

COVID-19 Risk Assessment - Visiting a Construction Site



Risk assessment completed by					Date risk assessment completed														
Description of the task/activity							Time the task/activity usually takes place												
<p>This risk assessment has been written as a generic template to cover Home Group colleagues attending site and not for the actual work undertaken. Visits to construction sites must only be carried out where essential to do so. If physical attendance can be avoided, it MUST be.</p> <p>Activity dependent PPE that may be required could include:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Hard hat</td> <td>Dust mask – this must commensurate with the activity e.g. FFP3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gloves</td> <td>Face mask (COVID-19)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hi Vis outerwear (waistcoat or jacket)</td> <td>Hand sanitiser (COVID-19)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Safety footwear</td> <td>Hearing protection</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Safety glasses</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Please ensure that in addition to PPE used that clothing and footwear appropriate to the activity undertaken and the environmental conditions are worn.</p> <p>In line with Government advice, colleagues must stay alert and dynamically risk assess their working environment, taking immediate action to stay safe as needed.</p>							Hard hat	Dust mask – this must commensurate with the activity e.g. FFP3	Gloves	Face mask (COVID-19)	Hi Vis outerwear (waistcoat or jacket)	Hand sanitiser (COVID-19)	Safety footwear	Hearing protection	Safety glasses				
Hard hat	Dust mask – this must commensurate with the activity e.g. FFP3																		
Gloves	Face mask (COVID-19)																		
Hi Vis outerwear (waistcoat or jacket)	Hand sanitiser (COVID-19)																		
Safety footwear	Hearing protection																		
Safety glasses																			
People involved in the task/activity							Where the task/activity takes place												
Cause	Possible consequences	L (1-5)	S (1-5)	Risk level	Risk control measures	L (1-5)	S (1-5)	Revised risk level											
Contracting COVID-19	Contraction of the disease leading to illness, potential hospitalisation / death.	3	5	15	<p>If you experience any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 you must cancel the site visit, self-isolate in line with the latest Government guidance and inform your line manager.</p> <p>Before a visit to a construction site, colleagues must contact the relevant Site Manager requesting a copy of the COVID-</p>	2	5	10											

COVID-19 Risk Assessment - Visiting a Construction Site



				<p>19 risk assessment and rules, these must be read and understood, and any PPE required taken with you.</p> <p>Colleagues to make themselves fully aware of the 'new' COVID-19 site rules and expectations which must always be adhered to.</p> <p>All PPE to be worn as expected, this could include additional items to the above list as directed by the site COVID-19 risk assessment which you must read ahead of the visit and must be reaffirmed on site induction.</p> <p>A safe distance of 2m must always be maintained from any other person to comply with the social distancing rules.</p> <p>Contact with any surface must be avoided.</p> <p>Hands must be washed / sanitised before entering site and upon leaving. There may well be additional times this is required during the visit.</p> <p>Visits to construction sites (where necessary) must be kept to a minimum duration to avoid contact with other people. If these durations are kept 'short' this will alleviate the potential requirement for comfort breaks and tea / coffee breaks where the distancing and contact with surfaces will be harder to manage.</p> <p>Any queries in relation to COVID-19 safety measures must be directed to the Site Manager and to your direct line Manager so we can fulfil our Client duties under CDM.</p>			
--	--	--	--	---	--	--	--

COVID-19 Risk Assessment - Visiting a Construction Site



Travelling by vehicle to the Construction site including vehicle breakdown	Risk of injury / COVID-19 exposure	3	5	15	<p>Colleagues must be satisfied that the vehicle has been maintained in a fit and safe condition</p> <p>Before setting off, the following checks should be undertaken;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the brakes are in good working order • Ensure the car lights are working both at the front and the rear • Check the fluid levels in the vehicle ensuring that the correct amount of screen wash has been added • Wiper blades must be in good working order • Ensure that all mirrors are in working order • Ensure that tyres are in a suitable condition and inflated to the correct pressure • Ensure the seat belts are in good working order • Check audible warning devices i.e. horn <p>Once driving, all road traffic legislation must be followed</p> <p>In the event of the vehicle breakdown, the colleague should consider; (towns and cities)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pulling over to a safe place, away from the traffic • switching off the engine • turning on their hazard lights and if it is dark, or if visibility is poor, leave the sidelights on • put the red warning triangle at 	2	5	10

