# 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** | Burst pipe and leak repair | **Start date** | 9 Nov 2026 |
| **Working hours** | 7:00 am to 3:30 pm | **Trade** | Plumbing |

## 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 | Shut off water at the main and isolate power anywhere water has reached | Electric shock from live wiring<br>Slips and trips<br><br>Rules: Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 | Workers, Occupants, Visitors, Public.<br>How: Contact with live wires, distribution boards or equipment gives an electric shock or arc flash burn that can kill. Workers slip on wet or muddy ground or trip on leads, offcuts and uneven ground, causing sprains, broken bones or head injuries. | **Very high (15) Possible / Fatal** | 1.1 Isolate the power before any work. Do not work live. [Eliminate]<br>1.2 Lock out and tag the isolation point with your own personal lock and danger tag. [Isolate]<br>1.3 Prove dead at the point of work with an approved voltage indicator (GS38), and prove the tester before and after. [Control (engineering)]<br>1.4 Only competent, qualified electricians do electrical work, following a safe isolation procedure. [Control (procedures)]<br>1.5 Check for back feeds from solar, batteries and generators that can keep a circuit live after the main switch is off. [Control (procedures)]<br>1.6 If live work cannot be avoided, use a permit, a safety observer and insulated tools. [Control (procedures)]<br>1.7 Wear insulated gloves, arc-rated clothing and a face shield when testing or working near live parts. [PPE]<br>1.8 Plan walkways and keep them clear of materials, hoses and leads. [Eliminate]<br>1.9 Run leads and hoses overhead on hooks or stands, or along walls, not across walkways. [Control (engineering)]<br>1.10 Slips and trips: see step 6 for the full controls [Control | **Medium (5) Very unlikely / Fatal** | Site supervisor |

| # | Activity / step | Hazards | Who might be harmed and how | Risk before | Controls | Risk after | Responsible |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | (procedures)] | | |
| 2 | Check for mould and sewage contamination in wet areas | Mould and droppings<br>Sewage and wastewater | Workers, Occupants.<br>How: Water-damaged buildings, bird and rat droppings and dead animals hold mould and germs that cause breathing problems and infections. Contact with sewage spreads germs that cause stomach illness, hepatitis and skin infections. | **Medium (9)<br>Possible / Lost time injury** | 2.1 Fix the water leak and dry the area before removing mould. [Eliminate]<br>2.2 Seal off the area with plastic sheeting and keep occupants out. [Isolate]<br>2.3 Clean up with an H-class vacuum and wet wipes. Never dry sweep. [Control (engineering)]<br>2.4 Bag mouldy material on site and remove it promptly. [Control (procedures)]<br>2.5 Wash hands and face before eating and at the end of each shift. [Control (procedures)]<br>2.6 Wear an FFP3 mask, gloves, goggles and disposable coveralls. [PPE]<br>2.7 Flush and drain the line before opening it, and plan the job to avoid contact. [Eliminate]<br>2.8 Use drain cameras, jetters and long-handled tools to keep hands out. [Control (engineering)]<br>2.9 Cover cuts with waterproof dressings. Never eat, drink or smoke before washing. [Control (procedures)]<br>2.10 Wash hands well and clean tools and boots after the job. [Control (procedures)]<br>2.11 Keep vaccinations such as tetanus and hepatitis A up to date, on medical advice. [Control (procedures)]<br>2.12 Wear waterproof gloves, goggles or a face shield, and coveralls. [PPE] | **Low (3)<br>Very unlikely / Lost time injury** | Site supervisor |
| 3 | Open up the wall or floor to reach the pipe, checking for asbestos first | Disturbing asbestos<br>General dust<br>Injury from power tools<br><br>Rules: Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012; Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER) | Workers, Occupants, Public, People nearby.<br>How: Buildings built before 2000 may contain asbestos. Drilling, cutting or breaking it releases fibres that cause cancer years later. Dust from plasterboard, filler, cement and clean up irritates eyes and lungs and makes it hard to see. | **Very high (15)<br>Possible / Fatal** | 3.1 Before work on any building built before 2000, check the refurbishment and demolition asbestos survey for the work area (HSE HSG264). If there is none, presume asbestos is present or have it sampled before you start. [Eliminate]<br>3.2 Seal off the work area and keep everyone else out. [Isolate]<br>3.3 If asbestos must be disturbed, keep it wet, use hand tools not power tools, and clean up with an H-class vacuum. [Control (engineering)]<br>3.4 Most asbestos insulation, coatings and insulating board need a licensed contractor. Notifiable non-licensed work is notified to HSE before it starts. Other work needs trained workers and controls. [Control (procedures)]<br>3.5 Stop work straight away if you find suspect asbestos. Do not touch it and tell your supervisor. [Control (procedures)]<br>3.6 Wear a fit-tested FFP3 mask (or better) and disposable type 5 coveralls. [PPE]<br>3.7 Use low-dust products, such as dust-reduced or pre-mixed compounds. [Reduce / substitute]<br>3.8 Seal off the work area with plastic sheeting in occupied buildings. [Isolate] | **Medium (6)<br>Unlikely / Lost time injury** | Site supervisor |

