

Give priority to health and safety

Did you know that, as a director of your business, you are personally liable for breaches of the health and safety legislation?

This means you cannot avail of limited liability and potentially a successful prosecution could cost you your business, or even your home. Also, there have been several cases where self-employed individuals who employed others have been successfully prosecuted in court for breaches in health and safety.

Complying with these obligations is often overlooked by business owners, and the increased risk can lead to serious liability for businesses and their owners.

Health and safety legislation applies to all employers, employees (including contract and temporary) and self-employed people in their workplaces. There are rights and obligations for both you and your employees and substantial fines and penalties can be imposed if the law is breached.

Your responsibilities extend beyond your employees to visitors, customers, suppliers, sales reps and anyone else visiting your premises. They also apply to employees representing your business off site, even when they are partying at an event hosted by a supplier or a customer.