BERGRIVIER MUNICIPALITY



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This policy applies to all employees in the service of the Bergrivier Municipality who are issued with Personal Protective Equipment and Personal Protective Clothing in terms of General Safety regulation (Schedule 2) in the Occupational Health and Safety Act (Act 85 of 1993). (Temporary and contract employees included, councillors on site)

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1. INTRODUCTION

This policy has been drafted to ensure that:

- 1. Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment (PPE) is issued to staff if and when required;
- 2. All staff issued with PPE are trained on the correct use and limitations of equipment issued; and
- 3. PPE issued are properly maintained.

2. **DEFINITIONS**

"Danger"	Anything that may cause injury or damage to persons or property
"Employer"	Means any person who employs of provides work for any person and remunerates that person or expressly or tacitly undertakes to remunerate him
"Employee"	Means a person who works for, or renders a service to, the Municipality regardless of the form of his/her employment contract, and in respect of which any factor enumerated in section 200 A(1) of the Labour Relations Act applies.
"PPE"	Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment
"User"	A Person who uses or operates something
"Standards"	A required or agreed level of quality or attainment
"Hazard"	Means a source of or exposure to danger
"Officials"	Relating to an authority or public body and its activities and responsibilities
"Supervisors"	A Person who supervises a person or an activity
"Operational Officials"	Person fit for proper functioning and representative of organisation
"Relevant Managers"	Means connected or related to the person or people whom they manage
"Risk"	The probability that injury or damage will occur
"Risk Areas"	Means an area where hazardous work is being done
"SHER Officer"	Safety Health and Environmental Officer
"EPWP"	Expanded Public Works Programme

3. **RESPONSIBILITIES**

The employer is responsible for issuing PPE and the user of PPE is required to comply with the health and safety specifications in terms of this document. Supervisors are responsible to ensure that employees receive the necessary instructions, information, training and supervision to comply with the identified standards.

4. PROCEDURE / HEALTH AND SAFETY SPECIFICATIONS TO BE COMPLIED WITH

4.1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 4.1.1 The following general requirements must be complied with when issuing and using PPE:
 - i. All PPE will be issued to staff at the cost of the employer free of charge. The PPE will remain the property of the employer and the employer can therefore require that PPE may not be removed from the premises;
 - ii. Employees are required to take reasonable care to ensure that PPE issued to them are properly maintained and kept in a serviceable condition;
 - iii. PPE can be taken home for maintenance purposes with the permission of the responsible manager, and
 - iv. Employees who are supplied with lockers and who are not required to work standby duty, will be required to leave the safety equipment in the lockers at work.
 - v. Supervisors must train all new staff in the undermentioned and once every year:
 - Correct use of the PPE provided;
 - Limitations of the equipment provided;
 - Correct maintenance procedures; and
 - The contents of this procedure.
 - vi. PPE will only be issued to operational officials who are exposed to hazards in the workplace and will not form part of internal dress code per department.
- 4.1.2 No employee will be allowed or be required to perform work unless such an employee uses the required protective clothing and safety equipment provided;
 - i. Any broken or damaged Protective Clothing and Equipment must be reported to the Departmental Manager immediately as to ensure that corrective action could be taken prior to the employee having to perform work for which the PPE is required.
 - In order to qualify for a new issue of protective clothing, employees must hand in the damaged or worn-out clothing to their supervisors. The Supervisor will ensure that the Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment Issue form is complete per employee and filed for record purposes. (Attached as Annexure C)

- iii. All old-handed in clothing or equipment will be discarded on a monthly basis and will be given to casual workers and if it is not in a good condition will be taken to the dumping site to be destroyed. This responsibility will rest with the head of each department. An inventory sheet in the form of Annexure C will be kept by the head of each department who will forward a copy of such sheet to the SHER Office when requested as well as for record purposes.
- iv. Employees who lost their PPE through theft or negligence and requiring new PPE to perform their daily tasks without interruption, will only be issued new PPE after a police affidavit (not only a case number) has been submitted to the SHER office and his/her Manager, and a preliminary investigation has been completed. After a second offence of the same nature the employer can request that disciplinary action be instituted against the official.
- v. The colour of the PPE issued to EPWP workers will be blue and EPWP officials will not be allowed to wear any other colour PPE that are issued to BM departments.