| # | Activity / step | Hazards | Who might be harmed and how | Risk before | Controls | Risk after | Responsible |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | 3.9 Use tools with dust extraction and a vacuum for clean up. [Control (engineering)]<br>3.10 Lightly mist the area with water to keep dust down, away from anything electrical. [Control (engineering)]<br>3.11 Never dry sweep or blow dust off with compressed air. [Control (procedures)]<br>3.12 Keep all guards fitted and working. Never tie back or remove a guard. [Control (engineering)]<br>3.13 Clamp or secure the work piece. Do not hold it by hand. [Control (engineering)]<br>3.14 Only trained, competent people use power tools, following the maker's instructions. [Control (procedures)]<br>3.15 Check tools before use. Unplug or remove the battery before changing blades or bits. [Control (procedures)]<br>3.16 No loose clothing, jewellery or long hair near spinning parts. [Control (procedures)] | | |
| 4 | Cut out the damaged section and fit the repair, with a hot work permit if soldering | Fire from hot works<br>Burns from hot surfaces<br>Cuts from sharp edges<br><br>Rules: CDM 2015 regs 29 to 31 (fire on construction sites). Occupied premises: Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (England and Wales), Fire (Scotland) Act 2005, Fire Safety Regulations (NI) 2010 | Workers, Occupants, Public.<br>How: Sparks and heat from welding, grinding or flame torches set fire to timber, insulation, rubbish or fuel nearby. Touching hot pipes, tools, bitumen, solder or freshly welded metal burns the skin. | **Very high (15) Possible / Fatal** | 4.1 Use cold work methods where you can, such as bolting, press fittings or cutting with a saw instead of a torch. [Eliminate]<br>4.2 Move anything that can burn at least 10 metres away, or cover it with fire blankets. [Isolate]<br>4.3 Use fire-resistant screens to stop sparks reaching people or gaps in walls and floors. [Control (engineering)]<br>4.4 Get a hot work permit before starting. [Control (procedures)]<br>4.5 Keep a charged fire extinguisher and fire blanket at the work spot. [Control (procedures)]<br>4.6 Isolate heating systems and let parts cool before you touch them. [Eliminate]<br>4.7 Fit guards or insulation on hot pipes and equipment. [Control (engineering)]<br>4.8 Mark hot items with chalk or a "HOT" sign so others know. [Control (procedures)]<br>4.9 Keep a first aid kit and cool running water nearby for burns. [Control (procedures)]<br>4.10 Wear heat-resistant gloves and long sleeves. [PPE]<br>4.11 Deburr or cover sharp edges, and fit edge protectors on exposed sheet metal. [Control (engineering)]<br>4.12 Use knives with retractable or self-retracting blades. [Control (engineering)]<br>4.13 Cut away from your body and keep your other hand clear. [Control (procedures)]<br>4.14 Put used blades in a blade bin or sharps container. [Control (procedures)]<br>4.15 Use two people to handle large sheets of metal or glass. [Control (procedures)] | **Medium (5) Very unlikely / Fatal** | Site supervisor |
| 5 | Turn water back on | Pressure testing | Workers, Occupants. | **Medium (8)** | 5.1 Test with water instead of air or gas where the system allows it. | **Low (4)** | Site |