COVID-19 Risk Assessment - Visiting a Construction Site



					<p>least 50 metres behind the vehicle – this will warn any oncoming traffic that the vehicle has broken down</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use a mobile phone to call for assistance • stay in your car and wait for help to arrive ensuring the 2m social distancing rule is applied. <p>(on motorways)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • turn your front wheels towards the grass verge when you pull into the hard shoulder • switch on your hazard lights and if it's dark or visibility's poor turn the sidelights on too • don't display your red warning triangle – with fast moving traffic the risks far outweigh the benefits of doing this • the driver should move behind the crash barrier if there is one. • Use your mobile phone and call for assistance ensuring the 2m social distancing rule is applied when help arrives. 			
Travel to / from a Construction site on public transport	COVID-19 exposure	4	5	20	<p>Plan your journey ahead of time and try to limit the number of 'modes of transport' used. Ensure you leave plenty of time for your journey as it may take longer than you are used to. If you must use public transport, try to travel "off Peak" so that less commuters are on the public transport system.</p> <p>A safe distance of 2m must always be maintained when queuing, from any other person to comply with the social distancing rules.</p>	3	5	15

COVID-19 Risk Assessment - Visiting a Construction Site



					<p>Purchase tickets via apps where possible to reduce the requirement to physically touch any ticket machines. If no app available use contactless payment methods wherever possible.</p> <p>Face coverings must be worn when using public transport.</p> <p>Sitting / Standing while travelling, try and maintain a level of social distance bearing in mind the 2m rule. Follow any guidance given by transport staff. If unable to maintain a comfortable distance, wait for the next available service.</p> <p>Ensure you clean your hands with your hand sanitiser after touching any surface, the touching of surfaces must be avoided as much as possible.</p>			
Parking or travelling by foot (walking)	COVID-19 exposure	4	5	20	<p>Plan your journey and where possible park the vehicle and travel by foot in well- lit populated areas (even when not lone working)</p> <p>A safe distance of 2m must always be maintained from any other person to comply with the social distancing rules.</p> <p>Ensure you clean your hands with your hand sanitiser after touching any surface, the touching of surfaces must be avoided as much as possible.</p> <p>If an act of violence occur, please follow the measures identified in the 'violence at work risk assessment'.</p>	3	5	15

COVID-19 Risk Assessment - Visiting a Construction Site



Lone working	Risk of injury	3	4	12	Colleagues must follow the guidance and measures within their local lone working risk assessment	2	4	8
Lack of knowledge/training	Risk of injury due to lack of competency	3	4	12	<p>Colleague to have the required competency to attend site i.e. experience and knowledge.</p> <p>If a colleague doesn't have the required competency, they must be supervised by a competent member of staff until such competency is developed or accompanied by a competent contractor</p>	2	4	8
Access and egress to and around site	Risk of injury to general hazards encountered on a construction site	3	4	12	<p>Before entering site;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colleague to ensure that they are wearing the required level of Personal Protective Equipment as identified in the description area of this Risk Assessment <p>Upon entering the site;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where possible, separate entrances will be provided for both pedestrians and vehicles. When provided, the colleague must ensure that they always use the designated pedestrian access. Where separate entrances have not been established, colleague to remain vigilant when entering site and be mindful of moving plant. • Once the colleague has accessed the site, they must; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ report to the site office, of which is generally connected to or near to the site entrance ○ sign in and where necessary ○ receive a site induction <p>Moving around the site;</p>	2	4	8

COVID-19 Risk Assessment - Visiting a Construction Site



					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As work progresses, pedestrian routes must be extended to all work areas of which the colleague must ensure that they always use. However, where a pedestrian route has not yet been established, the colleague must always be vigilant Although, in addition to the above, as internal access routes must be kept clear of tripping hazards, with materials being stored in a designated area, as construction sites can be a hazardous environment the colleague must continuously undertake a dynamic risk assessment of their surroundings Where necessary, colleague to be accompanied by site manager 			
Movement of vehicles	Risk of being struck by moving vehicle	3	4	12	<p>In addition to the above measures;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where possible vehicles will be segregated from pedestrians and a one-way system will be implemented In relation to the movement of vehicles on site, if; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> entry onto site is difficult, pedestrians cannot be completely segregated or reversing is required, a competent signaller must be established. However, colleague to remain vigilant at all times and be aware of vehicle movement both external to site and on site. 	2	4	8

