

Fire Safety Guidelines

The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 came into effect on the 1st October 2006. The Order replaces most fire safety legislations with one simple order. It means that any person who has some level of control in premises must take reasonable steps to reduce the risk from fire and make sure people can safely escape if there is a fire. The Order requires that the responsible person carries out a fire-risk assessment.

Fire Spread

Fabrics or other sheeting used in the construction of tents, booths, stalls or other temporary structure, roof coverings, weather protection should be fire retardant and maintained in that condition. Rigid linings should be not less than class 1 surface spread of fire quality.

Means of Escape

Any temporary structure, capable of holding less than 15 persons, should have a minimum of one exit, such exits to have a clear opening of 1.1metres. Structures capable of holding up to 50 persons, should have a minimum of 2 exits, each having a clear opening of 1.1 metres, the exits are to be sited on different walls and be remote from each other.

All exits are to be completely unobstructed and clearly indicated by appropriate signage.

Where wall flaps are used, the exit is to be clearly indicated by signage and bold markings to indicate the opening.

Should the structure be intended for use in the hours of darkness, emergency lighting must be considered.

Electrical Supplies

Where electrical supplies are to be provided to temporary structures, they must come from the site system and comply with current legislation. Under no circumstances must electrical equipment which has not been approved by the site electricians, be used.

Compressed Gas Containers

Where compressed gas is being used, only those containers needed for day-to-day use should be brought onto site. Any flexible hose should be free from kinks, cracks or deterioration. Such hoses should be securely fixed at both ends and not run through areas where persons may walk. All gas containers must be in lockable cages. Only certain stands in the Food Pavilion and Blackdown Buildings are authorised to use gas. Please check with the Operations Office before bringing any gas to use on your stand.

Fire Fighting

Hand held fire fighting equipment should be provided at fire points, each fire point to have a minimum of two extinguishers of water or multi purpose type.

Where there is a specific risk, such as electrical equipment or gas powered equipment, 2kg CO2 type extinguishers should be added to the fire point. Those intended to use fire fighting equipment should be trained in the use of fire extinguishers and basic fire prevention.

House Keeping

Regular clearance of any and all waste, packaging, cardboard and other rubbish. Any unused or empty compressed gas containers, including propane and butane, should be stored in a secure area, away from any public area.

Fire Risk Assessment

The occupants/users of each temporary structure and stand or stall should carry out and record a fire risk assessment. The assessment should cover:

- Heat producing equipment and measures to control any risk arising from such usage.
- Fire Warning System
- Means of escape/evacuation plan and how the plan 'ties in' with the general plan.
- Fire Fighting, identify the need within the structure and document the servicing and training needed.
- The risk assessment should be available for inspection throughout the Show.

Stall and Stands within the halls

Any stall or stand within the main halls or sheds, which uses heat producing equipment, should complete a fire risk assessment as detailed above.