5. DUTIES IMPOSED ON ALL EMPLOYEES

Section 14 (General duties of employees at work) and Section 15 (Duty not to interfere with, damage or misuse things) of the Occupational Health and Safety, Act No. 85 of 1993, impose certain duties on employees. Failure to comply with these duties could result in an employee being held liable or even be prosecuted by the Department of Labour.

5.1 EMPLOYEE DUTY 1 - Section 14(a) states - "*Every employee shall at work take reasonable care for the health and safety of himself/herself and of other persons who may be affected by his/her acts or omissions*". This provision places a legal duty on every employee to:

- i. Take all reasonable care as to prevent that he/she do not sustain an injury at work. An employee is therefore required to comply with the provisions of any health and safety instruction or written operating procedure issued by the employer. An employee would also not be allowed to remove a guard on a machine as this action may result in him/her sustaining an injury; and
- ii. Prevent fellow employees from being injured. It would for instance be expected of an employee to not play tricks at work, which may result in a fellow employee being injured. An employee should also not create an unsafe situation, which may result in an injury to a fellow employee. It would for instance be expected of an employee not to bypass a safety device on a machine as this action may result in another employee sustaining an injury.

5.2 EMPLOYEE DUTY 2 - Section 14(b) states - "Every employee shall at work *as regards any duty or requirement imposed on his/her employer or any other person by this Act, co-operate with such employer or person to enable that duty or requirement to be performed or complied with*". This provision places a legal duty on every employee to assist the employer in whatever means possible to ensure that the company complies with the provisions of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993. The employee shall do this by:

- i. Complying with any safety rule, operating procedure or other safety measures imposed by the employer;
- ii. Wear all the personal protective equipment as prescribed by the employer and as required for the tasks performed;
- iii. Report for training sessions and implement the principles taught at these training sessions; and / or
- iv. Report any unsafe or unhealthy situation to the employer as to enable the employer to implement corrective action before someone sustains an injury due to the danger present.

5.3 EMPLOYEE DUTY 3 - Section 14(c) states - "Every employee shall at work carry out any lawful order given to him/her, and obey the health and safety rules and procedures laid down by his/her employer or by anyone authorized thereto by his/her employer, in the interest of health or safety".

In accordance with this requirement an employee is required to perform all the tasks for which they received training and which they are competent to perform. The legislation does however not require formal training in all cases and it may mean that the employee only received on the job training. An employee would for instance be required to operate equipment if properly trained and if instructed to do so by the employer.

The requirement does however imply that an employee can refuse to perform tasks, which will unnecessarily endanger them, or tasks for which they have received no training. A typical example will be a case where the employee is instructed to operate a machine which:

- i. Is unsafe due to it not having been fitted with the required safety guards; and / or
- ii. For which he / she has not received training in safe operating procedures.

5.4 EMPLOYEE DUTY 4 - Section 14(d) states "if any situation which is unsafe or unhealthy comes to his/her attention, as soon as practicable, report such situation to his/her employer or to

the Health and Safety Representative for his/her workplace or section thereof, as the case may be, who shall report it to the employer"

5.5 EMPLOYEE DUTY 5 - Section 14(e) states "if he/she is involved in any incident which may affect his/her health or which has caused an injury to himself/herself, report such incident to his/her employer or to anyone authorized thereto by the employer, or to his/her Health and Safety Representative, as soon as practicable but not later than the end of the particular shift during which the incident occurred, unless the circumstances were such that the reporting of the incident was not possible, in which case he/she shall report the incident as soon as practicable thereafter"

5.6 EMPLOYEE DUTY 6 - Section 15 states "No person shall intentionally or recklessly interfere with, damage or misuse anything which is provided in the interest of health or safety". In the event of employees not complying with relevant safety standards or mentioned duties, disciplinary action will be instituted against the relevant employee and his/her **direct** supervisor.