COVID-19 Risk Assessment - Visiting a Construction Site



Demolition of existing structure	Risk of fire/explosion/release of dust (asbestos etc)/unstable structure collapsing	3	4	12	<p>Only competent contractors can undertake this activity and prior to the safe demolition of the structure the contractor must have;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A site-specific refurbishment or demolition asbestos survey (as commissioned by Home Group) • lead paints surveys (wherever paintwork or coatings are likely to be damaged or disturbed) • A suitable demolition plan/risk assessment that identify the safe way in which this activity will take place. • Waste management plan <p>If a colleague is attending site for such demolition, they must ensure that they always comply with the demolition plan/risk assessments and maintain a safe distance.</p>	2	4	8
Dust and fumes	Risk of ill-health through inhalation	3	4	12	<p>Dust can be produced when solid materials are broken down into finer particles and fume can be produced when building materials are heated or otherwise worked (i.e. welding).</p> <p>COSHH assessments must be undertaken that identify how substance hazardous to health will be managed, however, for asbestos this will be in the form of a refurbishment and demolition survey, for example,</p> <p>When intrusive works will be undertaken on existing buildings, the contractor must be provided with suitable asbestos refurbishment and demolition survey commissioned by Home Group to the contractor.</p>	2	4	8

COVID-19 Risk Assessment - Visiting a Construction Site



					<p>If the colleague was to discover that the asbestos survey was not available on site, they must bring this to the attention of the supervisor on site with a view to intrusive work ceasing until suitable measures are established. However, at the discretion of the attending colleague, non-invasive work in other areas may continue if this asbestos has not been disturbed.</p> <p>Where necessary, colleague to wear a suitable level of RPE (i.e. FFP3 mask), whenever they encounter dusty environments</p>			
Obstructions, miscellaneous items on the floor, storage of tools, work equipment, materials etc	Risk of injury from trips and falls	3	4	12	<p>Colleague to wear suitable PPE always i.e. safety footwear</p> <p>The importance of good housekeeping and the removal of spillages must have been included as part of the onsite induction. However, colleague to remain vigilant always</p> <p>Adverse weather conditions may increase the risk of slipping (i.e. snow/ice) and the colleague must ensure they always have a secure footing</p>	2	4	8
Material storage and laydown areas	Risk of falling materials	3	4	12	<p>Delivery schedule/ designated area for the safe storage of materials must have been created and communicated to all persons on site</p> <p>All materials must be stacked appropriately with pallets of materials stored in stable stacks of suitable height</p> <p>However, colleague must still be careful at ground level to avoid any falling</p>	2	4	8

COVID-19 Risk Assessment - Visiting a Construction Site



					items/materials and ensure that they are wearing the provided hard hat and footwear			
Fire/flammable atmosphere	Risk of fire/explosion	3	4	12	<p>Suitable fire safety precautions and emergency plan for that stage of the development must be implemented on site with the key measures identified per site induction.</p> <p>As part of the fire risk precautions;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flammable substances such as bottled gas and fuels must be stored appropriately • Suitable fire extinguishers must be in appropriate places on site to form fire points and identified so by means of signage. • If smoking is allowed on site, it must be in a designated area that is free of combustibles (if the colleague smokes they must ensure that they comply with such site rules) <p>As part of the fire emergency plan;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the safe evacuation from site to a suitable assembly point must be identified. • Adequate signage that identifies; escape routes, fire assembly points must be erected. <p>In the event of an incident occurring, the colleague must ensure that they follow the measures as identified in their emergency plan and site induction.</p> <p>If there isn't an emergency plan available on site, in the event of an emergency, colleague to remove themselves away</p>	2	4	8

