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	Chimney removal	**Start date**	9 Nov 2026
Working hours	7:00 am to 3:30 pm	**Trade**	Demolition

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

YES	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 flues for asbestos and soot, and isolate any gas appliance	Disturbing asbestos Gas and fuel lines Rules: Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012; Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998	Workers, Occupants, Public. How: Buildings built before 2000 may contain asbestos. Drilling, cutting or breaking it releases fibres that cause cancer years later. Damaging or opening a gas or fuel line causes a leak, fire or explosion.	**Very high (15) Possible / Fatal**	1.1 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] 1.2 Seal off the work area and keep everyone else out. [Isolate] 1.3 If asbestos must be disturbed, keep it wet, use hand tools not power tools, and clean up with an H-class vacuum. [Control (engineering)] 1.4 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)] 1.5 Stop work straight away if you find suspect asbestos. Do not touch it and tell your supervisor. [Control (procedures)] 1.6 Wear a fit-tested FFP3 mask (or better) and disposable type 5 coveralls. [PPE] 1.7 Isolate and purge the line before work, with the owner's approval. [Eliminate] 1.8 Lock off and tag the isolation valve. [Isolate] 1.9 Check for leaks with a gas detector before and during work, and	**Medium (5) Very unlikely / Fatal**	Site supervisor

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
					ventilate the area. [Control (engineering)] 1.10 Only Gas Safe registered engineers work on gas fittings. [Control (procedures)] 1.11 Remove ignition sources: no smoking, no hot work and no sparking tools near the line. [Control (procedures)] 1.12 Know where the shut-off valve is and what to do if a leak happens. [Control (procedures)] 1.13 Wear safety glasses and gloves, and keep a fire extinguisher close by. [PPE]		
2	Erect scaffold around the chimney with debris protection	Falling from a roof edge Scaffold collapse or fall from scaffold Falling tools and materials Rules: Work at Height Regulations 2005; Work at Height Regulations 2005, regulation 10 (falling objects)	Workers, People below, Public. How: A worker slips or walks off the edge of a roof or gutter line and falls to the ground. A scaffold that is badly built, overloaded or altered collapses or tips, or a worker falls from an unguarded platform.	**Very high (20) Likely / Fatal**	2.1 Do what you can from the ground or from a scaffold at the gutter line, for example pre-assemble parts on the ground. [Eliminate] 2.2 Install edge protection or guardrails on all open roof edges before work starts. [Isolate] 2.3 Use a perimeter scaffold with handrails and toe boards along the eaves where practical. [Control (engineering)] 2.4 Where guardrails cannot be fitted, use fall restraint on certified roof anchors so workers cannot reach the edge. [Control (engineering)] 2.5 Use one safe, controlled access point and keep others off the roof. [Control (procedures)] 2.6 Scaffold is built, altered and taken down only by CISRS-carded scaffolders, to TG20 or a specific design. [Control (engineering)] 2.7 Fit guardrails, mid rails and toe boards on every working platform. [Control (engineering)] 2.8 Use mobile scaffolds only on firm, level ground with castors locked and outriggers fitted. Never move one with anyone on it. [Control (engineering)] 2.9 Mobile towers are built by PASMA-trained workers. [Control (procedures)] 2.10 Inspect the scaffold before first use, after any change or bad weather, and at least every 7 days. Record it on the tag and register. [Control (procedures)] 2.11 Do not overload platforms. Know the duty rating and keep material stacks over the standards. [Control (procedures)] 2.12 Barricade and sign the drop zone under overhead work so nobody walks beneath. [Isolate] 2.13 Fit toe boards, kick plates and mesh screens on scaffolds and edges. [Control (engineering)] 2.14 Falling tools and materials: see step 4 for the full controls [Control (procedures)]	**Medium (8) Unlikely / Major injury**	Site supervisor
3	Remove bricks by hand from the top down, never undermine	Structural collapse during alterations Demolition and falling debris Lifting and carrying	Workers, Occupants, Public, Neighbours. How: Removing a wall, beam, post or bracing makes part of the	**Very high (15) Possible / Fatal**	3.1 Get an engineer to check before removing any wall, beam, post or bracing that may be load-bearing. [Eliminate] 3.2 Keep everyone clear of the area under and next to the work. [Isolate] 3.3 Install temporary props, needles or shoring as designed before	**Medium (6) Unlikely / Lost time injury**	Site supervisor

