

Lone Working

Elliott Nash Limited

# Lone Working



# Introduction



- Who are lone workers and what jobs do they do?
- Can people legally work alone
- Assessing and controlling the risks
- Safe working arrangements for lone workers

# Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974

Section 2 : Employers must “so far as is reasonably practicable” safeguard the health, safety and welfare of employees.



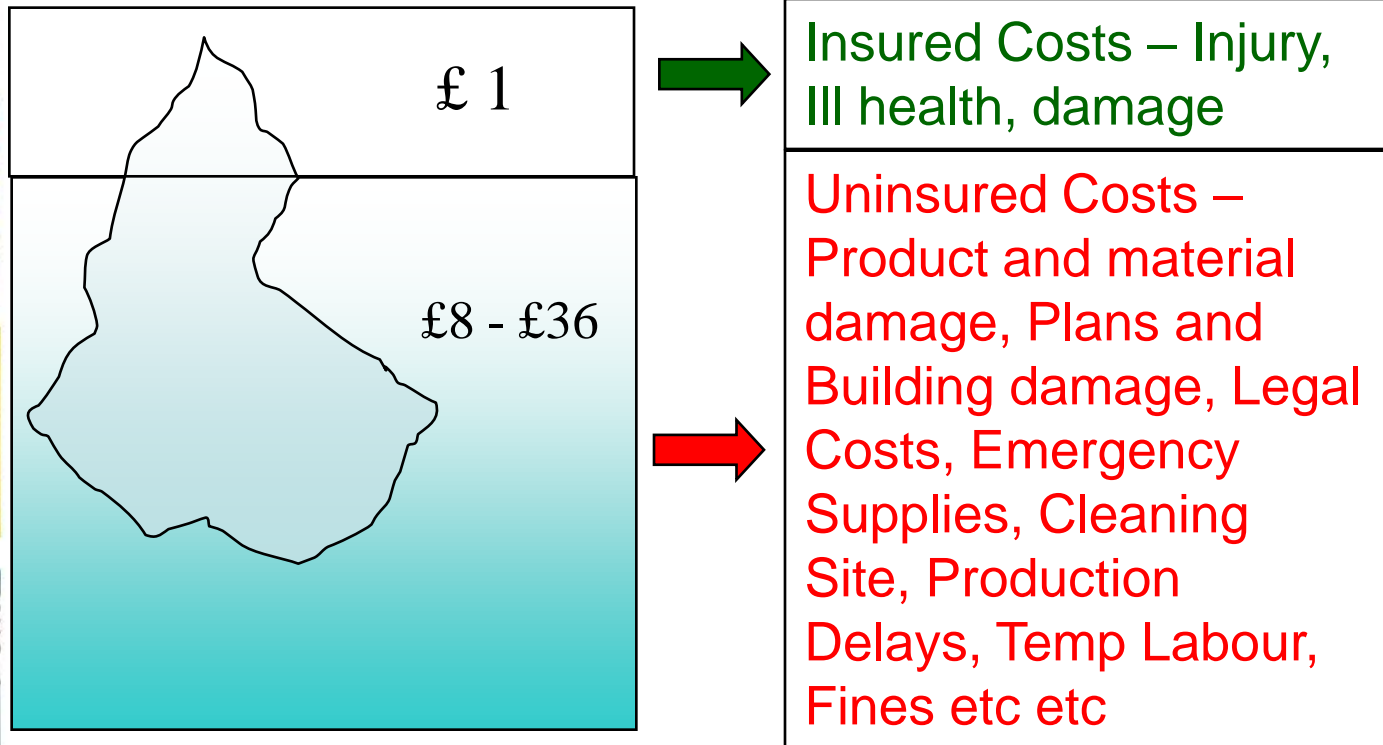
# Risk and Safety Management



- Systematic use of techniques to identify and remove hazards, the control of risks which remain, and the use of techniques to influence the behaviour and encourage safe attitudes.
- This is the primary responsibility of management.

# Accident Prevention Objectives

- Economic
  - Direct Costs and Indirect Costs





## Who are lone workers and what jobs do they do?

## People in fixed establishments where:



- **only one person works on the premises**, e.g. in small workshops, school caretakers, receptionists etc;
- **people work separately from others**, eg in factories, warehouses, some research and training establishments, leisure centres;
- **people work outside normal hours**, eg cleaners, security, special production, maintenance or repair staff etc.

## Mobile workers working away from their fixed base:



- **service workers**, e.g. rent collectors, postal staff, social workers, home helps, district nurses, pest control workers, drivers, engineers, architects, and similar professionals visiting domestic and commercial premises.
- **on construction**, plant installation, maintenance and cleaning work, electrical repairs, lift repairs, painting and decorating, vehicle recovery, etc;
- **agricultural and forestry workers**;

# Can people legally work alone?

**Yes - Providing the Employer:  
“Assesses and controls the risks”**



# Assessing and controlling the risks !



- Have all relevant hazards have been identified and appropriate controls chosen?
- Risk assessment should help decide the right level of control measure or supervision.

# Safe working arrangements for lone workers



- Establishing safe working for lone workers is no different from organising the safety of other employees
- Lone workers face particular problems.
- Some of the issues need special attention when planning safe working arrangements



## Can the risks of the job be adequately controlled by one person?

- Lone workers should not be at more risk than other employees!
- Employers should identify situations where people work alone and ask themselves questions.

# Lone Working



- Is the person medically fit and suitable to work alone?
- What training is required to ensure competency in safety matters?

# How will the person be supervised?

Procedures will need to be put in place to monitor lone workers to see they remain safe.





## What happens if a person becomes ill, has an accident, or there is an emergency?



- Should “lone workers” have access to adequate first-aid facilities?
- Mobile workers should carry a first-aid kit suitable for treating minor injuries.



# Practical Objectives of Risk and Safety Management



**What Senior Managers must do**

# Any Questions

