

Statutory basis: HSWA 1974 s.2(2)(a) and MHSWR 1999 regs 3 and 5 — this document is the recorded safe system of work. COSHH 2002 applies twice: to the disinfectant chemicals handled, and to Legionella bacteria as a biological agent — ACOP L8 (4th edition, 2013) and HSG274 Part 2 set the control regime for hot and cold water systems, including flushing, disinfection and the written scheme before a system is put into use. In healthcare premises HTM 04-01 (2016) adds the Water Safety Group, the sampling regime and the Authorised Person (Water). Prepared against legislation current at 10/08/2026.

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

Flushing, disinfection and sampling of new or altered domestic hot and cold water systems before they are put into use: isolation and drain, flushing to clear debris, chlorination to the specified concentration and contact time, neutralisation and disposal, refill and sampling, certificate.

This document does not cover: the pipework installation itself (KD-RAMS-ME-001) and ongoing monitoring once the building is occupied — the written scheme belongs to the duty holder.

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. Chlorine-based disinfectant — skin, eye and respiratory irritant; chlorine gas if mixed with acid

At risk: Operatives, occupants

Controls: Dose to the method statement concentration only; chemical-resistant gloves, goggles and apron; eyewash to hand; never mixed with other chemicals; ventilation; residual neutralised before discharge to drain per the water company's consent.

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

2. Aerosol from stagnant or warm water — Legionella

At risk: Operatives flushing outlets, occupants

Controls: Flush with the outlet dismantled or the aerosol contained where practicable; RPE (FFP3) for operatives where aerosol cannot be avoided; occupants excluded during flushing of long-stagnant systems.

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

3. Scalding from hot-water outlets and calorifier drains

At risk: Operatives

Controls: Thermostatic mixing valves noted; drain-downs to a controlled point; gloves and face protection at hot outlets; temperature checked before contact.

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

4. Manual handling of chemical drums, pumps and tank-cleaning equipment in plant rooms and roof spaces

At risk: Operatives

Controls: Drums on a sack truck; pumps carried by two; nothing lifted into a roof space by hand up a ladder — hoisted or split; access equipment for tank lids.

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

5. Slips, trips and housekeeping

At risk: Everyone in the work area

Controls: Keep the workplace clear, remove waste and offcuts as they are created, route leads at high level or under mats, and maintain task lighting.

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

6. Interface with occupants, other trades and the public

At risk: Occupants, other trades, the public

Controls: Segregate the work area — barriers, signage, sheeting; agree access routes and working hours with the occupier; never obstruct escape routes; deliveries and waste runs outside peak movement times where agreed.

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

7. Discharge of chlorinated water to drain without consent

At risk: Environment, water company

Controls: Neutralise to the consent level before discharge; volumes and residuals recorded; no discharge to surface water.

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 HI...	RESIDUAL...	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

4 METHOD — SEQUENCE OF WORK

- 01 Confirm the system extent, the disinfection method and concentration, the contact time and the sampling regime with the client and, in healthcare, the Water Safety Group.
- 02 Isolate from the mains and any occupied system; drain and flush every outlet to clear debris; record flow at each outlet.
- 03 Dose to the specified concentration; prove the concentration at the furthest outlets; hold for the contact time with outlets labelled and secured.
- 04 Neutralise, drain, refill and flush until residuals match the incoming mains; record.
- 05 Sample at the specified points; certificate issued only on satisfactory results; system handed over with the flushing regime until occupation.

SITE-SPECIFIC AMENDMENTS TO THE SEQUENCE

5 PLANT, EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

- Dosing pump and test kit
- Neutralising agent

Sample bottles and chain-of-custody

INSPECTION / THOROUGH EXAMINATION REFS

COSHH ASSESSMENT REFS

6 PPE — THE LAST LINE OF CONTROL, NOT THE FIRST

- Head protection
- Safety footwear
- High visibility
- Gloves — task-rated
- Eye protection
- Hearing protection
- Chemical goggles, gloves and apron; FFP3 where aerosol cannot be contained

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-MI-029 — Mechanical Isolation and Lock-Off Certificate
For isolation from occupied systems.

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

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	2026-08-28	first-issue	First issue.	— not yet approved —
A0	2026-08-29	review	Approved for issue by the author. Content unchanged from the draft; 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.