUTY OF THE EMPLOYER (Regulation 3): An employer shall provide –

- adequate and appropriate facilities for first aid
- a number of **first aiders**, being persons qualified to render first aid by having received the prescribed training (no ratios are quoted in the regulations but the Approved Code of Practice requires at least one first aider during normal working hours for every 50 employees), or
- an **appointed person**, being someone to take charge of situations (including first aid equipment and facilities) where medical aid needs to be summoned, shall suffice where by the nature of the work there are no specific serious hazards (eg offices, libraries), the workforce is small, or the location makes further provision unnecessary, there is a temporary or exceptional absence of the first aider (foreseeable absence such as annual leave does not count in this instance) cover by another first aider must be provided. Hence, by definition, there must always be at least an appointed person in any workplace.

Any first aid rooms provided shall be easily accessible to stretchers and to other equipment needed to convey patients to and from the room, and be signposted

Employers should make an assessment of first aid needs appropriate to the circumstances of each workplace

INFORMATION FOR EMPLOYEES (Regulation 4): Employees shall be informed of the arrangements for first aid.

SELF-EMPLOYED (Regulation 5): The self-employed shall provide such facilities to render first aid to themselves as are appropriate in the circumstances.