
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2005 No. 1541

The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005

PART 2

FIRE SAFETY DUTIES

Emergency routes and exits

14.—(1) Where necessary in order to safeguard the safety of relevant persons, the responsible person must ensure that routes to emergency exits from premises and the exits themselves are kept clear at all times.

(2) The following requirements must be complied with in respect of premises where necessary (whether due to the features of the premises, the activity carried on there, any hazard present or any other relevant circumstances) in order to safeguard the safety of relevant persons—

- (a) emergency routes and exits must lead as directly as possible to a place of safety;
- (b) in the event of danger, it must be possible for persons to evacuate the premises as quickly and as safely as possible;
- (c) the number, distribution and dimensions of emergency routes and exits must be adequate having regard to the use, equipment and dimensions of the premises and the maximum number of persons who may be present there at any one time;
- (d) emergency doors must open in the direction of escape;
- (e) sliding or revolving doors must not be used for exits specifically intended as emergency exits;
- (f) emergency doors must not be so locked or fastened that they cannot be easily and immediately opened by any person who may require to use them in an emergency;
- (g) emergency routes and exits must be indicated by signs; and
- (h) emergency routes and exits requiring illumination must be provided with emergency lighting of adequate intensity in the case of failure of their normal lighting.