

Risk Assessment

Activity	Pressure Washing
Location	All Locations
Persons at Risk	Vehicle cleaning staff Lothian Direct employees and contract cleaners
Name of Assessor	Stuart Rollo – Health and Safety Manager
Date	17/01/2025

Ref No.	Description of Hazard	Risk Ranking (before controls)			Control Measures	Risk Ranking (after controls)		
		L	S	R		L	S	R
1. Exposure to Hazardous Substances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personnel may suffer skin irritation and possible dermatitis from exposure to detergents 	4	3	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed COSHH Assessments have been carried out, documented and outcome communicated for all activities involving hazardous substances Inventory of hazardous substances used and stored on site retained with Manufacturers Data Handling Sheets Activity restricted to authorised persons in designated areas only with access to either running water or appropriate eyewash station Containers clearly labelled, handled carefully and contact kept to a minimum. Contained systems and dilution via pre-mixing unit where possible Operators receive information, training and instruction in correct work methods and controls, use and maintenance of PPE A high standard of hand hygiene and cleanliness is maintained PPE determined by COSHH assessment: Employees issued with Waterproof slip resistant safety boots, waterproof suit and full face protection e.g. polycarbonate visor 	2	3	6
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personnel may suffer respiratory discomfort and ill-health if exposed to diesel engine exhaust emissions (DEEEs) 	4	4	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pressure washing restricted to well ventilated designated area 	1	4	4
2. Exposure to biological agents e.g. legionella in water systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legionellosis and fatal/serious illness as a result of exposure to bacteria in water systems e.g. pressure cleaners, water storage and pipework 	4	5	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A separate assessment of risks arising from legionella has been carried out and documented by a specialist, LCA accredited contractor The requirements of the assessment i.e. any recommended water treatment, temperature monitoring and testing has been fully addressed/implemented Cold water systems are maintained at below 20° C and hot water delivered at 50° C or above Responsibility for temperature monitoring has been allocated to a competent person and a programme of monitoring implemented Temperature is monitored regularly with biological sampling and testing undertaken when temperature rises above 20° C in cold water systems or falls below 50° C in hot water systems 	1	5	5

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		L	S	R		L	S	R
3. Electrical Hazards associated with use of electrically powered pressure washer and lifting equipment in wet environments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personnel can suffer electric shock (which can be fatal) and burns due to water ingress and electrical faults developing on steam cleaner or lifting equipment used in a wet environment 	4	5	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All electrical equipment e.g. pressure washer, mobile lifting equipment used outside in conjunction with steam cleaning activities shall be rated to IP56 as a minimum Power supply for all outdoor operated equipment shall be monitored by an Earth Leakage Circuit Breaker (ELCB) or Residual Current Device (RCD) RCD or earth protective devices fitted to electrical supplies to machinery checked daily for correct operation Flexible cables plugs and sockets checked daily for damage and faults and visual check by operator carried out before use A defect reporting and recording process is in place whereby defects are reported immediately to the line manager and records retained 	1	5	5
4. High Pressure Fluid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personnel may suffer serious illness and penetration injuries as a result of contaminated water from HP jet through skin into body tissue 	4	4	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operators are instructed, trained and are competent in the safe use of the equipment Washing activities restricted to designated areas away from other personnel and activities PPE determined by COSHH assessment: Employees issued with Waterproof slip resistant safety boots, waterproof suit and head protection with full face protection e.g. polycarbonate visor Employees have received training, information or instruction in relation to the risks and precautions associated with manual handling, the avoidance of risk and lifting/handling techniques 	1	4	4
5. Manual Handling associated with repetitive movement or lifting, pushing, pulling and carrying of items by bodily force and twisting and stretching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soft tissue injury, back pain, and other MSD's can occur when using equipment in a repetitive manner 	4	4	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where hazardous manual handling operations have been identified a separate detailed assessment has been carried out and documented Employees have received training, information or instruction in relation to the risks and precautions associated with manual handling, the avoidance of risk and lifting/handling techniques Employees are not expected to lift beyond their capabilities and have received training in correct lifting/handling techniques Work activities and practices are closely monitored by the responsible manager or supervisor 	2	4	8
6. Falls from Height associated with Chassis Cleaning Pits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fatality or major injury as a result of falling into inspection pit 	4	5	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unauthorised persons are prevented from accessing the pit area Warning signage is displayed in advance of reaching a pit from any direction to warn employees of danger area Pit edges are clearly highlighted using yellow and black bands of slip resistant paint Walkways in the vicinity of pits are clearly designated and well maintained and kept free from slip and trip hazards. The area is subject to an effective cleaning regime Suitable fixed steps and handrails fitted to pit which must be used for access and egress Safety footwear which is oil and slip resistant and has protected steel toe cap is provided and wearing is enforced by management The pit is illuminated at all times to enable the danger area to be seen. Lamp fittings shall be rated to IP56 and defective lamps are replaced immediately 	1	5	5

