CDM 2015 - Are You Ready?
Consultation Update December 2014

Consultation Proposals
The consultation process was concluded in March 2014 and the recommendations and impact assessment (IA) were presented to the HSE Board meeting in August 2014 with the recommendation to implement the changes.

A structural simplification of the Regulations was proposed:
- Replacement of the CDM co-ordinator role with the Principal Designer (PD)
- Removal of the ACOP and its replacement with sector-specific guidance
- Removal of bureaucratic pre-qualification assessment schemes of individual and corporate H&S competence
- Addressing shortcomings in the transposition of the original directive:
  - removal of the domestic client exemption
  - construction phase H&S plan for all construction projects
  - change notification threshold to ‘more than 30 working days and more than 20 workers’

Changes to the Consultation
Generally the changes are to be implemented as per the consultation except for:
- A move away from the proposal to introduce a suite of sector-specific guidance forms to introduce a new simpler ACOP
- The HSE are now rewording the competency assessments changes to make them clearer
- Transitional provisions

The HSE Board approved the proposed amendments to allow the new CDM 2015 Regulations to come into force in April 2015. New guidance is expected in January 2015.

Transitional Provisions
The HSE now proposes CDM co-ordinators to continue in post for 6 months or the duration of the project, whichever is sooner.

Within the IA there are statements that duty holders may still have to use external advice until the new PD duties are fully understood.

2015 is general election year and there is still some uncertainty regarding much of the detail:
- Will all the CDMC duties be passed to the PD?
- What happens if there is no clear designer, who carries out the PD role?

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H&S design co-ordination is proposed to be delivered ideally via the designer but potentially also via the project manager or an informed client.