

Health and Safety Executive

Evaluation of the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007 - Pilot



What our client wanted

The CDM Regulations are intended to be applicable to all construction work. This implies that they should be used on projects ranging from the small-scale client commissioning an extension to a high street shop to major projects such as the Olympics and Crossrail. However, this broad applicability raises issues including the concerns raised by the Leader of the Opposition in an Early Day Motion following lobbying by groups concerned with the potential impact of CDM 2007 on small and occasional clients. As a result of this, the Government gave a commitment to evaluate CDM 2007 within two to three years. Before embarking on the full-scale evaluation of CDM 2007, HSE has decided to undertake a pilot of the evaluation to help plan the full-scale evaluation.

What Frontline did

Our approach to this study was to:

- develop an evaluation plan and logic model using a theory-based approach to evaluation to establish whether the objectives of CDM 2007 have been met
- undertake a desk study to identify and review relevant information
- interview key stakeholders to obtain their views on the evaluation
- develop detailed question sets to obtain information on the costs of implementing CDM 2007 and the changes in attitude and behaviour resulting from that implementation
- pilot the detailed question sets with samples of the five duty holders
- analyse the results of the pilot survey to identify the lessons learned both in terms of implementing CDM 2007 and the full evaluation
- develop a costed option appraisal for the options available for the full evaluation of CDM 2007 and make recommendations

What difference we made

By undertaking this pilot evaluation, HSE now has:

- better value and more effective full-scale evaluation plans based on lessons learned
- initial findings on the extent to which CDM 2007 has met its objectives