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	Irrigation installation	**Start date**	9 Nov 2026
Working hours	7:00 am to 3:30 pm	**Trade**	Landscaping

2. RISK ASSESSMENT

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
1	Get utility plans and mark trench lines	Hitting underground services Rules: HSE HSG47 Avoiding danger from underground services	Workers, Public. How: Digging, drilling or driving pegs hits a buried power cable, gas pipe or water main, causing electrocution, explosion or flooding.	**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]	**Medium (5) Very unlikely / Fatal**	Site supervisor
2	Dig shallow trenches by hand or with a trencher	Lifting and carrying heavy loads Being hit by mobile plant Rules: Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992; CDM Regulations 2015 and PUWER 1998	Workers, Visitors, Public. How: Lifting, carrying, pushing or twisting with heavy or awkward loads strains the back, shoulders or knees. Excavators, loaders, telehandlers and trucks run over or crush workers, especially when reversing or slewing.	**Very high (15) Possible / Fatal**	2.1 Plan to avoid carrying: have materials delivered, and old items picked up, as close as possible to where they are used. [Eliminate] 2.2 Use lighter or smaller loads: order smaller bags and shorter lengths, and drain or break down old items before moving them. [Reduce / substitute] 2.3 Use trolleys, pallet jacks, hoists, vacuum lifters or plant instead of carrying by hand. [Control (engineering)] 2.4 Use a two-person lift for anything heavy, long or awkward. Plan the route first and clear it. [Control (procedures)] 2.5 Keep the load close, back straight and no twisting. Turn with your feet. [Control (procedures)] 2.6 Rotate tasks and take breaks on long lifting jobs. [Control (procedures)] 2.7 Wear gloves for grip and safety boots to protect your feet. [PPE] 2.8 Separate people and plant with barriers, exclusion zones and marked walkways. [Isolate] 2.9 Use plant with working reversing alarms, cameras and lights. [Control (engineering)]	**Medium (6) Unlikely / Lost time injury**	Site supervisor

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
					2.10 Have a traffic management plan showing plant routes, loading areas and pedestrian paths. [Control (procedures)] 2.11 Use a spotter when reversing or working near people. [Control (procedures)] 2.12 Make eye contact with the operator before going near. Stay out of the swing radius. [Control (procedures)] 2.13 Operators hold a CPCS, NPORS or equal card for the plant they use. [Control (procedures)] 2.14 Do a pre-start check on each machine every day and record it. [Control (procedures)] 2.15 Wear hi-vis clothing and a hard hat. [PPE]		
3	Lay pipe and glue joints with ventilation	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**	3.1 Choose the least harmful product that does the job, for example water-based instead of solvent-based. [Reduce / substitute] 3.2 Use chemicals in well-ventilated areas, or use fans and extraction in closed rooms. [Control (engineering)] 3.3 Do a COSHH assessment and read the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) before use. [Control (procedures)] 3.4 Keep chemicals in labelled containers. Never decant into drink bottles. [Control (procedures)] 3.5 Store chemicals away from heat, food and drink, and keep products that react with each other apart. [Control (procedures)] 3.6 Have eye wash and a spill kit nearby, and wash hands before eating. [Control (procedures)] 3.7 Wear chemical-resistant gloves and safety glasses or goggles as listed on the SDS. [PPE] 3.8 Use a respirator with the right cartridge if the SDS calls for one. [PPE]	**Medium (6) Unlikely / Lost time injury**	Site supervisor
4	Connect the controller, getting a qualified electrician for any new power	Electric shock from live wiring Rules: Electricity at Work Regulations 1989	Workers, Occupants. How: Contact with live wires, distribution boards or equipment gives an electric shock or arc flash burn that can kill.	**Very high (15) Possible / Fatal**	4.1 Isolate the power before any work. Do not work live. [Eliminate] 4.2 Lock out and tag the isolation point with your own personal lock and danger tag. [Isolate] 4.3 Prove dead at the point of work with an approved voltage indicator (GS38), and prove the tester before and after. [Control (engineering)] 4.4 Only competent, qualified electricians do electrical work, following a safe isolation procedure. [Control (procedures)] 4.5 Check for back feeds from solar, batteries and generators that can keep a circuit live after the main switch is off. [Control (procedures)] 4.6 If live work cannot be avoided, use a permit, a safety observer and insulated tools. [Control (procedures)] 4.7 Wear insulated gloves, arc-rated clothing and a face shield when testing or working near live parts. [PPE]	**Medium (5) Very unlikely / Fatal**	Site supervisor
5	Test, backfill and clean up	Pressure testing Poor housekeeping and	Workers, Occupants, Visitors.	**Medium (8) Unlikely /**	5.1 Test with water instead of air or gas where the system allows it. Never put water in refrigerant pipework, which is tested with dry	**Low (4) Very unlikely**	Site supervisor

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
		waste Rules: Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2000	How: A pipe, fitting or cap fails under test pressure and blows apart, hitting people nearby. Rubbish, offcuts and materials left lying around cause trips, cuts and fires, and block exits.	**Major injury**	nitrogen. [Reduce / substitute] 5.2 Keep people out of the test area with signs and barriers. [Isolate] 5.3 Use a calibrated gauge and a relief valve set to protect the system. [Control (engineering)] 5.4 Test to the pressure the system calls for and hold it for the set time. Never go over. [Control (procedures)] 5.5 Release the pressure fully before tightening anything or fixing leaks. [Control (procedures)] 5.6 Wear safety glasses or a face shield. [PPE] 5.7 Order materials to size and send packaging back where you can. [Eliminate] 5.8 Put skips and waste chutes close to the work. [Control (engineering)] 5.9 Clean as you go, and do a full clean up at the end of each day. [Control (procedures)] 5.10 Keep exits, stairs and walkways clear at all times. [Control (procedures)] 5.11 Stack materials neatly on level ground, away from edges. [Control (procedures)] 5.12 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)] 5.13 Wear gloves when handling waste. [PPE]	**/ Major injury**	

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	Get utility plans and mark trench lines	Keep machine buckets well clear of marked services and use a spotter. Do a CAT and Genny scan before digging and mark services on the ground. Hand dig trial holes to find services before machine digging (safe digging practice).
2	Dig shallow trenches by hand or with a trencher	Plan to avoid carrying: have materials delivered, and old items picked up, as close as possible to where they are used. Use lighter or smaller loads: order smaller bags and shorter lengths, and drain or break down old items before moving them. Use trolleys, pallet jacks, hoists, vacuum lifters or plant instead of carrying by hand.
3	Lay pipe and glue joints with ventilation	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.
4	Connect the controller, getting a qualified electrician for any new power	Isolate the power before any work. Do not work live. Lock out and tag the isolation point with your own personal lock and danger tag. Prove dead at the point of work with an approved voltage indicator (GS38), and prove the tester before and after.

Step	What we will do	How it is done safely
5	Test, backfill and clean up	Test with water instead of air or gas where the system allows it. Never put water in refrigerant pipework, which is tested with dry nitrogen. Keep people out of the test area with signs and barriers. Use a calibrated gauge and a relief valve set to protect the system.

4. PPE AND PERMITS

Required PPE	Permits and plans
Safety boots Rigger gloves Sun protection (sunscreen and neck cover) Hi-vis vest Safety helmet Chemical-resistant gloves Safety goggles Half-mask respirator (P3 filters) Coveralls Safety glasses Face shield	None required

5. PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Plant / equipment	Licence or training needed	Inspection needed	Rego / ID	Last inspected	Certificate / report
Hand tools					
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			
Power drill		User check before each use; formal visual inspection and PAT testing at intervals set by risk (110V on site)			

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