COVID-19 Risk Assessment - Visiting a Construction Site



					from the incident to a place of total safety i.e. a safe distance external from the site with contractors.			
Work at height	Risk of fall from height or being struck by falling debris/materials	3	4	12	<p>Unless suitable safe access and egress is provided (e.g. system scaffold) and the colleague is competent to do so, colleagues must not be working/inspecting at height.</p> <p>If scaffold is to be accessed, the colleague must first confirm that it has been erected and inspected by a competent person, with inspections taking place every 7 days.</p> <p>If ladders are to be used, the competent colleague must ensure that they are always three points of contact and adhere to the safe use of ladders/stepladders risk assessment in their control book.</p> <p>When working at height is taking place, the contractor must have;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • set up an exclusion zone at the base of the work at height equipment, • displayed suitable signage to identify that working at height is taking place • used brick guards to prevent falling materials from scaffolds <p>However, colleagues must still be careful at ground level to avoid any falling items/materials and ensure that they are wearing the provided hard hat and footwear</p>	2	4	8
Excavations	Risk of;	3	4	12	To prevent falls of persons, materials or	2	4	8

COVID-19 Risk Assessment - Visiting a Construction Site



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Persons, vehicle or materials falling into excavation The side of the excavation collapsing Person falling due to unsuitable means of access/egress into excavation 				<p>vehicles, suitable barriers (and stop blocks for vehicles) must be erected around the outside of the excavations</p> <p>If the sides of the excavation need to be supported, then a system of support must have been established by a competent person.</p> <p>To access and egress the excavation a suitable means must be provided i.e. a secured ladder</p> <p>Excavations must be closely monitored when first opened and when sides are unsupported.</p> <p>Colleagues must not access excavations. However, if it is necessary, this action can only be taken if; they are competent to do so, and the above measures have been implemented</p> <p>In addition, when observing excavation, the colleague to ensure a safe distance is always maintained.</p>			
Flying particles	Risk of eye injury	3	4	12	<p>If particles are projecting due to an identified task i.e. contractor using a grinder, colleague to refrain from entering the immediate area until the contractor is aware of their attendance/ceased the work</p> <p>Where necessary, colleague to wear a suitable level of eye protection</p>	2	4	8
Noise from power tools	Risk of hearing damage	3	4	12	Signage may be displayed identifying the mandatory requirement to wear ear defenders. If such signage is displayed,	2	4	8

COVID-19 Risk Assessment - Visiting a Construction Site



					<p>colleague must ensure that ear defenders are worn before entering site.</p> <p>If signage is not displayed and the colleague is ever in doubt;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> hearing protection must be worn, or the colleague to leave this location, only to return when it is safe to do so i.e., they are wearing the required level of hearing protection <p>Colleague to ensure that there hearing protection is fitted, cleaned and stored as per manufacturer guidance</p>			
Electricity i.e. exposed wiring	Risk of electric shock	3	4	12	<p>During installation, all exposed wires must be correctly terminated to prevent accidental contact when the circuit is made live</p> <p>However, when entering a building under construction, colleagues must be mindful of loose electrical cables, especially when electrical work is being undertaken</p>	2	4	8
Use of hand or power tools	Risk of contact with rotating blade etc	3	4	12	<p>Colleagues must be mindful of contractors using tools and equipment on site and be conscious that when they are using power tools to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> wait at a safe distance for them to cease use, notice that you are in the immediate vicinity, before approaching them or walking past their place of work. All contractor electrical appliances are to be portably appliance tested. If out of date, they must be recommended for removal from site 	2	4	8