6. LEGAL DUTY TO USE

The following health and safety regulations must be complied with when personal safety equipment is used:

- i. Employees shall wear all the PPE as prescribed by the employer and as required for the tasks performed.
- ii. In the event of employees refusing to wear the prescribed protective clothing, the direct supervisor of such employees will not allow the mentioned employees to continue with their daily task. The direct supervisor will then report such employee to the Head of that department who will then conduct an enquiry on the alleged misconduct. The supervisor will report the non-compliance to the SHER office as well, who will investigate and report back to the supervisor and the head of department.
- iii. Supervisors shall instruct his/her employees in the proper use, maintenance and limitations of the safety equipment provided.
- iv. Employees reporting for duty without wearing the prescribed PPE will be send home and the principle of no work – no pay will apply. The SHER office will be informed to conduct an investigation in this regard.

7. ISSUING OF PPE

7.1 Procedure

i. The Manager: Civil Engineering Services will in collaboration with other relevant managers and Supply Chain Section manage the tender process. The tender process will be done during June of each financial year according to the approved supply chain procedures. All the departments will obtain their respective safety clothing from the supplier/s to which the tender was awarded, within the guidelines of the Supply Chain Policy.

The PPE will consist of the following items:

- 2 piece overall 65/35% or 100% cotton;
- Safety boots with and without toe steel caps;
- Gumboots;
- Gloves which include goatskin, pigskin, rubber etc; and
- All other PPE items will be procured as needed.
- ii. The relevant Managers will ensure PPE be issued and that minimum stock levels are kept for frequently issued PPE items mentioned above to avoid any unwarranted delays in the issuing of PPE.
- iii. Protective clothing will be issued throughout the financial year, on a need to have replaced basis as prescribed in Risk Areas and determined as being necessary by management to enhance safety and verified by the SHER Section for audit purposes.
- iv. Protective Clothing will only be replaced when a broken/torn/badly worn one is handed in and the handling and disposing of register is completed and handed to the SHER Manager every month. Proof must be kept by the line manager for audit purposes.
- v. The appropriate PPE will be issued for new appointments as prescribed in Section 10 of this policy.
- vi. Specialist equipment will be bought by the departmental manager and proper controls will be put in place regarding storage, issue and maintenance of this equipment.

- vii. Officials shall be provided with a locker to keep personal protective equipment (PPE) safely locked away and where lockers are not available, the safe keeping of the PPE will be the responsibility of the supervisors.
- viii. No printing of personal names will be allowed. Printing of the name of the municipality as well as the department at the back of the overalls, will be done by the successful service provider on all PPE when it is ordered from the supplier.
- ix. Directors must approve/ authorise PPE required for Managers and Heads of their Departments in conjunction with SHER Officer.
- x. It is the responsibility of the end user departments to ensure that the requests for PPE of employees, adhere to the policy and that the employees get what is allocated to them.

7.2 MAINTENANCE OF PPE

The following health and safety regulations must be complied with when personal safety equipment is maintained:

How often must it be cleaned?

• The user shall take steps to reduce the risks by maintaining safety equipment to ensure that it is in a good and clean condition. An employer shall instruct his/her employees in the proper use, maintenance and limitations of the safety equipment provided.

7.3 DAMAGED EQUIPMENT

The user must inspect all safety equipment prior to use to ensure that the equipment is safe and in compliance with the legal requirements.

The following must be inspected on a daily basis:

- Personal Safety Equipment must be in a good state of repair and suitable for use.
- All defective personal safety equipment must be replaced before commencement of any task.
- PPE is for personal protection and official use only. Officials who are found to have sold PPE will face disciplinary charges.
- Previous employees are not allowed to wear PPE with Bergrivier branding on it.

8. Supervisors responsibility

Supervisors have the primary responsibility for implementing and enforcing policies and the use of PPE in their work area. This involves

i. Providing appropriate PPE to employees;

- ii. Ensuring that employees are trained on the proper use, care, and cleaning of PPE;
- iii. Ensuring that PPE training certification and evaluation forms are signed and given to Health and Safety Officer;
- iv. Ensuring that employees properly use and maintain their PPE, and adhere to PPE policy and rules of Bergrivier Municipality;
- v. Notifying Management and the Safety Person when new hazards are introduced or when processes are added or changed; and
- vi. Ensuring that defective or damaged PPE is immediately disposed of and replaced.

