

# INFORMATION LEAFLET 004-0415

## Lone Working



April 2015

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### 1. Introduction

This article provides guidance on how to keep lone workers healthy and safe. It is for;

- anyone who employs or engages lone workers
- self-employed people who work alone
- employees who work alone

Following the guidance is not compulsory, but it should help employers and lone workers understand how to manage lone working. This guidance is based on the HSE leaflet INDG73 (rev3) Working Alone.

### 2. Is it legal to work alone and is it safe?

Working alone is not against the law and it will often be safe to do so. However, the law requires employers to consider carefully, and then deal with, any health and safety risks for people working alone so that they comply with their legal duties under:

- the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974;
- The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999.

### 3. Who are lone workers?

Lone workers are those who work by themselves without close or direct supervision, for example:

- harvester or Forwarder driver at the start or end of a site
- machine operators working on different parts of site
- chainsaw operators working on site but out of risk zone of others
- timber purchaser visiting a sale
- drivers (timber haulier/delivery) visiting remote locations
- a person working alone in a workshop

### 4. How must risks of lone working be controlled?

#### Employer's responsibilities:

Employers are responsible for the health, safety and welfare at work of all their workers. They also have responsibility for the health and safety of any contractors or self-employed people doing work