UV (UltraViolet) SAFETY CODE OF PRACTICE

- The University of Liverpool will ensure, as far as reasonably practicable, the health and safety of its employees and students, of contractors working on the premises, and of members of the public who may be exposed to UV radiation or who may come into contact with UV emitting equipment.

- The University of Liverpool will take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with the European Commission’s Physical Agents (AOR) Directive [1] and adherence to NRPB Guidelines [2]

- An individual Head of Department is ultimately responsible for the safe use of all UV sources within their own department

- Responsibility for advising managers, departmental heads, staff, students and the general public on UV safety matters will lie with the Radiation Protection Adviser (RPA) appointed by University of Liverpool.

- The Head of Department shall appoint, in writing, a suitable trained Departmental Non-Ionising Radiation Protection Supervisor (DNRPS) who will be responsible for supervising UV work and ensuring that any local UV safety rules are adhered to.

- The DNRPS shall maintain an inventory of current equipment that incorporates sources of UV radiation. The inventory shall be reviewed annually and available for inspection by RPA

- The DNRPS shall ensure that a suitable and sufficient risk assessment is completed prior to the use of a new, or significantly altered, UV system or procedure. This risk assessment shall not only address the UV beam hazards, but also other hazards associated with the UV equipment and process e.g. electrical and chemical. Any control measures identified as necessary must be in place prior to operating the UV system.

- The DNRPS shall ensure that local UV safety rules are drawn up. The rules should contain names and contact details of duty holders, description of UV system, safe operating procedures and contingency plans. A Generic Local Rules template is available on the Radiation Protection Office (RPO) website [3]

- A list of all adequately trained users who are authorised to use the UV system must be established. This should detail their training with respect to the UV system. The individual users should sign the list to indicate that they have read and understood both the local rules and the risk assessment.

- If identified as required by the Risk Assessment, appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must be provided e.g. goggles, face shields, and these must be compliant with the relevant British Standards [4]

- Individual UV workers are required to work with their UV system in such a way that they:
  a) exercise reasonable care
  b) use any PPE provided
  c) report any defect in such equipment
  d) undertake any training deemed necessary
  e) immediately report to the DNRPS of any incident with the UV and/or associated equipment.

- Any safety instructions supplied by the manufacturer of the UV system must be adhered to.

- References

  4. Personal Eye Protection – Ultraviolet filters – Transmittance requirements and recommended use. BS EN 170:2002