9. General

- *i.* Disregard or actions in contravention of this policy will be dealt with in accordance with the existing disciplinary procedures of the Council.
- Additions, reductions or changes to this policy must be motivated in writing to the Municipal Manager or his/her assignee. The HR Department is responsible to update and monitor the implementation of this policy.
- *iii.* Departments can decide what colour of overalls they want to wear, but must discuss it with the Safety Committee.

10. RISK-AREAS Roads, Storm water, Water & Sewerage, Solid Waste, Building department. 2 x 100% Denim Jeans for the senior officials that have engagement with public. (After approval by Director)

Risk Area :	Description	QTY	Frequency	Acc QTY Per Annum
	Two Piece 100%		Employment	
	cotton overalls		date/ Financial	
All Employees	(65/35%)	2	year beginning	Replace broken with new
	Safety Boots with		Employment	
All Employees	steel toe caps	1	date	Replace broken with new
	SABS approved			
All Employees	Water Boots	1	When required	Replace broken with new
			Employment	
All Employees	Blue Golf T/Shirt	2	date	Per annum
	Hood for sun		Employment	
All Employees	protection	1	date	Per annum
Parks Machine Operator	Face Shield	1	When required	Replace broken with new
Machine Operator (Chainsaw)	Protective pants	1	When required	Replace broken with new
Machine Operators and Chemical	Safety Glasses			
users	and Dust mask	1	When required	Replace broken with new
	Noise Muffs/Ear			
Machine Operators	plugs	1	When required	Replace broken with new
All Employees	Reflector Jacket	1	When required	Every 2 nd year
			Employment	
All Employees	Rain suits - lined	1	date	Replace broken with new
	Pigskin /Goatskin		Employment	
All Employees	Gloves	2	date	Replace broken with new
All Employees	Rubber Gloves	1	When required	Replace broken with new

Risk Area : REFUSE REMOVAL	Description	QTY	Frequency	Acc QTY Per Annum
	Two Piece 100%			
	cotton overalls		Employment	
All Employees	(65/35%)	2	date	Replace broken with new
	Safety			
	Boots/Tekkies that			
	are suitable for		Employment	
All Employees	safety purposes	1	date	Replace broken with new
	SABS approved			
All Employees	Water Boots	1	When required	Replace broken with new
			Employment	
All Employees	Blue Golf T/Shirt	2	date	Per annum
	Hood for sun		Employment	
All Employees	protection	1	date	Per annum
	Safety Glasses			
All Employees	and Dust mask	1	When required	Replace broken with new
	Noise Muffs/Ear			
All Employees	plugs	1	When required	Replace broken with new
All Employees	Reflector Jacket	1	When required	Every 2 nd year
			Employment	
All Employees	Rain suits - lined	1	date	Replace broken with new
	Pigskin /Goatskin		Employment	
All Employees	Gloves	2	date	Replace broken with new

Risk Area: BUILDING INSPECTORS, TECHNICAL OFFICERS & SUPERVISORS HEAD: HOUSING	Description	QTY	Frequency	Acc QTY Per Annum
	Two Piece 100%			Deplese broken
Duilding increators	cotton overalls	4	Employment	Replace broken with new
Building inspectors	(65/35%)	1	date	
	100% Denim		Employment	Replace broken
Technical Officers & Supervisors	Jeans	2	date	with new
	Safety Boots/	Building	Every 2	
	Tekkies that are	Inspectors 1	years as the	
	suitable for safety	Technical &	usage is not	
All Employees	purposes	Supervisors x 1	that extreme	1
		Building		
	Shirt	Inspectors 2		
	1 Long sleeve	Technical &		Replace broken
All Employees	1 Short sleeve	Supervisors x 2	Per Annum	with new
			When required	
	SABS approved		once every 3	Replace broken
All Employees	Water Boots	1	years	with new
			When	Replace broken
All Employees	Safety Glasses	1	required	with new
			When	
All Employees	Noise Plugs	1	required	1
			When	
All Employees	Reflector Jacket	1	required	Every 2 nd year
All Employees	Rain suits - lined	1	As required	1
			When	
All Employees	Pigskin Glove	1	required	1
Building Inspectors and			When	
Technical Team	Helmet	1	required	1
			When	
All Employees	Rubber Gloves	1	required	1

