RISK ASSESSMENT AND METHOD STATEMENT (RAMS)

Business name

Document: RAMS-001 Rev 1
Prepared: 9 Nov 2026
Review by: 9 Dec 2026
Highest risk after controls: Medium

1. BUSINESS AND JOB DETAILS

Job	Brick cleaning and acid washing	**Start date**	9 Nov 2026
Working hours	7:00 am to 3:30 pm	**Trade**	Bricklaying

2. RISK ASSESSMENT

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
1	Read the safety data sheet and set up an eyewash	Hazardous chemicals Rules: COSHH Regulations 2002	Workers, Occupants. How: Glues, sealants, solvents, acids, cleaners and cement burn skin and eyes or cause breathing problems and poisoning.	**Medium (9) Possible / Lost time injury**	1.1 Choose the least harmful product that does the job, for example water-based instead of solvent-based. [Reduce / substitute] 1.2 Use chemicals in well-ventilated areas, or use fans and extraction in closed rooms. [Control (engineering)] 1.3 Do a COSHH assessment and read the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) before use. [Control (procedures)] 1.4 Keep chemicals in labelled containers. Never decant into drink bottles. [Control (procedures)] 1.5 Store chemicals away from heat, food and drink, and keep products that react with each other apart. [Control (procedures)] 1.6 Have eye wash and a spill kit nearby, and wash hands before eating. [Control (procedures)] 1.7 Wear chemical-resistant gloves and safety glasses or goggles as listed on the SDS. [PPE] 1.8 Use a respirator with the right cartridge if the SDS calls for one. [PPE]	**Medium (6) Unlikely / Lost time injury**	Site supervisor
2	Protect windows, plants and drains	Hazardous chemicals Public entering the work area Rules: COSHH Regulations 2002; CDM Regulations 2015	Workers, Occupants, Public, Children. How: Glues, sealants, solvents, acids, cleaners and cement burn skin and eyes or cause breathing problems and poisoning. Members of the public, including children, walk into the site and are hit by plant or falling objects, or fall into holes.	**High (12) Possible / Major injury**	2.1 Hazardous chemicals: see step 1 for the full controls [Control (procedures)] 2.2 Fence off the site with secure temporary fencing and lock the gates when you leave. [Isolate] 2.3 Give pedestrians a safe, marked path around the work, with ramps for prams and wheelchairs. [Isolate] 2.4 Use hoarding, covered walkways or catch fans where work is above public areas. [Control (engineering)] 2.5 Put signs at each entry: site name, contact number and "No unauthorised entry". [Control (procedures)] 2.6 Make the site safe at the end of each day: cover holes, lower plant, remove ladders and lock tools away. [Control (procedures)] 2.7 Use a spotter when moving plant or materials across public paths. [Control (procedures)]	**Medium (6) Unlikely / Lost time injury**	Site supervisor

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
3	Always add acid to water, never water to acid	Hazardous chemicals Eye injuries Rules: COSHH Regulations 2002	Workers, Occupants, People nearby. How: Glues, sealants, solvents, acids, cleaners and cement burn skin and eyes or cause breathing problems and poisoning. Flying chips, dust, chemicals or sparks get into the eye and cause damage or blindness.	**Medium (9) Possible / Lost time injury**	3.1 Hazardous chemicals: see step 1 for the full controls [Control (procedures)] 3.2 Use tool guards and screens to stop flying particles. [Control (engineering)] 3.3 Use dust extraction and water to keep dust out of the air. [Control (engineering)] 3.4 Keep others out of the area when cutting, grinding or chipping. [Control (procedures)] 3.5 Keep an eye wash station or eye wash bottles on site. [Control (procedures)] 3.6 Wear safety glasses at all times, goggles for dust and chemicals, and a face shield for grinding. [PPE]	**Medium (6) Unlikely / Lost time injury**	Site supervisor
4	Apply and wash off from the bottom up	High pressure water jetting Slips and trips	Workers, People nearby, Visitors, Public. How: High pressure water cuts through skin and injects water and dirt into the body, or the hose whips. Workers slip on wet or muddy ground or trip on leads, offcuts and uneven ground, causing sprains, broken bones or head injuries.	**Medium (8) Unlikely / Major injury**	4.1 Set an exclusion zone around the jetting area. [Isolate] 4.2 Use a dead man's trigger that stops the jet when released, and check hoses and fittings before use. [Control (engineering)] 4.3 Only trained operators use high pressure jetting gear. [Control (procedures)] 4.4 Never point the lance at anyone or put a hand in front of it. [Control (procedures)] 4.5 Treat any jetting injury as serious and go to hospital, even if it looks small. [Control (procedures)] 4.6 Wear a face shield, waterproof clothing, gloves, hearing protection and safety boots. [PPE] 4.7 Plan walkways and keep them clear of materials, hoses and leads. [Eliminate] 4.8 Run leads and hoses overhead on hooks or stands, or along walls, not across walkways. [Control (engineering)] 4.9 Fill or cover holes, and lay boards or mats on muddy access paths. [Control (engineering)] 4.10 Clean up offcuts, packaging and spills as you go, not at the end of the day. [Control (procedures)] 4.11 Keep work areas, stairs and access paths well lit. [Control (procedures)] 4.12 Wear safety boots with good grip, laced up. [PPE]	**Low (4) Very unlikely / Major injury**	Site supervisor
5	Neutralise and dispose of runoff, then clean up	Poor housekeeping and waste	Workers, Visitors. How: Rubbish, offcuts and materials left lying around cause trips, cuts and fires, and block exits.	**Medium (8) Likely / Minor injury**	5.1 Order materials to size and send packaging back where you can. [Eliminate] 5.2 Put skips and waste chutes close to the work. [Control (engineering)] 5.3 Clean as you go, and do a full clean up at the end of each day. [Control (procedures)] 5.4 Keep exits, stairs and walkways clear at all times. [Control (procedures)] 5.5 Stack materials neatly on level ground, away from edges. [Control (procedures)]	**Low (4) Unlikely / Minor injury**	Site supervisor