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
		heavy loads Rules: CDM Regulations 2015, regulation 19 (stability of structures); CDM Regulations 2015, regulation 20 (demolition); Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992	building fall on workers. Part of a structure collapses early, or debris falls and hits workers or the public during demolition or strip out.		removing any support. [Control (engineering)] 3.4 Follow the engineer's sequence. Do not change it without approval. [Control (procedures)] 3.5 Check props daily. Do not remove them until the permanent support is in and approved. [Control (procedures)] 3.6 Check for asbestos, lead, live services and structural risks before demolition starts. [Eliminate] 3.7 Disconnect and cap power, gas and water before demolition. [Isolate] 3.8 Set an exclusion zone bigger than the distance the structure could fall. [Isolate] 3.9 Use a machine with a guarded cab instead of hand demolition where practical. [Control (engineering)] 3.10 Use chutes or bins to get debris down. Never drop it from height. [Control (engineering)] 3.11 Record the demolition, dismantling or strip-out arrangements in writing before work starts (CDM 2015 reg 20(2)). [Control (procedures)] 3.12 Plan to avoid carrying: have materials delivered, and old items picked up, as close as possible to where they are used. [Eliminate] 3.13 Use lighter or smaller loads: order smaller bags and shorter lengths, and drain or break down old items before moving them. [Reduce / substitute] 3.14 Use trolleys, pallet jacks, hoists, vacuum lifters or plant instead of carrying by hand. [Control (engineering)] 3.15 Use a two-person lift for anything heavy, long or awkward. Plan the route first and clear it. [Control (procedures)] 3.16 Keep the load close, back straight and no twisting. Turn with your feet. [Control (procedures)]		
4	Lower bricks by chute or hoist, keeping the area below closed	Falling tools and materials Public entering the work area Rules: Work at Height Regulations 2005, regulation 10 (falling objects); CDM Regulations 2015	Workers, Public, People below, Children. How: Tools, materials or debris fall from above and hit someone working or walking below. 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**	4.1 Barricade and sign the drop zone under overhead work so nobody walks beneath. [Isolate] 4.2 Fit toe boards, kick plates and mesh screens on scaffolds and edges. [Control (engineering)] 4.3 Use catch fans, debris netting or covered walkways where people pass below. [Control (engineering)] 4.4 Tether hand tools when working at height. [Control (engineering)] 4.5 Keep platforms tidy. Do not stack materials near edges or above toe board height. [Control (procedures)] 4.6 Lower materials with a hoist, chute or rope. Never throw or drop anything down. [Control (procedures)] 4.7 Wear a hard hat anywhere objects could fall. [PPE] 4.8 Fence off the site with secure temporary fencing and lock the gates when you leave. [Isolate] 4.9 Give pedestrians a safe, marked path around the work, with ramps for prams and wheelchairs. [Isolate] 4.10 Use hoarding, covered walkways or catch fans where work is	**Medium (8) Unlikely / Major injury**	Site supervisor

