

Reilly Construction Ltd

Dust Minimisation Policy

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This procedure is for general site construction purposes for demolition works specific method statements and risk assessments must be undertaken.

2. Scope

- 2.1 This is for all works and sites whether a small works extension or major construction project.

3. Procedures

3.1 Pre-site preparation

For all sites with areas of open ground that are close to sensitive receptors, site should follow best practice to prevent dust and other pollutant emissions from being carried outside the boundary.

- **Low Risk**
- Machinery, fuel and chemical storage and dust generating activities should not be located close to boundaries and sensitive receptors if at all possible.
- **Medium Risk and High Risk**
- As for low risk sites.
- Erect solid barriers to site boundary.

3.2 Haul routes

Surface of roads

Unpaved haul routes can account for a significant proportion of fugitive dust emissions, especially in dry or windy conditions, when the generation of dust through the movement of vehicles is exacerbated. It is recommended that to comply with good practice, site should ensure that hard surfaces or paving are used for all haul routes, even if routes are temporary.

- **Low Risk**
- Use consolidated surfaces on roads near to residential areas.
- **Medium Risk**
- As for low risk sites
- Hard surface all major haul routes through the site (e.g. use recycled materials, concrete blocks or tarmac).
- Regularly inspect haul routes for integrity and repair if required.
- When the haul route changes, re-use surface where possible.
- **High Risk**
- As for medium risk sites. In addition, lay roads to a camber to prevent puddles.

3.3 Damping down

Site will need to wash or damp down haul routes both within and outside the site. This is particularly important for sites close to residential properties or other sensitive receptors. Site

should consider the environmental and economic benefits from the use of groundwater sources on site, as opposed to bringing drinking water onto site for the purpose of dust suppression.

- **Low Risk**

- Use agreed wet cleaning methods or mechanical road sweepers on all roads during periods of dry weather.

- **Medium Risk**

- As for low risk sites.

- Use agreed wet cleaning methods or mechanical road sweepers on all roads at least once a day or consider using fixed or mobile sprinkler systems.

- Provide hardstanding areas for vehicles and regularly inspect and clean these areas.

- **High Risk**

- As for medium risk sites.

- Use fixed or mobile sprinkler systems to clean roads at least once a day.

- Where possible use sustainable sources of water, such as from dewatering or extraction.

- Contact the Environment Agency to recycle and collected material or run-off-water according to legal requirements.

- Provide hardstanding areas for vehicles and regularly inspect and clean these areas.

3.4 Vehicles

Site should carry out the following controls to reduce dust and particulates associated with vehicles, such as that from exhaust emissions, the contact of tyres on the road surface or dust blowing from materials carried.

- **Low Risk**

- All vehicles should switch off engines, no idling.

- Clean or wash all vehicles effectively before they leave a site if there is a risk of affecting nearby sensitive receptors.

- All loads entering and leaving site to be covered.

- **Medium Risk**

- As for low risk sites.

- Wheel wash vehicles before they leave a site.

- Hard surface haul routes and clean them effectively.

- Impose an appropriate speed limit around site.

- **High Risk**

- As for low and medium risk sites.

- Fixed wheel and/or vehicle washing at site exit.

- Use fixed or mobile sprinkler systems to clean internal and external roads at least once a day.

3.5 Site Entrances/Exits

Site should employ the following control measures to help prevent dust being spread outside the site boundary by site vehicles at entrances and exits.

- **Low Risk**

- No extra control measures required if there are no nearby sensitive receptors.

- Wash or clean all vehicles effectively before leaving the site if it is close to sensitive receptors. Ideally there should be a paved area between the wheel wash and before the public road.

- **Medium Risk**

- As for low risk sites.

- Provide a control zone around the site boundary to protect sensitive receptors (this could include an area of hardstanding).

- Provide effective vehicle cleaning and specific wheel-washing facilities at all exits, with hose pipes, adequate water supply and pressure and mechanical wheel spinners or brushes.
- **High Risk**
- As for medium risk sites.
- Put in place fixed wheel washing at all exits as well as procedures for effective cleaning and inspection of vehicles, which should include total vehicle washing and ticketing of vehicles.
- Vehicles carrying dusty materials should be securely covered before leaving the site.
- Enter all information of vehicles entering/leaving site in a log book

3.6 **Excavation and Earthworks**

Excavation and earthwork activities can be a potential source of dust outside the site if they are not properly controlled. If these activities are essential then site need to act to minimise dust disturbance as much as possible.

- **Low Risk**
- All dusty activities should be damped down, especially during dry weather.
- Temporarily cover earthworks if possible.
- Minimise drop heights to control the fall of materials.
- **Medium and High Risk**
- As for low risk sites.
- Re-vegetate earthworks and other exposed areas to stabilise surfaces.
- Only remove secure covers in small areas during work and not all at once.
- Use hessian, mulches or tackifiers where it is not possible to re-vegetate or cover with topsoil.

3.7 **Stockpiles and Storage Mounds**

Site should avoid the use of long-term stockpiles on site wherever possible unless it performs the function of visual or noise screening. If necessary the following measures should be in place.

- **Low Risk**
- Make sure that stockpiles exist for the shortest possible time.
- **Medium Risk**
- As for low risk sites.
- Do not build steep sided stockpiles or mounds or those that have sharp changes in shape.
- Whenever possible keep stockpiles or mounds away from the site boundary, sensitive receptors, watercourses and surface drains.
- Wherever possible enclose stockpiles or keep them securely sheeted.
- **High Risk**
- As for low and medium risk sites.
- Take into account the predominant wind direction when siting stockpiles to reduce the likelihood of affecting sensitive receptors.
- Seed, re-vegetate or turf long term stockpiles to stabilise surfaces or use surface binding agents that have been approved by the Environment Agency.
- Re-use hard core material where possible to avoid unnecessary vehicle trips.

3.8 **Cutting, Grinding and Sawing**

Ideally these activities should not be conducted on site and pre-fabricated material should be brought in where possible. In cases where such work must take place then the following techniques should be followed.

A simple method to reduce dust emissions when cutting or grinding – this method is suitable for all sizes of demolition or construction sites. When materials such as concrete slabs or

bricks are cut with a power tool without extraction or suppression, a second worker can pour water from a plastic bottle over the material as it is being cut. This greatly reduces the amount of dust generated and can stop the occurrence of a statutory nuisance.

- **Low Risk**

- All equipment should use water suppressant or suitable local exhaust ventilation systems.

- **Medium and High Risk**

- Use dust extraction techniques where available.

- All other equipment should be fitted with water suppressant systems.

- Use local exhaust ventilation.

- Service all fans and filters regularly to ensure they are properly maintained.

3.9 Chutes and Skips

- **Low and Medium Risk**

- Securely cover skips.

- Minimise drop heights to control the fall of materials.

- Regularly damp down surfaces with water.

- **High Risk**

- As for low and medium risk sites.

- Completely enclose skips whenever possible.

- Hard surface areas where skips are to be stored.

- Reduce drop heights by using variable height conveyors or chutes.