Risk Area:				Acc QTY Per
TRAFFIC OFFICERS	Description	QTY	Frequency	Annum
All Employees				Replace broken
	Black shoes/Step out boot	2	Per Annum	with new
	1 Long & 2 short sleeve		Employment	Replace worn
All Employees	Shirts	3	date	with new
All Employees	Reflector Freezer Jackets	1	Employment	Every 5 years
	Men & women trousers &	2 men & 2		
All Employees	skirt	women & 2 skirt	Per Annum	1
All Employees	Thin and thick belts	2	Per Annum	Every 2 nd year
All Employees	Reflector Bib	1	Per Annum	1
				Replace worn
All Employees	Gloves white	1	Per Annum	with new
All Employees	Socks	5	Per Annum	1
All Employees			Employment	Replace worn
	Tie	1	date	with new
All Employees			1 every 5	Replace worn
	Rain suite	1	years	with new
All Employees				Replace worn
	Pull over and jersey	1	Per Annum	with new
			Per Annum	
All Employees	Baseball Caps	2	1 every 5	Replace worn
	Step out Cap	1	years	with new
All Employees	T/Shirt	5	Per Annum	1

	Description	0.71/	-	Acc QTY Per
Risk Area:	Description	QTY	Frequency	Annum
SAFETY OFFICER				
SAFETY OFFICER	Safety Boots	1	Per Annum	Every 2 nd year
SAFETY OFFICER	Safety Glasses	1	Per Annum	When required
	3 in 1Rain/Freezer			
SAFETY OFFICER	Jacket	1	Per Annum	1 every 3 years
SAFETY OFFICER	Denim Jeans	2	Per Annum	2
SAFETY OFFICER	Reflective vest	1	Per Annum	When required
	1 Long & 1short			
SAFETY OFFICER	sleeve shirt	2	Per Annum	2 every year
SAFETY OFFICER	Helmet	1	When required	When required

2 x 100% Denim Jeans for the senior officials that have engagement with public. (After approval by Director)

Risk Area: METER READERS	Description	QTY	Frequency	Acc QTY Per Annum
	Safety			
	Boots/Tekkies			
	that are suitable	1		
All Employees	for safety			Replace broken with
	purposes		Employment date	new
	1 Long & 1short			Replace broken with
All Employees	sleeve Shirts	2	Employment date	new
All Employees	Freezer Jackets	1	Employment date	Every 2 nd year
All Employees	Rain suits - lined	1	Employment date	Every 2 nd year
All Employees	Denim Jeans	3	Employment date	Per annum

Risk Area : ELECTRICAL DIVISION	Description	QTY	Frequency	Acc QTY Per Annum
All Employees	Two Piece 100% denim overalls	2	Employment date	Replace worn with new
All Employees	Safety Boots without steel tips	1	Employment date	Replace worn with new
All Employees	SABS approved Water Boots	1	When required	Replace worn with new
All Employees	Safety Glasses	1	When required	1
All Employees	Ear Muffs / Ear Plugs	1	Employment date	When required
Electrical staff	Cotton T/Shirt Cotton Shirt	2 2	Per annum	4
All Employees	Reflector Jacket	1	When required	Per annum
All Employees	Rain suits lined	1	When required	1
All Employees	Helmet Helmet with face	1	When required	When required
Electricians	shield for switching Glove with under	1	When required	When required
Electricians	over glove 11kV in bag Noise	1	When required	Replace worn with new
All Employees	Pigskin Glove	1	Employment	When required
Electricians	LV Gloves	1	When required	Replace worn with new
All Employees	Sun hood 3 in 1	1	Employment	Per annum
Electricians	Rain/Freezer Jacket	1	Employment	1 every 3 years
Machine Operator (Chainsaw)	Protective pants	1	When required	Replace broken with new
Electricians	E/H safety shoes / boots	1	Per annum	Replace worn with new

