

Welfare Facilities

Toolbox Talk G38



Adequate welfare facilities should be provided on all sites.

Why? The provision of adequate toilets, wash basins, drying rooms and rest areas are essential for the well-being of site staff.

General welfare

1. Enough toilets, wash basin, drying space and rest areas must be provided to cope with the number of operatives on site.
2. Toilets and wash basins must be properly maintained and kept clean; hot and cold water must be provided.
3. If you change out of 'street' clothes into working clothes, a changing area should be provided with storage facilities for your 'street' clothes.
4. Rest areas should include one or more rest rooms which must be arranged so that non-smokers are protected from the effects of cigarette smoke.

Operative's responsibilities

1. Site staff should expect to use welfare facilities without finding them dirty, vandalised or covered by graffiti – leave them as you wish to find them.
2. Use the appropriate rest area depending upon whether you are a smoker or not.
3. Tell your supervisor if you are aware that welfare facilities are being deliberately damaged or otherwise misused.



Food Safety

1. Larger sites may provide hot or cold food as part of welfare arrangements.
2. All food must be stored, handled and prepared in hygienic conditions.
3. Anyone preparing food for others must observe good standards of personal hygiene, not smoke in food preparation areas and report certain illnesses.
4. Where a cooker or microwave oven is provided for you to prepare your own food, ensure the food is thoroughly cooked – undercooked food can lead to food poisoning.
5. Dispose of waste food safely; do not encourage rats or other vermin.