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
					above public areas. [Control (engineering)] 4.11 Put signs at each entry: site name, contact number and "No unauthorised entry". [Control (procedures)] 4.12 Make the site safe at the end of each day: cover holes, lower plant, remove ladders and lock tools away. [Control (procedures)] 4.13 Use a spotter when moving plant or materials across public paths. [Control (procedures)]		
5	Patch the roof the same day to keep weather out	Strong wind and storms Falling from a roof edge Rules: Work at Height Regulations 2005	Workers, Public, People below. How: Wind blows sheets, panels and people off roofs and scaffolds, and storms and lightning make work at height and lifting unsafe. A worker slips or walks off the edge of a roof or gutter line and falls to the ground.	**Very high (20) Likely / Fatal**	5.1 Check the forecast each morning and plan work at height and lifting around the weather. [Eliminate] 5.2 Tie down or weigh down loose sheets, panels, boards and rubbish at the end of each shift. [Control (engineering)] 5.3 Set wind limits for roof work, platforms and cranes, using the manufacturer's limits, and stop when they are reached. [Control (procedures)] 5.4 Stop work and get down in lightning. Wait 30 minutes after the last thunder before going back up. [Control (procedures)] 5.5 Check scaffold, fencing and edge protection after strong wind before anyone uses them. [Control (procedures)] 5.6 Do not carry large sheets on roofs in wind. [Control (procedures)] 5.7 Wear a hard hat with a chin strap at height in windy conditions. [PPE] 5.8 Stop roof work in strong wind or rain, and when the roof is wet, icy or covered in dust or frost. [Control (procedures)] 5.9 Wear a harness clipped to a rated anchor when using restraint or fall arrest, and soft-soled non-slip boots. [PPE] 5.10 Falling from a roof edge: see step 2 for the full controls [Control (procedures)]	**Medium (5) Very unlikely / Fatal**	Site supervisor
6	Clean up dust and debris	Silica dust from concrete, brick, stone and tiles Poor housekeeping and waste Rules: COSHH Regulations 2002	Workers, People nearby, Visitors. How: Cutting, grinding or drilling concrete, brick, stone, tiles or fibre cement makes fine silica dust that causes silicosis and lung cancer. Rubbish, offcuts and materials left lying around cause trips, cuts and fires, and block exits.	**Very high (20) Likely / Fatal**	6.1 Order materials cut to size, or use low-dust methods such as score and snap or a block splitter. [Reduce / substitute] 6.2 Cut outdoors or in a separate area, with other people well away and upwind. [Isolate] 6.3 Use water on the blade or on-tool dust extraction connected to an H-class vacuum. [Control (engineering)] 6.4 Clean up with a vacuum or wet methods. Never dry sweep or use compressed air. [Control (procedures)] 6.5 Do a COSHH assessment and keep exposure below the workplace exposure limit (0.1 mg/m3 respirable crystalline silica, 8 hours). [Control (procedures)] 6.6 Workers regularly exposed to silica dust get health surveillance (COSHH reg 11, HSE G404). [Control (procedures)] 6.7 Wear a fit-tested FFP3 mask. [PPE] 6.8 Order materials to size and send packaging back where you can. [Eliminate] 6.9 Put skips and waste chutes close to the work. [Control (engineering)]	**Medium (5) Very unlikely / Fatal**	Site supervisor

#	Activity / step	Hazards	Who might be harmed and how	Risk before	Controls	Risk after	Responsible
					6.10 Clean as you go, and do a full clean up at the end of each day. [Control (procedures)] 6.11 Keep exits, stairs and walkways clear at all times. [Control (procedures)] 6.12 Stack materials neatly on level ground, away from edges. [Control (procedures)] 6.13 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)] 6.14 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.

4. METHOD STATEMENT: SEQUENCE OF WORK

Step	What we will do	How it is done safely
1	Check flues for asbestos and soot, and isolate any gas appliance	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.
2	Erect scaffold around the chimney with debris protection	Do what you can from the ground or from a scaffold at the gutter line, for example pre-assemble parts on the ground. Install edge protection or guardrails on all open roof edges before work starts. Use a perimeter scaffold with handrails and toe boards along the eaves where practical.
3	Remove bricks by hand from the top down, never undermine	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.
4	Lower bricks by chute or hoist, keeping the area below closed	Barricade and sign the drop zone under overhead work so nobody walks beneath. Fit toe boards, kick plates and mesh screens on scaffolds and edges. Use catch fans, debris netting or covered walkways where people pass below.
5	Patch the roof the same day to keep weather out	Check the forecast each morning and plan work at height and lifting around the weather. Tie down or weigh down loose sheets, panels, boards and rubbish at the end of each shift. Set wind limits for roof work, platforms and cranes, using the manufacturer's limits, and stop when they are reached.
6	Clean up dust and debris	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.

5. PPE AND PERMITS

Required PPE	Permits and plans
Safety boots	Roof access permit

Required PPE	Permits and plans
Safety helmet Full body harness and lanyard FFP3 dust mask Safety glasses Rigger gloves Half-mask respirator (P3 filters) Coveralls Sun protection (sunscreen and neck cover) Hi-vis vest Ear defenders	Work at height permit

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)			
Hand tools					
Breaker					
Goods hoist		LOLER thorough examination after installation at each site before first use, then at least every 12 months for a goods-only hoist (6 months if it carries people), plus 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