

has arranged for a single source supplier to provide the majority of PPE needs. PPE should, wherever possible be selected from the items listed in the single source supplier's [PPE Brochure](#). If the item required is not shown, or because of the person's individual size/shape the standard equipment does not fit, approval must be gained from the EHS Manager to purchase outside this list.

Technical assistance will be provided by the single source supplier for selection of suitable PPE, or the advice of the EHS Manager should be sought. A [PPE Matrix](#), identifying the PPE required for some common tasks is available on the intranet.

Maintenance includes the following activities as necessary:

- Cleaning,
- disinfection,
- examination,
- replacement,
- repair and
- testing.

Levels of maintenance required for PPE vary significantly, depending on the equipment in use. For example, harnesses provide for protection from falls require a regular planned preventive maintenance scheme including examination, testing and overhaul, whereas riggers gloves will simply require inspection by the user and replacement when they are worn or damaged. The use of disposable PPE (e.g. respirators or coveralls) may be appropriate to avoid any problems associated with maintenance, but care must be taken that it is disposed of correctly, particularly if it is contaminated, e.g. asbestos.

Information to assist in the assessment of PPE may also be found in [Section 10.1 Noise](#), [Section 5.5 COSHH](#), [Section 9.1 Asbestos](#), [Section 16.3 Work on or Near Water](#), [Section 12.1 Work at Height](#) and in related sections for specific activities and work equipment.

Further information is available on the intranet – [Section 5.2](#)

Responsibility

The Manager will ensure that PPE is considered, as a last resort, when carrying out risk assessments. They will consider the following when selecting PPE, unless the task is included on the PPE Matrix:

- Methods of work and whether these might be affected by the PPE.
- Physical effort required, which may be considerably increased by the PPE.
- How long the PPE is worn for, which may affect the level of comfort (minimum discomfort is important to ensure the PPE is worn properly).
- Need for good vision and whether this is available.
- Requirements for communication and how this might be achieved, e.g. when wearing hearing protection or respirators.
- Availability of different sizes for effectiveness and comfort.
- Compatibility of the PPE with other PPE in use, e.g. safety helmets and hearing protection.