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	Build a brick fence	**Start date**	9 Nov 2026
Working hours	7:00 am to 3:30 pm	**Trade**	Bricklaying

2. WORK INVOLVING PARTICULAR RISKS (CDM 2015 SCHEDULE 3)

	Risk of burial under earthfalls, engulfment in swampland or falling from a height, made worse by the work, processes or site		Work on wells, underground earthworks and tunnels
YES	Chemical or biological substances that are a particular danger, or that need health monitoring by law		Divers with a system of air supply
	Ionising radiation needing controlled or supervised areas		Work in caissons with a compressed air atmosphere
	Work near high voltage power lines		Use of explosives
	Risk of drowning		Assembling or dismantling heavy prefabricated components

3. RISK ASSESSMENT

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
1	Get utility plans and set up a barrier from the footpath	Hitting underground services Public entering the work area Rules: HSE HSG47 Avoiding danger from underground services; CDM Regulations 2015	Workers, Public, Children. How: Digging, drilling or driving pegs hits a buried power cable, gas pipe or water main, causing electrocution, explosion or flooding. Members of the public, including children, walk into the site and are hit by plant or falling objects, or fall into holes.	**Very high (15) Possible / Fatal**	1.1 Keep machine buckets well clear of marked services and use a spotter. [Isolate] 1.2 Do a CAT and Genny scan before digging and mark services on the ground. [Control (engineering)] 1.3 Hand dig trial holes to find services before machine digging (safe digging practice). [Control (engineering)] 1.4 Get utility plans before digging and check them against what you see on site. [Control (procedures)] 1.5 Keep plans or locate tickets on site and check them again if the work area grows. [Control (procedures)] 1.6 If you hit a service, stop, get everyone clear, and call the owner and emergency services. [Control (procedures)] 1.7 Wear safety boots, gloves and hi-vis when digging. [PPE] 1.8 Fence off the site with secure temporary fencing and lock the gates when you leave. [Isolate] 1.9 Give pedestrians a safe, marked path around the work, with ramps for prams and wheelchairs. [Isolate] 1.10 Use hoarding, covered walkways or catch fans where work is above public areas. [Control (engineering)] 1.11 Put signs at each entry: site name, contact number and "No	**Medium (5) Very unlikely / Fatal**	Site supervisor

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
					unauthorised entry". [Control (procedures)] 1.12 Make the site safe at the end of each day: cover holes, lower plant, remove ladders and lock tools away. [Control (procedures)] 1.13 Use a spotter when moving plant or materials across public paths. [Control (procedures)]		
2	Dig and pour the footing	Trench or excavation collapse Wet concrete and cement burns Being hit by mobile plant Rules: CDM Regulations 2015, regulation 22 (excavations); CDM Regulations 2015 and PUWER 1998	Workers, Visitors, Public. How: The trench walls cave in and bury or crush a worker. Any excavation can collapse, however shallow. Sides must be supported or battered back wherever a collapse could hurt someone. Wet concrete, mortar and cement burn skin and eyes. Burns can be deep and are often not felt until later.	**Very high (15) Possible / Fatal**	2.1 Use methods that keep people out of the trench, such as directional boring or working from the surface. [Eliminate] 2.2 Barricade or cover the excavation so people and plant cannot fall in. [Isolate] 2.3 Support or batter back the sides of any excavation where collapse could happen. Use trench boxes or sheet piling for deeper trenches. [Control (engineering)] 2.4 Keep spoil, materials and plant at least 1 metre back from the edge. [Control (engineering)] 2.5 Provide a safe way in and out, such as a ladder near where people work. [Control (engineering)] 2.6 Inspect the excavation at the start of each shift and after rain or anything that could weaken it. Record it. [Control (procedures)] 2.7 Use long-handled tools and pumps to cut down contact. [Control (engineering)] 2.8 Wash concrete off skin straight away with clean water. [Control (procedures)] 2.9 Have clean water and eye wash where concrete or mortar is mixed and used. [Control (procedures)] 2.10 Do a COSHH assessment for cement, lime and mortar, and check hands regularly for early signs of dermatitis. [Control (procedures)] 2.11 Wear waterproof gloves, long sleeves and waterproof boots with trousers worn over the top. [PPE] 2.12 Wear safety glasses or goggles to stop splashes. [PPE] 2.13 Separate people and plant with barriers, exclusion zones and marked walkways. [Isolate] 2.14 Use plant with working reversing alarms, cameras and lights. [Control (engineering)] 2.15 Have a traffic management plan showing plant routes, loading areas and pedestrian paths. [Control (procedures)] 2.16 Use a spotter when reversing or working near people. [Control (procedures)] 2.17 Make eye contact with the operator before going near. Stay out of the swing radius. [Control (procedures)]	**Medium (5) Very unlikely / Fatal**	Site supervisor
3	Lay bricks with wet cutting	Silica dust from concrete, brick, stone and tiles Lifting and carrying heavy loads	Workers, People nearby. How: Cutting, grinding or drilling concrete, brick, stone, tiles or fibre	**Very high (20) Likely / Fatal**	3.1 Order materials cut to size, or use low-dust methods such as score and snap or a block splitter. [Reduce / substitute] 3.2 Cut outdoors or in a separate area, with other people well away and upwind. [Isolate] 3.3 Use water on the blade or on-tool dust extraction connected to	**Medium (6) Unlikely / Lost time injury**	Site supervisor

