Managing Construction Health Risks

Managing health risks is no different to managing safety risks. This diagram outlines the basic principles that you need to know.

Who does what

The law places duties on all those involved in construction work:

- **Clients;**
- **Designers;**
- **Principal Designers;**
- **Principal Contractors;**
- **Contractors and Small Builders;**
- **Workers.**

Remember: *'Everyone has a role to play'*

Assess

You cannot properly control construction health risks without first having clear plans:

- **Plan** – your overall strategy;
- **Identify** – the health hazards linked to your work;
- **Assess** – the significance of these hazards;
- **Involve** – workers in managing health risks.

Remember: *'Manage risk not lifestyles'*

Control

Clear plans are no good if you do not act on them:

- **Prevent** – risks before work starts;
- **Control** – remaining risk;
- **Train** – workers.

Remember: *'Ill-health can be prevented'*

Review

You may already have the right controls in place but are they all working?

- **Supervise** – workers;
- **Maintain** – controls;
- **Monitor** – to ensure controls are effective;
- **Act** – to put any problems right.

Remember: *'Control the risk not the symptoms'*