

# **Lone Worker Protection**

## **The Importance of Lone Worker Protection for Employees**

Many businesses employ lone workers in a range of different capacities; there are lone workers who are required to meet clients they may have never met before in secluded locations. Some roles require employees to visit people in their homes, such as healthcare workers. There are also lone workers who although they are not required to meet people in isolated locations, they are required to work alone in a high-risk environments or with hazardous materials.

In all of these cases, the protection of your lone workers must be considered. As an employer you have a duty of care to your employees. By implementing safeguards for your lone workers, you are able to demonstrate your commitment to the wellbeing of your employees. By putting worker protection methods in place, you can look forward to increased peace of mind for both you and your employees.

### **Low / Medium Risk**

There are many job roles in which lone worker protection is not even considered, deeming the roles too low risk. We do not believe that any form of lone working is entirely safe and therefore, lone working protection processes should be put in place. Low risk workers for example, may be office workers required to work either entirely alone or in an office easily accessible by members of the public. In these instances, if a worker were to injure themselves or find themselves in a dangerous situation, they may have no way of contacting somebody for help.

Workers who frequently deal with members of the public in secluded locations, such as health professionals, would fall under the medium risk category. The WorkSafe app, allows workers to call for help via the app should they feel at risk, their location can be monitored at all times and time sensitive alarm triggers can be set. This means that a designated contact will be alerted if the employee does not check in within a specified timescale.

## **Medium / High Risk**

Medium or high risk roles may be jobs in which employees work with members of the public alone, for the majority of their working day. The level of risk can often relate to the likely level of environment volatility. For example, working in a late night off license may be more dangerous than working alone in a clothes shop during the day. Other areas of higher risk may include estate agents, spending large portions of time alone with clients in empty houses, or social workers required to carry out home visits. In order to limit the threat to your employees, it may be a good idea to think about a lone worker protection device. Our wearable alarms feature an SOS button which can alert a designated contact or our 24hour monitoring centre, if you do not have the capacity to answer such alerts. The button can be pressed discreetly at any time, if the worker feels in any kind of danger, allowing help to be received quickly and safely.

## **Fall / Injury Risk**

Of course not all lone working risk is associated with members of the public. In certain roles, the risk comes from working in hazardous circumstances e.g. working at height, with dangerous materials or heavy machinery. Within these roles, should an accident occur, the worker may find themselves unable to call for help. If a worker cannot move or is unconscious, their injuries could be worsened if medical

attention is not received quickly. A lone worker personal alarm with automatic fall detection combats this, alerting a designated contact or monitoring centre when falling motion is detected. The device also contains an SOS button which allows the wearer to contact help manually. By using a personal alarm, employees can carry out their roles safe in the knowledge that assistance is never far away should the worst happen.

## **Lone Worker Protection Solutions**

Every business is different therefore, when it comes to lone worker protection, it is not one size fits all. Here at SureSafe, within our dedicated WorkSafe range, we have a range of options, helping you to find the perfect solution for your needs.

We offer an app based solution, as well as wearable devices, and solutions designed with fall and injury risk in mind.

The WorkSafe app is a great tool for employees in roles that entail visiting members of the public alone, in potentially isolated areas. You can track their location via the app, as well as set up alerts, so an emergency alarm is triggered if the employee fails to make contact by a particular time.

Another option is a wearable lone worker device; a great way for employees to discreetly call for help if they find themselves in a risky or threatening situation. The wearable emergency button provides an additional layer of protection to employees in medium and high-risk jobs. They can be used alongside the lone worker app for enhanced security and peace of mind.

For workers in hazardous environments, rather than risky situations, the risk of suffering an accident or injury is much higher. If they are working alone, an accident could go undetected for some time, especially if the workers injuries mean they are unable to move or call for help. A lone worker

fall alarm is a great way to provide protection by automatically detecting falls to trigger an alarm if the worker is not in a position to do so.

## **Contact Us**

As a responsible employer, it is imperative that processes are put in place to ensure the safety of, and minimise the risk to your lone workers. It can be difficult to decide on the best form of lone worker protection for your business however, our wide range of options means there is a solution suited to any need. We are experts in lone worker protection, offering specialist advice to ensure your needs are catered for.

For further advice and information, contact our team today. You can look forward to superb quality and support, as well as competitive prices and confidence that your lone working employees are being looked after.