

Statutory basis: HSWA 1974 s.2(2)(a) and MHSWR 1999 regs 3 and 5; Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 — HSE's position on heavier blocks: one-person repetitive handling of blocks over 20kg is not acceptable practice; COSHH 2002 for cement and silica; Work at Height Regulations 2005; CDM 2015 regs 13 and 15.

1 DOCUMENT AND PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

RAMS REFERENCE	PROJECT / SITE REF	SITE NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE PREPARED	NEXT REVIEW DATE
CLIENT / PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR	PLANNED START	DURATION	OPERATIVES	SUPERVISING THE WORK

2 SCOPE OF WORKS

Alterations to existing masonry: cutting out, toothing, bonding new work to old, and building up to needles and supports installed under the temporary works documents.

This document does not cover: forming the structural opening itself (Demolition trade + engineer's design), and work on unassessed structures.

SITE-SPECIFIC SCOPE, LOCATIONS AND LIMITATIONS

3 RISK ASSESSMENT — SCORE EACH RISK FOR THIS SITE, THEN ADD WHAT IS MISSING

The hazards and controls below are the starting point for this activity, written by a working main contractor. They are not complete for your site until a competent person has scored each risk, added the site-specific hazards, and struck out anything that does not apply. Rate risks High / Medium / Low before and after controls.

1. Collapse of green (uncured) walls — especially in wind

At risk: Operatives, anyone nearby

Controls: Maximum daily lift heights observed for the block and mortar; new walls propped or restrained where the design requires; masonry never left free-standing above the safe height in wind; check weather before high lifts; barriers to green walls.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

2. Silica dust from cutting bricks and blocks

At risk: Operatives, others nearby

Controls: Bench saw with water suppression as the default — not dry cut-off saws; on-tool extraction where dry cutting is unavoidable; FFP3 RPE (face-fit tested) at the saw; cutting station sited away from others.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

3. Hand-arm vibration from power tools

At risk: Operatives

Controls: Select low-vibration tools, keep cutting edges sharp, rotate operatives to keep exposure below the action value, and record trigger time where the assessment requires it.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

4. Disturbing asbestos-containing materials in existing buildings

At risk: Operatives, building occupants

Controls: Check the asbestos register before any intrusive work (CAR 2012). No register, or unclear entries, means stop and refer. If suspect material is found: STOP, withdraw, secure the area and report it — the discovery procedure applies before any further work.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

5. Striking hidden services when drilling, cutting or fixing

At risk: Operatives

Controls: Check drawings and the services register, scan with a CAT before drilling or chasing into existing fabric, respect safe zones, and stop and reassess if an unrecorded service is found.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

6. Repetitive handling of bricks, blocks and mortar

At risk: Bricklayers, labourers

Controls: Blocks over 20kg are not for one-person repetitive laying — specify lighter units or mechanical handling; materials loaded out by machine to laying height; mortar by silo or tub at waist height; hop-ups to keep laying between knee and shoulder.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

7. Cement dermatitis and burns from mortar

At risk: Bricklayers

Controls: Waterproof gloves as standard; barrier cream is not a substitute; wash splashes immediately; mortar snots cleaned off skin at breaks; report skin problems early.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

8. Manual handling of boards, materials and components

At risk: Operatives

Controls: Mechanical aids first — trolleys, board lifters, hoists. Two-person lifts for boards and long components; order materials in manageable sizes; plan storage close to the workface; keep carrying routes clear and lit.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

9. Instability of the existing structure during cutting

At risk: Operatives, occupants

Controls: The engineer confirms the extent that may be cut before support; work within the temporary works sequence; unexpected cracking or movement stops the work immediately.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

Site-specific hazards not listed above — every site has at least one:

HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK	CONTROLS	INITIAL H/...	RESIDUAL...	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

4 METHOD — SEQUENCE OF WORK

- 01 Confirm the engineer's details and any temporary works are in place before cutting.
- 02 Check the asbestos register and scan for services before cutting into existing fabric.
- 03 Cut out with extraction/suppression; tooth to the bonding pattern specified.
- 04 Bond new to old with the specified ties and mortar; pack to needles as the design requires.
- 05 Monitor the existing structure through the work; report any movement.

SITE-SPECIFIC AMENDMENTS TO THE SEQUENCE**5 PLANT, EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS**☐ Cutting tools with extraction☐ Wet bench saw☐ Props and packs

INSPECTION / THOROUGH EXAMINATION REFS

COSHH ASSESSMENT REFS

6 PPE — THE LAST LINE OF CONTROL, NOT THE FIRST☐ Head protection☐ Gloves — task-rated☐ FFP3 RPE when cutting☐ Safety footwear☐ Eye protection☐ High visibility☐ Hearing protection**RPE TYPE, FACE-FIT STATUS, AND ANY OTHER PPE REQUIRED****7 PERMITS REQUIRED BEFORE THIS WORK STARTS**

A permit authorises this work in that place, on that day. It extends the safe system of work in this document — it does not replace it (HSE HSG250). The site issues the permit; record its number before work starts.

KD-PTW-GP-003 — General Permit to Work

Where the site requires a permit for structural alterations.

PERMIT NUMBER

8 EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS — COMPLETE FOR THIS SITE

FIRST AIDER AND LOCATION

NEAREST A&E

ASSEMBLY POINT

HOW THE ALARM IS RAISED

EMERGENCY ACCESS FOR THIS WORK AREA

SPILL / ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE

9 BRIEFING RECORD — EVERYONE WORKING UNDER THIS RAMS SIGNS BEFORE STARTING

By signing you confirm the contents of this RAMS have been explained to you, you understand the hazards and controls, and you will work to the sequence stated. Tell the supervisor if the work or the site does not match this document — work stops until it does.

NAME	COMPANY	SIGNATURE	DATE

10 PREPARED AND ACCEPTED

Prepared / adapted for this site by — I confirm I have adapted this document to the site, scored the risks, and that it describes how the work will actually be done.

PRINTED NAME	ROLE / COMPETENCE	COMPANY	SIGNATURE	DATE	TIME

Accepted for the site by — principal contractor or site manager review.

PRINTED NAME	ROLE	COMPANY	SIGNATURE	DATE	TIME

Review this RAMS if the work, the site or the law changes, and at least before each new phase of the works. Flatten the completed PDF before filing so the record cannot be silently edited.

R REVISION HISTORY

Every revision of this document, and every review that found nothing to change. The revision on the front of this sheet is the one you are holding — check kubitdocs.com for the current one before use.

Rev	Date	Class	What changed	Authorised by
D0	2026-08-09	first-issue	First issue.	— not yet approved —
D1	2026-08-10	review	Reviewed - no change to the content. Legislation position reviewed against Product Legislation Register KD-REG-01 Rev R01.3 and the August 2026 horizon scan; cutoff moved to 10 August 2026.	— not yet approved —
A0	2026-08-27	review	Approved for issue by the author. Content unchanged from D1; the draft status strip is removed. No independent third-party review has been carried out.	Author — director, UK principal contractor, SMSTS. Not an independent review.

Class: first-issue · material (the law, a control, a field or the scope changed — past buyers are notified) · editorial (wording or layout only) · review (checked, nothing changed) · withdrawal. Revision prefix D = draft, not approved and not for sale, A = approved for issue by the person named, on the date shown.