Ref No.	Description of Hazard	Risk Ranking (before controls)			Control Measures	Risk Ranking (after controls)		
		L	S	R		L	S	R
7. Slips Trips and Falls associated with working in wet /oily environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slipping on wet/oily floors Tripping on raised curbs and traffic calming measures 	4	4	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work areas subject to an effective cleaning regime Pit edges are clearly highlighted using yellow and black bands of slip resistant paint Slopes and steps coated with anti-slip material or slip resistant paint A good standard of housekeeping is maintained to keep work areas and walkways clear Wet/oily floors and other spillages are communicated by use of signage and /or word of mouth Suitable absorbent materials are provided to enable employees to contain, clear and dispose of spillage immediately Adequate lighting is provided and maintained throughout the building, the perimeter and car parking areas Safety footwear which is oil and slip resistant and has protected steel toe cap is provided and wearing is enforced by management Employees are given instruction on how to maintain anti slip properties of safety footwear, i.e. keeping sole of boot/shoe clean of debris. Records of issue are retained Gritting and snow clearing procedures in place in adverse weather conditions (snow, ice, rain, wet leaves) 	2	4	8
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visual impairment as a result of condensation in face shield 	4	4	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operators instructed in maintenance of PPE and regular cleaning of visor in face shield 	1	4	4
8. Vehicle Movements associated with workplace transport and reversing operations in and around workshop and the yard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff could suffer fatality or major injury if struck by moving vehicles 	4	5	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A detailed assessment of the risk from workplace transport carried out, documented and communicated to employees and contractors Workplace Transport Risk Assessment identifies traffic routes, risks and controls Activity restricted to designated area segregated from traffic flow Site speed limits are clearly indicated and never exceed 10mph Adherence to speed limits and site rules observed and enforced by management. Sanctions are applied to offenders and incidents/actions recorded and retained Hi-visibility clothing and waterproofs provided and wearing enforced by management 	1	5	5
9 Extremes of temperature associated with exposure to high temperatures / humidity and increased physical effort	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff may suffer heat stress and fatigue. Similarly staff could experience discomfort, ill effects and possibly hypothermia due to exposure to cold temperatures or inclement weather 	3	4	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exposure to extreme warm temperatures is reduced by controlling work pattern and the work rate Cold drinks or drinking water is readily available in hot weather and hot drinks can be obtained in cold weather In extremes of weather the operator is permitted to take short rest breaks Employees have received training, information or instruction in relation to the risks and precautions associated with thermal stress and dehydration and the need to take regular fluids Warm clothing, waterproof and high visibility outer clothing with full sleeve jackets and trousers is provided and worn in cold or inclement weather 	1	4	4

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		L	S	R		L	S	R
10. Pollution associated with inappropriate discharge of liquid wastes and effluents due to poor management of spillages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential for environmental damage as a result of liquid discharges to surface and foul drains and watercourses 	4	1	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designated, hard standing areas with adequate drainage Consent to Discharge in place and conditions of the Consent monitored and adhered to Associated chemicals stored in secure locations with adequate means of spill containment and protection and access to MSDS 	2	1	2
11. Exposure to biological agents e.g. legionella in water systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legionellosis and fatal/serious illness as a result of exposure to bacteria in water systems e.g. pressure cleaners, water storage and pipework 	4	5	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A separate assessment of risks arising from legionella has been carried out and documented by a specialist, LCA accredited contractor The requirements of the assessment i.e. any recommended water treatment, temperature monitoring and testing has been fully addressed/implemented Cold water systems are maintained at below 20° C and hot water delivered at 50° C or above Responsibility for temperature monitoring has been allocated to a competent person and a programme of monitoring implemented Temperature is monitored regularly with biological sampling and testing undertaken when temperature rises above 20° C in cold water systems or falls below 50° C in hot water systems Stagnant lines/standing water avoided, water is circulated through washer and associated pipework 	1	5	5
12. Third Party Activities on site associated with MOT provision, special and promotional events, shared premises etc.,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential for fatal or serious injury to visitors, contractors and employees, and property damage as a result of increase in vehicle movements on site 	4	5	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only competent, resourced and insured contractors and service providers are appointed via a thorough and formal contractor evaluation process Access to workshops and wash areas restricted to authorised personnel only. Signage clearly indicates unauthorised / authorised areas, direction of traffic/ traffic routes and designated walkways Contractors and other service providers have assessed risks from their activities. A copy of the documented risk assessment has been provided Contractors/service providers are monitored periodically by Lothian local management to ensure agreed methods used and control measures implemented Arrangements are in place to ensure cooperation with other businesses on H&S matters and joint risk assessment undertaken for shared/common areas of the site Site traffic rules and traffic movements are communicated to visitors, contractors and other businesses and these are enforced by local management. Records of issue of information and site induction are retained 	1	5	5

Key: Risk Ranking = Likelihood x Severity

Likelihood:

- 1 = Very unlikely
- 2 = Unlikely
- 3 = Fairly unlikely
- 4 = Likely
- 5 = Certain

Severity:

- 1 = No injury or illness
- 2 = Minor injury or illness
- 3 = Up to 7 days absence
- 4 = Over 7 day absence
- 5 = Fatality

Residual Risk (after controls):

- 17-25** = Unacceptable Risk
- 10-16** = High Risk
- 5-9** = Medium Risk
- 1-4** = Low Risk

Score 17-25 Unacceptable Risk

Stop activity immediately and review controls

Score 10-16 High Risk

Implement existing controls and look to improve on them within specified timescale

Score 5-9 Medium Risk

Implement existing controls and look to improve

Score 1-4 Low Risk

No further action required ensure controls maintained

This Risk Assessment (RA) must be read in conjunction with other relevant RA's or Safe Systems of Work (SSOW) as stated below

RA – 04, 07, 09, 10 SSOW – 6, 31, 36, 37, 38, 44

Are Any Additional Precautions Required?

Managers of the location should add any additional precautions required at their location/garage to reflect any specific hazards not covered within this generic document (If Any)

Sign off and Approval

Conducted by:

Names: Stuart Rollo

Positions: Health & Safety Manager

Date: 17/01/25

Signature: Stuart Rollo

Accepted by:

Name: _____

Position: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Review period: 2 years

Next review date: Jan 2026