

# GAP Tool Box Talk: Plant Checks



# Purpose

To provide guidance on:

- The precautions to be taken when working with Plant and Equipment
- Pre-use checks prior to work starting

# Regulations

- The Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations 1999
- Supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations 2008
- Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998
- Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992

# Plant & Equipment

Hirers and USERS of plant & equipment have legal duties

- The aim is to prevent accidents
- Work equipment should be safe when supplied
- The risks during use need to be controlled
- Those in control should
  - Assess the risk
  - Plan safe systems of work
  - Ensure that these are communicated and followed
- All drivers should be properly trained and competent in the operation of all plant
- All drivers **MUST** be over the age of 18 years

## Example of Plant: Dumpers

- Site dumpers are involved in around ONE THIRD of all construction transport accidents
- Accidents involving dumpers often result in deaths and serious injuries, in particular to the dumper driver



## General precautions

- Plant and equipment should only be used by people who have been trained
- Consider the risks to other people who are nearby when operating plant and equipment
- Always check the means of communication require with others during use
- Before use, ensure that plant and equipment has no obvious defects
- Bring any defects to the attention of your supervisor
- Be aware of any pre-use checks and carry them out
- Do not carry any passengers unless the plant is designed to do so
- Observe site speed limits
- If necessary, obtain assistance when reversing

# Checks to be carried out prior to operating the equipment

- Has the driver got the correct PPE i.e.
  - Hi Visibility Clothing
  - Hard Hat
  - Safety Footwear
- Has the driver read and understood the operating instructions?
- Has the driver checked and understood the Safe System of Work for the site?
- Has the driver carried out the daily checks?



# Daily Checks

At the start of each working day, various areas of the item of plant should be checked, e.g:

- Tyres
- Wheel nuts
- Breaks
- Steering
- Guards
- Lights (where appropriate)
- Hydraulic fluid / hoses
- Water
- Seat and seat belt
- ROPS
- Safety beacon