Risk Area : Parks, Sport Grounds and Resorts Libraries	Description	QTY	Frequency	Acc QTY Per Annum
	Overalls/Overcoat (for protection when working with chemicals or			
Libraries/Cleaner	general cleaning)	2	Employment date	Replace worn with new
Libraries/Cleaner	Gloves (Latex Household & Nitrile Examination)	2	Employment date	Replace worn with new
Libraries/Cleaner	Moulded Respirator Masks	2	Employment date	Replace worn with new
Libraries/Cleaner	Blue Golf T/Shirt	2	Employment date	Per annum
All Employees	100% cotton overalls	2	Employment date	Replace worn with new
All Employees	SABS approved Water Boots Safety Boots with steel	1	When required	Replace worn with new
Machine Operator (Chainsaw & brush cutter)	toecaps and cut resistant inlay at the front. Water resistant.	1	When required	Replace broken with new
Parks Machine Operator	Shin Pad	1	When required	Replace worn with new
All Employees	Blue Golf T/Shirt	2	Employment date	Per annum
All Employees	Hood for sun protection	1	Employment date	Per annum
Parks Machine Operator	Face Shield & helmet saw Protective pants	1	When required	Replace worn with new
Machine Operator (Chainsaw & brush cutter)	with sewn in ballistic nylon pads	1	When required	Replace worn with new

Machine Operators and Chemical	Safety Glasses			
users	and Dust mask>	1	When required	Replace worn with new
	Respirator			•
	masks Elbow			
	length Rubber			
Chemical users	gloves	1	When required	Replace worn with new
	Noise Muffs/Ear			
Machine Operators	plugs	1	When required	Replace worn with new
All Employees	Reflector Jacket	1	When required	Every 2 years
	Reflector Jacket			
	with sewn in			
	ballistic nylon			
	pads & Leather			
	gloves with			
Machine Operator (Chainsaw &	reinforced			
Brush cutter)	ballistic nylon	1	When required	Replace worn with new
	Rain suits – lined	1		
	& Pigskin /		Employment	
All Employees	Goatskin cloves	2	date	Replace worn with new

Annexure: A

PPE TRAINING REGISTER

I the undersigned hereby acknowledge that I have received training in:

- 1. The correct use of PPE provided;
- 2. Limitations of PPE;
- 3. Maintenance of Personal Safety Equipment; and
- 4. Contents of the Safe Work Instruction titled "Required PPE"

4. Contents of the Safe Work Instruction titled "Required PPE"							
NAME OF EMPLOYEE (PRINT)	ID NUMBER	DATE TRAINED	SIGNATURE				
	l	1	1				

ANNEXURE B: PERSONAL PROTECTIVE CLOTHING ISSUE REGISTER

Document : Personal Protective Clothing Issue Register		Page No: 1 of 1			
Doc No : BM Form PPE	Rev No : 001	Effective Date :			

Department	Name	Emp. I	No :	Year	
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PPE Item		1 st Issue			2 nd Issue			3 rd Issue	
	Qty	Date	Signature	Qty	Date	Signature	Qty	Date	Signature
OVERALL									
BOOTS									
GLOVES									
SAFETY									
GLASSES									
HEARING AID									
GUMBOOTS									
HARDHAT									
REFLECTIVE									
VEST									
Standard									

• It is the responsibility of the employee's Supervisor to ensure that this is register is maintained and kept up to date.

• A separate Personal Protective Clothing Issue Register must be completed for each employee.

• All PPE required by and issued to the employee must be listed on the register including the quantity, date of issue and acknowledgement of receipt of the PPE.

• All Subsequent issues as a result of damage or defect must also be entered on the register.

• Managers must ensure that quarterly spot-checks are conducted on the PPE issue register of each employee.

Document : Personal Protective Clothing Return Register		Page No: 1 of 1
Doc No : BM Form PPE	Rev No : 001	Effective Date :

Annexure C: Personal Protective Clothing: Return sheet

Department Name Emp. No : Year

Date Issued	Description of Personal Protective Clothing issued	Description of old / worn out clothing handed in	Employee Signature	Supervisor/Manager Who receive the old clothing and replace it with new clothing Signature	Date when the old / worn out clothing was handed in	SHER Office sign as proof that the old / worn out clothing has been received/ destroyed