

CDM Red, amber and green lists

Red, amber and green lists are practical aides to designers on what to eliminate/avoid, and what to encourage.

Red Lists: Hazardous procedures, products and processes that should be eliminated from the project where possible

- Lack of adequate pre-construction information, eg asbestos surveys, geology, obstructions, services, ground contamination etc.
- Hand scabbling of concrete ('stop ends', etc);
- Demolition by hand-held breakers of the top sections of concrete piles (pile cropping techniques are available);
- The specification of fragile rooflights and roofing assemblies;
- Processes giving rise to large quantities of dust (dry cutting, blasting etc.);
- On-site spraying of harmful substances;
- The specification of structural steelwork which is not purposely designed to accommodate safety nets;
- Designing roof mounted services requiring access (for maintenance, etc), without provision for safe access (eg. barriers).
- Glazing that cannot be accessed Safely, All glazing should be anticipated as requiring cleaning and replacement, so a safe system of access is essential.
- Entrances, floors, ramps, stairs and escalators etc not specifically designed to avoid slips and trips during use and maintenance, including effect of rain water and spillages.
- Design of environments involving adverse lighting, noise, vibration, temperature, wetness, humidity and draughts or chemical and/or biological conditions during use and maintenance operations.
- Designs of structures that do not allow for fire containment during construction

Amber Lists: Products, processes and procedures to be eliminated or reduced as far as possible and only specified/allowed if unavoidable. Including amber items would always lead to the provision of information to the Principal Contractor.

- Internal manholes / inspection chambers in circulation areas;
- External manholes in heavy used vehicle access zones;
- The specification of "lip" details (i.e. trip hazards) at the tops of pre-cast concrete staircases;
- The specification of shallow steps (i.e. risers) in external paved areas;
- The specification of heavy building blocks i.e. those weighing > 20kgs;
- Large and heavy glass panels;
- The chasing out of concrete / brick / blockwork walls or floors for the installation of services;
- The specification of heavy lintels (the use of slim metal or hollow concrete lintels being alternatives);
- The specification of solvent-based paints and thinners, or isocyanates, particularly for use in confined areas;
- Specification of curtain wall or panel systems without provision for the tying (or raking) of scaffolds;
- Specification of blockwork walls >3.5 metres high using retarded mortar mixes.

- Site traffic routes that do not allow for 'one way' systems and/or vehicular traffic segregated from site personnel
- Site layout that does not allow for adequate room for delivery and/or storage of materials, including specific components.
- Heavy construction components which cannot be handled using mechanical lifting devices (because of access restrictions / floor loadings etc)
- On-site welding, in particular for new structures.
- Need to use large piling rigs and cranes near 'live' railways and overhead electric power lines or where proximity to obstructions prevents guarding of rigs

Green Lists: Products, processes and procedures to be positively encouraged.

- Adequate access for construction vehicles to minimise reversing requirements (one-way systems and turning radii);
- Provision of adequate access and headroom for maintenance in plant rooms, and adequate provision for replacing heavy components;
- Thoughtful location of mechanical / electrical equipment, light fittings, security devices etc. to facilitate access and away from crowded areas;
- The specification of concrete products with pre-cast fixings to avoid drilling;
- Specify half board sizes for plasterboard sheets to make handling easier;
- Early installation of permanent means of access, and prefabricated staircases with hand rails;
- The provision of edge protection at permanent works where there is a foreseeable risk of falls after handover;
- Practical and safe methods of window cleaning (eg. from the inside);
- Appointment of a Temporary Work Coordinator (BS 5975);
- Off-site timber treatment if PPA- and CCA-based preservatives are used (Boron or copper salts can be used for cut ends on site).
- Off site fabrication and prefabricated elements to minimize on site hazards.
- Encourage the use of engineering controls to minimize the use of Personal Protective Equipment