First Aid in MRC Establishments

MRC Policy is to provide a safe environment and to employ best practice to ensure health, safety and welfare within the workplace. This document sets the expected standard for best practice for first-aid provision. Establishments must therefore assess the risks associated with the work of the unit and put into place suitable first-aid provisions.

The MRC requires that its directors ensure that suitable arrangements, based upon risk assessment, are in place for administering first-aid.

Scope

This document outlines the procedures and practices which should be in place to comply with the Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981 as amended, which require an employer to provide arrangements which are suitable to the work and its environment, known, understood and accepted by everyone in the workplace.

Background

Effective and timely first-aid can avert further suffering in the event of injury to a person. First-aid has two functions:

1. It provides initial treatment for the purposes of preserving life and minimising the consequences of injury and illness until qualified medical help can be obtained.
2. It provides treatment for minor injuries which would otherwise receive no treatment.

The Corporate Safety, Security and Resilience team will be pleased to offer any additional advice on the application of all or part of this guidance. This document is for the attention of local safety personnel and others with responsibility for first aid.

Director’s Summary

It is important that first-aid provision is reviewed regularly, in particular to ensure that the required number of first-aiders/suitable persons is met and that first-aid certificates are valid.

- Directors should ensure that a first aid assessment has been completed and the required first aid arrangements have been identified.
- Directors should ensure that adequate resource is devoted to implementing the required first aid arrangements.

MRC Safety, Security and Resilience Section
Head Office

Guidance Notes

Guidance Note 1 – Assessing first aid needs
Guidance Note 2 – Provision of first aid facilities
Guidance Note 3 – First Aid Personnel