| # | Activity / step | Hazards | Who might be harmed and how | Risk before | Controls | Risk after | Responsible |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | and check for leaks under pressure | Hot water and steam<br><br>Rules: Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2000 | How: A pipe, fitting or cap fails under test pressure and blows apart, hitting people nearby. Opening hot water systems, boilers or steam lines scalds workers. | **Unlikely / Major injury** | Never put water in refrigerant pipework, which is tested with dry nitrogen. [Reduce / substitute]<br>5.2 Keep people out of the test area with signs and barriers. [Isolate]<br>5.3 Use a calibrated gauge and a relief valve set to protect the system. [Control (engineering)]<br>5.4 Test to the pressure the system calls for and hold it for the set time. Never go over. [Control (procedures)]<br>5.5 Release the pressure fully before tightening anything or fixing leaks. [Control (procedures)]<br>5.6 Wear safety glasses or a face shield. [PPE]<br>5.7 Turn the system off and let it cool before work. [Eliminate]<br>5.8 Isolate and lock off the heat source and valves, and release the pressure. [Isolate]<br>5.9 Check the temperature, and open fittings slowly while facing away. [Control (procedures)]<br>5.10 Keep a first aid kit and cool water ready for burns. [Control (procedures)]<br>5.11 Wear heat-resistant gloves, long sleeves and a face shield. [PPE] | **Very unlikely / Major injury** | supervisor |
| 6 | Dry the area, clean up and advise on make good | Slips and trips<br>Poor housekeeping and waste | Workers, Visitors, Public.<br>How: Workers slip on wet or muddy ground or trip on leads, offcuts and uneven ground, causing sprains, broken bones or head injuries. Rubbish, offcuts and materials left lying around cause trips, cuts and fires, and block exits. | **Medium (8) Likely / Minor injury** | 6.1 Plan walkways and keep them clear of materials, hoses and leads. [Eliminate]<br>6.2 Run leads and hoses overhead on hooks or stands, or along walls, not across walkways. [Control (engineering)]<br>6.3 Fill or cover holes, and lay boards or mats on muddy access paths. [Control (engineering)]<br>6.4 Clean up offcuts, packaging and spills as you go, not at the end of the day. [Control (procedures)]<br>6.5 Keep work areas, stairs and access paths well lit. [Control (procedures)]<br>6.6 Wear safety boots with good grip, laced up. [PPE]<br>6.7 Order materials to size and send packaging back where you can. [Eliminate]<br>6.8 Put skips and waste chutes close to the work. [Control (engineering)]<br>6.9 Clean as you go, and do a full clean up at the end of each day. [Control (procedures)]<br>6.10 Keep exits, stairs and walkways clear at all times. [Control (procedures)]<br>6.11 Stack materials neatly on level ground, away from edges. [Control (procedures)]<br>6.12 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)]<br>6.13 Wear gloves when handling waste. [PPE] | **Low (4) Unlikely / Minor 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 | Shut off water at the main and isolate power anywhere water has reached | 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. |
| 2 | Check for mould and sewage contamination in wet areas | Fix the water leak and dry the area before removing mould. Seal off the area with plastic sheeting and keep occupants out. Clean up with an H-class vacuum and wet wipes. Never dry sweep. |
| 3 | Open up the wall or floor to reach the pipe, checking for asbestos first | Before work on any building built before 2000, check the refurbishment and demolition asbestos survey for the work area (HSE HSG264). If there is none, presume asbestos is present or have it sampled before you start. Seal off the work area and keep everyone else out. If asbestos must be disturbed, keep it wet, use hand tools not power tools, and clean up with an H-class vacuum. |
| 4 | Cut out the damaged section and fit the repair, with a hot work permit if soldering | Use cold work methods where you can, such as bolting, press fittings or cutting with a saw instead of a torch. Move anything that can burn at least 10 metres away, or cover it with fire blankets. Use fire-resistant screens to stop sparks reaching people or gaps in walls and floors. |
| 5 | Turn water back on and check for leaks under pressure | 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. |
| 6 | Dry the area, clean up and advise on make good | Plan walkways and keep them clear of materials, hoses and leads. Run leads and hoses overhead on hooks or stands, or along walls, not across walkways. Fill or cover holes, and lay boards or mats on muddy access paths. |

## 5. PPE AND PERMITS

| Required PPE | Permits and plans |
|---|---|
| Safety boots<br>Rigger gloves<br>Safety glasses<br>FFP3 dust mask<br>Half-mask respirator (P3 filters)<br>Safety goggles<br>Coveralls<br>Chemical-resistant gloves<br>Face shield<br>Ear defenders<br>Welding gauntlets<br>Cut-resistant gloves | Hot works permit (fire watch at least 60 minutes after) |

## 6. PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

| Plant / equipment | Licence or training needed | Inspection needed | Rego / ID | Last inspected | Certificate / report |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|

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

## 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 |
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| Name | Role / company | Tickets / licences | Inducted | Signature | Date |
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