

QNJAC Guidance

Essential Health & Safety Guidance for Quarries



Quarries National Joint Advisory Committee (QNJAC)

Contractors Information Sheet 1
(version 1, August 2015, review 2020)

Quarry Operator and Contractor Code of Conduct



This information sheet has been developed by the Quarries National Joint Advisory Committee (QNJAC) to help quarry operators, contractors, managers and others make health and safety improvements in the quarry industry. This guidance may go further than the minimum you need to do to comply with the law.

Quarry Operator and Contractor Code of Conduct

This document is intended to assist both quarry operators and contractors in understanding what they should bring to the relationship and to help build true partnerships in the quarry operator/contractor relationship.

Vision

Focus on development of a mutual respect and working approach that enables accountability and responsibility without blame. Thus creating an open and challenging environment to enable the continued drive towards zero harm.

Safety, Health and Environment

Communication and adherence to a set of standards, regardless of the nature and location of the site and its local standards. Ensuring good standards are adopted and adhered to at all times.

Inductions

A site induction is a formal and recorded exchange of relevant information that introduces individuals to the site/facility in order to allow them to carry out the purpose of their visit safely. The induction should be proportionate to the hazards present, the nature of the task being undertaken and the time taken to complete it.

Point of Contact

Consideration should be made by site concerning establishment, pre-work, of a named single point of contact who will act at all times as the site liaison.

Welfare

Sites should provide access to clean, adequate welfare facilities for contractors whilst on site with a focus on establishing a consistent standard.

Engagement

Actively encourage reciprocal involvement in site briefings, toolbox talks and safety committee meetings to ensure active engagement at all levels; relevant to the nature of the work to be undertaken, with a key focus on partnership and cooperative working on site.

Safety Management Systems & Procedures

All parties should expect the principles of good practice to be applied relevant to the hazards present.

Competency

It is the duty of the contractor to demonstrate to the quarry operator that sufficiently competent persons supported by appropriate site based competency checks are provided. It is strongly recommended that contractors maintain a valid safety passport to underpin hazard awareness knowledge.

Risk Management

Management systems must be specific to, and reflect the nature of, the activity being undertaken, including the provision of suitable and sufficient risk assessments and adequate safe systems of work. The emphasis should focus on significant risks and implementation of the related control measures.

Performance Review

Routine reviews following completed works should be encouraged to enable active learning and improvement. The outcomes of such reviews should be widely communicated.

Incident Investigation

All investigations should be a partnership embodying the principles laid out in the Quarries Regulations 1999 as well as in employment law, with cooperative working to ensure immediate, underlying and root causes are established, and learning outcomes are circulated and implemented accordingly.