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
		Repetitive work and awkward postures Rules: COSHH Regulations 2002; Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992	cement makes fine silica dust that causes silicosis and lung cancer. Lifting, carrying, pushing or twisting with heavy or awkward loads strains the back, shoulders or knees.		an H-class vacuum. [Control (engineering)] 3.4 Clean up with a vacuum or wet methods. Never dry sweep or use compressed air. [Control (procedures)] 3.5 Do a COSHH assessment and keep exposure below the workplace exposure limit (0.1 mg/m3 respirable crystalline silica, 8 hours). [Control (procedures)] 3.6 Workers regularly exposed to silica dust get health surveillance (COSHH reg 11, HSE G404). [Control (procedures)] 3.7 Wear a fit-tested FFP3 mask. [PPE] 3.8 Plan to avoid carrying: have materials delivered, and old items picked up, as close as possible to where they are used. [Eliminate] 3.9 Use lighter or smaller loads: order smaller bags and shorter lengths, and drain or break down old items before moving them. [Reduce / substitute] 3.10 Use trolleys, pallet jacks, hoists, vacuum lifters or plant instead of carrying by hand. [Control (engineering)] 3.11 Use a two-person lift for anything heavy, long or awkward. Plan the route first and clear it. [Control (procedures)] 3.12 Keep the load close, back straight and no twisting. Turn with your feet. [Control (procedures)] 3.13 Use tools that cut the effort: powered screwdrivers, long-handled tools and extension poles for overhead work. [Reduce / substitute] 3.14 Set work up at waist height on benches or trestles where you can. [Control (engineering)] 3.15 Use light tools with good grips, and keep blades and bits sharp. [Control (engineering)] 3.16 Rotate tasks and take short breaks every hour on repetitive work. [Control (procedures)] 3.17 Warm up before heavy physical work and report aches and pains early. [Control (procedures)]		
4	Brace piers and walls until cured	Structural collapse during alterations Strong wind and storms Rules: CDM Regulations 2015, regulation 19 (stability of structures)	Workers, Occupants, Public. How: Removing a wall, beam, post or bracing makes part of the building fall on workers. Wind blows sheets, panels and people off roofs and scaffolds, and storms and lightning make work at height and lifting unsafe.	**High (12) Possible / Major injury**	4.1 Get an engineer to check before removing any wall, beam, post or bracing that may be load-bearing. [Eliminate] 4.2 Keep everyone clear of the area under and next to the work. [Isolate] 4.3 Install temporary props, needles or shoring as designed before removing any support. [Control (engineering)] 4.4 Follow the engineer's sequence. Do not change it without approval. [Control (procedures)] 4.5 Check props daily. Do not remove them until the permanent support is in and approved. [Control (procedures)] 4.6 Wear a hard hat and safety boots. [PPE] 4.7 Check the forecast each morning and plan work at height and lifting around the weather. [Eliminate] 4.8 Tie down or weigh down loose sheets, panels, boards and rubbish at the end of each shift. [Control (engineering)]	**Medium (5) Very unlikely / Fatal**	Site supervisor