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
					5.6 Use a registered waste carrier and keep waste transfer notes for at least 2 years. Keep hazardous waste such as asbestos separate, with consignment notes (special waste in Scotland). [Control (procedures)] 5.7 Wear gloves when handling waste. [PPE]		

Risk key: risk = likelihood x consequence on a 5 x 5 matrix. Low, Medium, High, Very high. Work must not start while the risk after controls is high or above. Controls are listed in order of the hierarchy of control (eric-pd): Eliminate, Reduce / substitute, Isolate, Control (engineering), Control (procedures), PPE.

3. METHOD STATEMENT: SEQUENCE OF WORK

Step	What we will do	How it is done safely
1	Read the safety data sheet and set up an eyewash	Choose the least harmful product that does the job, for example water-based instead of solvent-based. Use chemicals in well-ventilated areas, or use fans and extraction in closed rooms. Do a COSHH assessment and read the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) before use.
2	Protect windows, plants and drains	Hazardous chemicals: see step 1 for the full controls Fence off the site with secure temporary fencing and lock the gates when you leave. Give pedestrians a safe, marked path around the work, with ramps for prams and wheelchairs.
3	Always add acid to water, never water to acid	Hazardous chemicals: see step 1 for the full controls Use tool guards and screens to stop flying particles. Use dust extraction and water to keep dust out of the air.
4	Apply and wash off from the bottom up	Set an exclusion zone around the jetting area. Use a dead man's trigger that stops the jet when released, and check hoses and fittings before use. Only trained operators use high pressure jetting gear.
5	Neutralise and dispose of runoff, then clean up	Order materials to size and send packaging back where you can. Put skips and waste chutes close to the work. Clean as you go, and do a full clean up at the end of each day.

4. PPE AND PERMITS

Required PPE	Permits and plans
Safety goggles Face shield Chemical-resistant gloves Coveralls Safety boots Half-mask respirator (P3 filters) Hi-vis vest Safety glasses Rigger gloves Ear defenders	None required

5. PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Plant / equipment	Licence or training needed	Inspection needed	Rego / ID	Last inspected	Certificate / report
Pressure washer (jet wash)					
Knapsack sprayer	City and Guilds PA1 and PA6 (or Lantra equivalent) for pesticides				
Mobile access tower	PASMA certificate	Inspected by a competent person after assembly, after anything that could affect stability (such as high winds or alteration) and at least every 7 days where a fall of 2 m or more is possible; report within 24 hours (Work at Height Regulations 2005 reg 12, Schedule 7); re-inspect each time the tower is moved and re-erected			

6. CREW COMPETENCY, TICKETS AND LICENCES

Crew listed at sign-on below, with ticket and licence numbers.

7. EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS

Emergency number	999	**First aid kit**	In the work vehicle
Fire extinguisher	In the work vehicle	**Alarm and evacuation**	Shout "Fire" or "Stop" and use the site alarm. Stop work, make the area safe and go to the assembly point. Do not go back in until the supervisor says it is safe.
Reporting incidents	Report reportable incidents to HSE under RIDDOR 2013 (hse.gov.uk/riddor).		

8. SITE ARRANGEMENTS

Welfare	Toilets, drinking water, hand washing and a break area on site	**Security and access**	Work area fenced or kept locked when unattended. Tools and materials secured. Public kept out.
Environmental and waste	Waste goes in a skip or the van and is taken away by a registered waste carrier, with waste transfer notes kept (duty of care). Hazardous waste such as asbestos is kept separate and consigned correctly. Dust and noise kept to a minimum. No run-off into drains.		

9. MONITORING, REVIEW AND LEGAL BASIS

The supervisor checks the controls at the start of each shift and during the work. Stop work and review this RAMS if the work, the crew or the site conditions change, after any incident or near miss, or if the principal contractor asks.

Legal basis: Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 and the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015. Employers must assess the risks of their work and record the significant findings (required where you employ 5 or more people). On CDM projects, contractors give their RAMS to the principal contractor before starting, and brief the workers on it.

Keep this RAMS, every revision and the signed briefing register with the site file for the length of the job, and keep a copy in your records afterwards.

10. REVISION HISTORY

Rev	Date	By	What changed
1	9 Nov 2026		First issue

11. APPROVAL AND BRIEFING REGISTER

	Name	Signature	Date	
Prepared by				
Approved by				
Supervisor				
Principal contractor review				Accepted for use: Yes / No

By signing below, each person confirms this RAMS was explained to them in a site briefing, they understand it and will follow it, and they will stop work and tell the supervisor if anything changes.

Name	Role / company	Tickets / licences	Inducted	Signature	Date

Name	Role / company	Tickets / licences	Inducted	Signature	Date