COVID-19 Risk Assessment - Visiting a Construction Site



					Electrical cables must not be trailed through any wet areas and extension leads must be fully uncoiled and inspected by the contractor prior to use.			
Hazardous substances	Risk of exposure to substance hazardous to health	3	4	12	Where substances hazardous to health are used on site, contractors will be expected to have suitable COSHH assessments and all remedial measures to be followed to minimise exposure. Suitable PPE and, where necessary RPE, to be worn when working within the premises. Colleague to ensure suitable hygiene measures are always implemented	2	4	8
Sharp edges	Risk of cuts from contact with sharp edges	3	4	12	Colleague to be mindful that as task are in the process of being completed, edges that may be protected or smooth when completed, may not be when inspected Personal protective equipment to be worn i.e. gloves and suitable footwear	2	4	8
Violence at work	Risk of physical/verbal assault	3	4	12	If a violence at work incident occurs, colleagues must follow measures identified in their control book: risk assessment > violence at work risk assessment	2	4	8
Manual handling	Risk of musculoskeletal injury	3	4	12	Although colleagues are not expected to assist contractors in any tasks undertaken, should any manual handling take place, it must be done so in line with control book: risk assessments > manual handling	2	4	8
Bird droppings	Risk of such illnesses as Psittacosis. Symptoms are	3	4	12	Good basic hygiene to be adopted including regular handwashing	2	4	8

COVID-19 Risk Assessment - Visiting a Construction Site



	commonly a flu-like illness and pneumonia usually appearing 5-19 days after exposure				<p>Cover cuts and grazes with waterproof dressings.</p> <p>Take rest breaks and meal breaks away from the main work area</p> <p>Avoiding hand-mouth or hand-eye contact when in contaminated areas</p> <p>In dusty environments RPE to be worn.</p>			
Discarded needles	Risk of blood borne viruses	3	4	12	<p>Never wear open toed shoes or sandals; wear sturdy closed-toed shoes or boots</p> <p>Never put your hands into areas where you cannot see</p> <p>All needles are to be removed safely from site without delay by the Principal contractor. They must not be left unattended or unsecured.</p>	2	4	8
Rat urine	Rat urine or water contaminated with it can cause Leptospirosis / Weil's disease if it enters a cut or gets into the nose, mouth or eyes.	3	4	12	<p>Good basic hygiene to be adopted including regular handwashing</p> <p>Cover cuts and grazes with waterproof dressings.</p> <p>Take rest breaks and meal breaks away from the main work area</p> <p>Avoiding hand-mouth or hand-eye contact when in contaminated areas</p>	2	4	8
Sewage/animal faeces	Contamination of the site with sewage or animal faeces - this can lead to infection with <i>E. coli</i> , a bacterium which can cause stomach problems or	3	4	12	<p>Good basic hygiene to be adopted including regular handwashing</p> <p>Cover cuts and grazes with waterproof dressings.</p>	2	4	8

COVID-19 Risk Assessment - Visiting a Construction Site



	more serious ill health - sewage could also be contaminated with Hepatitis A.				Take rest breaks and meal breaks away from the main work area Avoiding hand-mouth or hand-eye contact when in contaminated areas			
--	---	--	--	--	---	--	--	--

Details of other relevant risk or safety assessments (i.e. what they are and where can they be found)		Additional comments	
Once identified risk control measures are in place, can this task be carried out by one person with a manageable level of risk?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		

All colleagues must sign below when the risk assessment and risk management plan have been read and understood.

Name	Signature	Date read	Name	Signature	Date read

Note: COVID-19 risk assessments must be reviewed at least once a week, the ideal opportunity being after the CEO update. They must also be reviewed if there are any significant changes to work tasks, the environment, following a related incident or any change in Government guidance.

Comments to be considered when developing or reviewing the risk assessment and risk management plan including your assessment of the impact on disadvantaged or excluded groups:

COVID-19 Risk Assessment - Visiting a Construction Site



Risk assessment review date	Review completed by	Description of changes	Team updated

Version history

Version Number	Effective Date	Amendment made by	Version approved by	Description of Changes
3.1	June 2020	Sara Winterburn, H&S Manager	Sara Winterburn, H&S Manager	Updated in line with Govt guidance – use of face coverings on public transport
3.0	May 2020	Sara Winterburn & Mark Richards	John Johnson, Head of Health and Safety	Addition of COVID-19 risks.
2.1	Jan 2018	Sara Winterburn, H&S Business Partner	Andrew Grant, H&S Manager	Branding updated, version control box added
2.0	Nov 2017	Steven Jones, H&S Business Partner	Andrew Grant, H&S Manager	Content updated; document reference added
1.0	Jan 2014	Mark Mcloughlin, H&S Business Partner		Document created