

**Darlington Public Event Safety Advisory Group**  
**A6 - Employment of Stewards**



The Organiser is responsible for matters of public order and the accurate monitoring and recording of all persons within the Event Site and to be in a position to make such information immediately available on request to the Emergency Services or Council Officials. They are also expected to deal in the first instance with any disturbance using legal means. It is usual for organisers of events to employ stewards, or security contractors, to assist them. There is a distinction between security staff and stewards.

Any person employed at the event to control admissions, keep order, remove people causing disorder, or searching premises or people must be licensed by Security Industry Authority (SIA).

The event risk assessment should identify the minimum number of stewards required and how this has been derived.

Stewards must be able to effectively communicate with each other, their supervisor, and the event manager.

A Steward should be trained to NVQ Level 2 in Spectator Safety and a supervisor to NVQ level 4.

The organiser shall ensure stewards are suitably and sufficiently trained. Before an event they must be fully briefed by the event organiser about their specific areas of responsibility – this should include (where applicable):

- Roles and responsibilities
- Staff command and control
- Division of responsibilities between the event organiser and the Police
- 'Transfer of Authority' procedures and requirements
- Safety requirements
- Communication methods
- Partial and Total Evacuation
- Action in the event of fire or explosion
- Response to bomb threats
- Response to and management of disruptive elements
- Management of distressed, lost and injured persons
- On site and off site traffic management
- Assessment of crowd densities, problematic dynamics and signs of distress.
- Resolving access issues.
- Location of: event control; exits; evacuation routes and assembly areas; fire fighting equipment; first aid points; disabled viewing/access; car and coach

- parking locations; drop off and pick up points for car, coach, taxi ,participant equipment; lost/found property point; lost/found person point; meeting points; toilet facilities; information point; welfare services; emergency liaison centre.
- Their role, if any, during a showstop and evacuation

The organiser should require all staff working at the event to wear clothing that clearly identifies them and their role eg T - shirt or jacket with the word Steward. They also must have personal protective clothing (eg hats, boots, gloves, coats) to deal with the possible range of weather conditions they will be working in (eg sun, rain, hail, snow). At events lasting several hours, duty rotas will be required, with time allowed for refreshment breaks. For evening events, torches may also be required.

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