

## Washing Facilities

- Adequate and suitable facilities for washing appropriate to the number of persons at work and the duration of the work shall be provided.
- Where there are reasonable grounds for believing that the work will not be completed in less than 30 working days the following shall be provided;
  - *adequate troughs or basins*
  - *adequate suitable means of cleaning and drying (soap and towels or other means)*
  - *a sufficient supply of hot and cold or warm running water*
- Where there are more than 100 persons at work and reasonable grounds to believe that the work will not be completed within 12 months wash basins shall be provided as follows:
  - *6 plus 1 for every 20 persons, or fraction of 20, above 100.*
- Where the nature of the work is such or for health reasons suitable showers shall be provided. Showers shall be equipped with hot & cold running water.



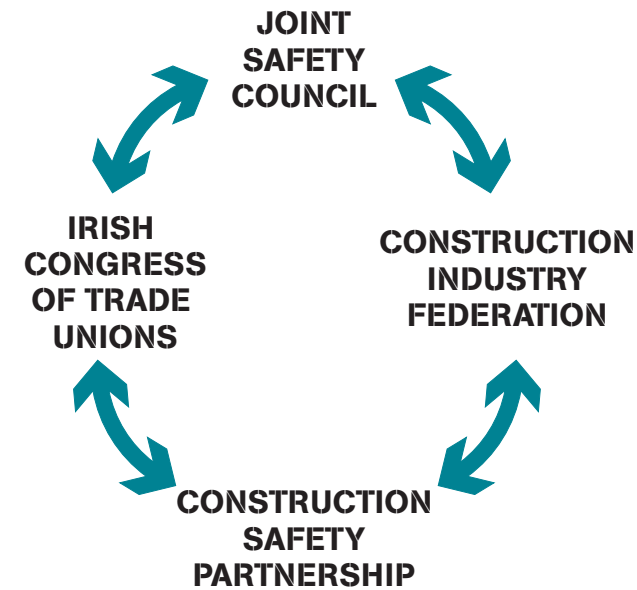
## Maintenance and Use of Welfare Facilities

**A fundamental aspect of the provision of welfare facilities is an adequate maintenance plan.**

- Persons on site must use the facilities in an appropriate and hygienic manner and must not deface or devalue the facilities provided.
- Where facilities are provided in another premises adjacent to the site, the standards of use that apply to these facilities must be maintained by persons using the facilities.
- Site Rules for monitoring the provision, upkeep & use of welfare facilities should be prepared.

## Review of Agreement

This agreement by the Joint Safety Council established by the Construction Safety Partnership should be reviewed by the parties every two years or as otherwise required.



Note: the minimum legal requirements for site welfare facilities are included in the Safety Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations.

## Contact Details

### Construction Industry Federation

Construction House  
Canal Road  
Dublin 6

Tel: 01-4066093  
Fax: 01-4966953  
Website: [www.cif.ie](http://www.cif.ie)



### Irish Congress of Trade Unions

31/32 Parnell Square  
Dublin 1

Tel: 01-8897723  
Fax: 01-8872012



This leaflet is sponsored by FÁS under the Construction Safety Partnership

JOINT SAFETY COUNCIL FOR THE  
CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

# AGREEMENT ON SITE WELFARE FACILITIES AND PROTECTIVE CLOTHING



## The Joint Safety Council (JSC) was established by the Construction Safety Partnership in 2000.

Representatives from the Irish Congress of Trade Unions (4) and the Construction Industry Federation (4) are members of the Joint Safety Council.



## Welfare Facilities and Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment

The parties to this agreement are committed to maintaining a high standard of welfare facilities in the Industry and to ensuring that construction workers and other staff are provided with Personal Protective Clothing/Equipment as required, to protect them from hazards at the workplace.

The parties acknowledge the significant variance in the type, size and location of projects in the Construction Industry and accept that special consideration must be given to the limitation of small work place/sites and transient workplaces.

Where maintenance and refurbishment work is carried out in existing premises, appropriate welfare arrangements must be made available at or in the vicinity of the workplace.

In any matter arising in dispute with regard to the contents of this document the grievance and dispute procedure set down in the Registered Construction Agreement will be adhered to fully.



## Protective Clothing and Equipment

Every site worker shall be provided with one pair of safety boots, a safety helmet, a high visibility vest and suitable overalls.

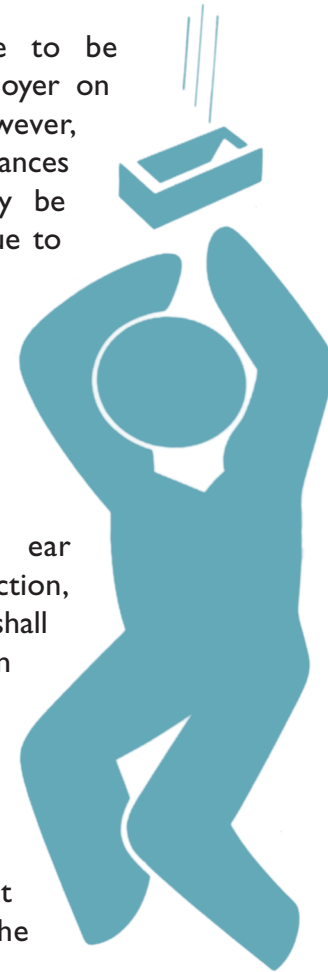
The above items are to be provided by each employer on an annual basis. However, there may be circumstances when replacement may be required more often due to "wear and tear".

Workers may be liable for replacement costs if these items are not properly looked after.

Other PPE e.g.: ear protection, eye protection, breathing/dust masks shall be provided when necessitated by the nature of the risks involved.

All protective clothing and equipment must conform to the appropriate standards.

Workers must use the PPE and maintain it in an appropriate manner.



## Shelter and Accommodation

Provide at or in the immediate vicinity of every site;

- Adequate and suitable accommodation for taking shelter during interruptions of work owing to bad weather and for storing clothing not worn during working hours to include:
  - *Where there are more than 5 persons at work on a site, adequate and suitable means for such a person to warm themselves and to dry wet clothing.*
  - *Where there are 5 or less at work on a site such arrangements as are practicable should be provided.*
- Adequate suitable accommodation with sufficient tables with impermeable surfaces and seats with backs, for taking meals.
- Facilities for boiling water and where there are more than 5 persons at work on a site, and heated food is not otherwise available, adequate facilities for heating food and an adequate and convenient supply of drinking water as near as possible to the workplace.
- Shelter and accommodation provided shall be properly ventilated, adequately lighted, kept in a clean and orderly condition and shall not be used for the storage of materials and plant.

## Sanitary Conveniences

- At least one suitable sanitary convenience should be provided, not being a convenience suitable only as a urinal for every 20 persons at work on the site.
- Where there are more than 100 persons at work on a site and sufficient urinal accommodation is also provided, it shall suffice if there is one such convenience for every 25 persons up to the first 100 and for every 35 persons thereafter.
- Every sanitary convenience shall be under cover and partitioned off to secure privacy.
- Where 'practicable' sanitary conveniences shall discharge into a main sewer.
- Provision shall be made for separate use of sanitary convenience for men and women.

