

Workplace First Aid Provision



The first aid responsibilities for business owners and employers is a subject I'm often asked about, so let's look at the necessary requirements.

The three main requirements that need to be in place are as follows:

- There is an adequate number of First Aiders and Emergency First Aiders in place.
- Appropriate equipment, kits and facilities are available.
- A system is in place for incident and accident reporting.

A risk assessment must be conducted to identify the level of provision needed for the business. New guidance on the regulations for employers was introduced in October 2013 (L74 – Third edition), and can be found on the HSE website [First aid at work - The Health and safety \(First Aid\) Regulations 1981 \(hse.gov.uk\)](https://www.hse.gov.uk/firstaid/)

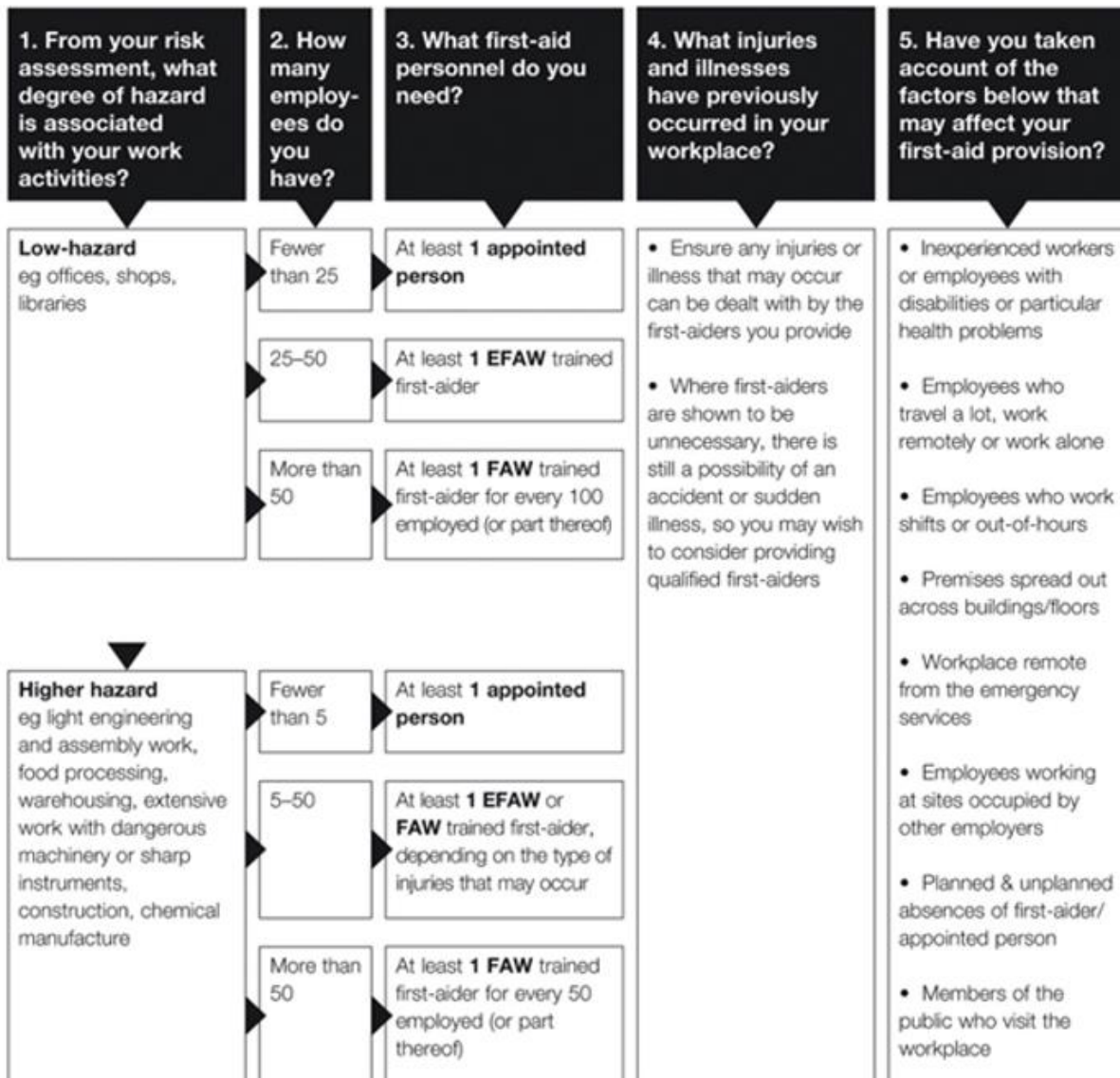
It provides guidance on:

- Managing the provision of First Aid (first aid kits, equipment, rooms, etc.)
- Requirements and training for First Aider's
- Requirements for appointed persons
- Making employees aware of First Aid arrangements
- First Aid and the self-employed
- Cases where First Aid regulations do not apply

Considerations that employers need to take into account could include:

- Inexperienced workers or employees with disabilities or particular health problems
- Employees who travel a lot, work remotely or work alone
- Employees who work shifts or out of hours
- Premises spread out across buildings/floors
- Workplace remote from emergency medical services
- Employees working at sites occupied by other employers
- Planned and unplanned absences of First Aiders
- Members of the public who visit the workplace

The following HSE table acts as a guide to ensure that you have sufficient numbers of trained First Aid personnel at your place of work.



Source: www.hse.gov.uk, Jan 2023.

I teach Ofqual regulated, HSE compliant workplace first aid qualification courses, on-site at workplaces all over Norfolk which include First Aid at Work, Basic Life Support, Emergency First Aid at Work and Paediatric First Aid. I also run a public Emergency First Aid at Work course on a monthly basis. If you'd like to talk about first aid cover or your training requirements, get in touch today.