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	Blockwork wall	**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	Check footing and starter bars, capping rebar	Impalement on rebar	Workers. How: A worker falls or trips onto exposed rebar or starter bars and is impaled or badly cut.	**High (12) Possible / Major injury**	1.1 Cover or cap all exposed bar ends with approved caps or covers. [Control (engineering)] 1.2 Bend bars over where the design allows. [Control (engineering)] 1.3 Use edge protection near starter bars so nobody can fall onto them. [Control (engineering)] 1.4 Keep walkways clear of exposed bars and mark the hazard. [Control (procedures)] 1.5 Wear gloves, safety glasses and safety boots when handling bar. [PPE]	**Low (4) Very unlikely / Major injury**	Site supervisor
2	Move blocks with plant or two people	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	**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)]	**Medium (6) Unlikely / Lost time injury**	Site supervisor

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
			run over or crush workers, especially when reversing or slewing.		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)] 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	Cut blocks with water suppression	Silica dust from concrete, brick, stone and tiles Saw cuts and kickback Loud noise Rules: COSHH Regulations 2002; Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER); Control of Noise at Work Regulations 2005	Workers, People nearby. How: Cutting, grinding or drilling concrete, brick, stone, tiles or fibre cement makes fine silica dust that causes silicosis and lung cancer. Circular saws, drop saws and table saws cut fingers and hands or throw material back at the user.	**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 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 Keep blade guards fitted and working, and use the riving knife on table saws. [Control (engineering)] 3.9 Use push sticks and clamps, and support long pieces so they do not pinch the blade. [Control (engineering)] 3.10 Use a sharp, undamaged blade made for the material. [Control (procedures)] 3.11 Stand to one side of the blade line, out of the kickback path. [Control (procedures)] 3.12 Let the blade stop fully before reaching in or putting the saw down. [Control (procedures)] 3.13 Use quieter tools and methods, such as cut-to-size materials, low-noise machines and battery tools. [Reduce / substitute]	**Medium (8)** **Unlikely / Major injury**	Site supervisor

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
					3.14 Keep noisy plant away from work areas, and use screens or distance between the noise and people. [Isolate] 3.15 Keep tools maintained and use mufflers on compressors and generators. [Control (engineering)] 3.16 Limit time on noisy tools and rotate workers. [Control (procedures)] 3.17 If you have to shout to be heard by someone 2 metres away, the noise is probably 85 dB(A) or more: wear hearing protection. [Control (procedures)] 3.18 Assess noise. At 85 dB(A) or more, hearing protection is required and the zone must be marked. [Control (procedures)]		
4	Lay blocks from scaffold once above chest height	Falling from height Repetitive work and awkward postures Rules: Work at Height Regulations 2005	Workers, People below. How: A worker falls from any height where a fall could cause injury, such as an edge, platform or opening. Doing the same movement for hours, kneeling or working overhead causes long-term damage to joints, muscles and tendons.	**Very high (20) Likely / Fatal**	4.1 Do the work from the ground where you can, for example pre-assemble on the ground or use extension poles. [Eliminate] 4.2 Install guardrails or edge protection on all open edges before work starts. [Isolate] 4.3 Use a scaffold, mobile tower or MEWP instead of working off a ladder. [Control (engineering)] 4.4 Where edge protection is not practical, use a fall restraint or fall arrest system on a rated anchor point. [Control (engineering)] 4.5 Have a rescue plan so a worker hanging in a harness can be brought down within minutes. [Control (procedures)] 4.6 Wear a full body harness with a shock-absorbing lanyard, clipped on at all times when using fall arrest. [PPE] 4.7 Use tools that cut the effort: powered screwdrivers, long-handled tools and extension poles for overhead work. [Reduce / substitute] 4.8 Set work up at waist height on benches or trestles where you can. [Control (engineering)] 4.9 Use light tools with good grips, and keep blades and bits sharp. [Control (engineering)] 4.10 Rotate tasks and take short breaks every hour on repetitive work. [Control (procedures)] 4.11 Warm up before heavy physical work and report aches and pains early. [Control (procedures)] 4.12 Wear knee pads for kneeling work and gloves for grip. [PPE]	**Medium (6) Unlikely / Lost time injury**	Site supervisor
5	Core fill with pump or mixer, propping walls as needed	Wet concrete and cement burns Structural collapse during alterations Rules: CDM Regulations 2015, regulation 19 (stability of structures)	Workers, Occupants. How: Wet concrete, mortar and cement burn skin and eyes. Burns can be deep and are often not felt until later. Removing a wall, beam, post or bracing makes part of the building fall on workers.	**High (10) Unlikely / Fatal**	5.1 Use long-handled tools and pumps to cut down contact. [Control (engineering)] 5.2 Wash concrete off skin straight away with clean water. [Control (procedures)] 5.3 Have clean water and eye wash where concrete or mortar is mixed and used. [Control (procedures)] 5.4 Do a COSHH assessment for cement, lime and mortar, and check hands regularly for early signs of dermatitis. [Control (procedures)] 5.5 Wear waterproof gloves, long sleeves and waterproof boots with trousers worn over the top. [PPE]	**Medium (5) Very unlikely / Fatal**	Site supervisor

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
					5.6 Wear safety glasses or goggles to stop splashes. [PPE] 5.7 Get an engineer to check before removing any wall, beam, post or bracing that may be load-bearing. [Eliminate] 5.8 Keep everyone clear of the area under and next to the work. [Isolate] 5.9 Install temporary props, needles or shoring as designed before removing any support. [Control (engineering)] 5.10 Follow the engineer's sequence. Do not change it without approval. [Control (procedures)] 5.11 Check props daily. Do not remove them until the permanent support is in and approved. [Control (procedures)] 5.12 Wear a hard hat and safety boots. [PPE]		
6	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**	6.1 Order materials to size and send packaging back where you can. [Eliminate] 6.2 Put skips and waste chutes close to the work. [Control (engineering)] 6.3 Clean as you go, and do a full clean up at the end of each day. [Control (procedures)] 6.4 Keep exits, stairs and walkways clear at all times. [Control (procedures)] 6.5 Stack materials neatly on level ground, away from edges. [Control (procedures)] 6.6 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)] 6.7 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	Check footing and starter bars, capping rebar	Cover or cap all exposed bar ends with approved caps or covers. Bend bars over where the design allows. Use edge protection near starter bars so nobody can fall onto them.
2	Move blocks with plant or two people	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	Cut blocks with water suppression	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.

Step	What we will do	How it is done safely
4	Lay blocks from scaffold once above chest height	Do the work from the ground where you can, for example pre-assemble on the ground or use extension poles. Install guardrails or edge protection on all open edges before work starts. Use a scaffold, mobile tower or MEWP instead of working off a ladder.
5	Core fill with pump or mixer, propping walls as needed	Use long-handled tools and pumps to cut down contact. Wash concrete off skin straight away with clean water. Have clean water and eye wash where concrete or mortar is mixed and used.
6	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.

5. PPE AND PERMITS

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

6. PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Plant / equipment	Licence or training needed	Inspection needed	Rego / ID	Last inspected	Certificate / report
Tube and fitting or system scaffold	CISRS scaffolder card to erect, alter or dismantle	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)			
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			
Concrete pump					
Telehandler	CPCS or NPORS telehandler card	LOLER thorough examination at least every 12 months (every 6 months if used with a work platform to lift people), plus daily pre-use checks			

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