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
					4.9 Set wind limits for roof work, platforms and cranes, using the manufacturer's limits, and stop when they are reached. [Control (procedures)] 4.10 Stop work and get down in lightning. Wait 30 minutes after the last thunder before going back up. [Control (procedures)] 4.11 Check scaffold, fencing and edge protection after strong wind before anyone uses them. [Control (procedures)] 4.12 Do not carry large sheets on roofs in wind. [Control (procedures)] 4.13 Wear a hard hat with a chin strap at height in windy conditions. [PPE]		
5	Clean up and reopen the footpath	Poor housekeeping and waste Sun exposure (UV)	Workers, Visitors. How: Rubbish, offcuts and materials left lying around cause trips, cuts and fires, and block exits. Long hours in the sun cause sunburn, eye damage and skin cancer.	**High (12) Likely / Lost time 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)] 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] 5.8 Plan outdoor work for early morning or late afternoon when UV is lower. [Eliminate] 5.9 Put shade covers over fixed work areas. [Control (engineering)] 5.10 Check the UV index each day. Use sun protection when it is 3 or higher. [Control (procedures)] 5.11 Check your skin regularly and see a doctor about any new or changing spots. [Control (procedures)] 5.12 Wear a broad-brim hat or hard hat brim, long sleeves, sunglasses and SPF 30 or higher sunscreen, reapplied every 2 hours. [PPE]	**Medium (6) Unlikely / Lost time injury**	Site supervisor

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.

4. METHOD STATEMENT: SEQUENCE OF WORK

Step	What we will do	How it is done safely
1	Get utility plans and set up a barrier from the footpath	Keep machine buckets well clear of marked services and use a spotter. Do a CAT and Genny scan before digging and mark services

Step	What we will do	How it is done safely
		on the ground. Hand dig trial holes to find services before machine digging (safe digging practice).
2	Dig and pour the footing	Use methods that keep people out of the trench, such as directional boring or working from the surface. Barricade or cover the excavation so people and plant cannot fall in. Support or batter back the sides of any excavation where collapse could happen. Use trench boxes or sheet piling for deeper trenches.
3	Lay bricks with wet cutting	Order materials cut to size, or use low-dust methods such as score and snap or a block splitter. Cut outdoors or in a separate area, with other people well away and upwind. Use water on the blade or on-tool dust extraction connected to an H-class vacuum.
4	Brace piers and walls until cured	Get an engineer to check before removing any wall, beam, post or bracing that may be load-bearing. Keep everyone clear of the area under and next to the work. Install temporary props, needles or shoring as designed before removing any support.
5	Clean up and reopen the footpath	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.

5. PPE AND PERMITS

Required PPE	Permits and plans
Safety boots Chemical-resistant gloves Safety glasses FFP3 dust mask Hi-vis vest Sun protection (sunscreen and neck cover) Safety goggles Knee pads Safety helmet Half-mask respirator (P3 filters) Ear defenders Rigger gloves	None required

6. PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Plant / equipment	Licence or training needed	Inspection needed	Rego / ID	Last inspected	Certificate / report
Cement mixer		User check before each use; formal visual inspection and PAT testing at intervals set by risk (110V on site)			
Cut-off saw (Stihl saw)		User check before each use; inspected and serviced to the maker's schedule (PUWER regs 5 and 6). Discs changed only by people trained in abrasive wheels			
Excavator (360)	CPCS or NPORS excavator card	Daily pre-use checks and PUWER inspection; if used to lift loads, LOLER thorough examination every 12 months and its lifting accessories every 6 months			
Hand tools					

7. CREW COMPETENCY, TICKETS AND LICENCES

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

8. 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).		

9. 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.		

10. 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.

11. REVISION HISTORY

Rev	Date	By	What changed
1	9 Nov 2026		First issue

12. 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