



SAMPLE RISK ASSESSMENT AND METHOD STATEMENT

GAS, PLUMBING AND HEATING WORK

A generic RAMS showing how ATKINSONS plans and controls this type of work. A site-specific version is prepared, briefed and signed by every operative before work starts.

REFERENCE	VERSION	ISSUED	NEXT REVIEW
ATK-RAMS-03	1.0	4 October 2026	4 October 2027

How this document is used. This is a sample. Before every job, the supervisor surveys the site and produces a site-specific RAMS based on it, adding the address, programme, named people, emergency arrangements and any extra hazards. Everyone on the job is briefed and signs the sheet at the back. If the work or conditions change, the RAMS is reviewed before work carries on.

1. JOB DETAILS

ACTIVITY	Gas, Plumbing and Heating Work
SCOPE	Boiler installation, replacement, servicing and repair, gas safety checks, central heating, unvented cylinders, bathroom plumbing, leak repairs and emergency call-outs.
CONTRACTOR	ATKINSONS (NE) Limited, Portland House, Belmont Business Park, Durham DH1 1TW
SITE ADDRESS	Completed on the site-specific version
SUPERVISOR	Named on the site-specific version
PEOPLE AT RISK	ATKINSONS Gas Safe engineers and plumbers, occupants, neighbours in adjoining properties.
PREPARED BY	ATKINSONS supervisor, reviewed by the Contracts Manager

2. HOW WE RATE RISK

LIKELIHOOD × SEVERITY	1 MINOR	2	3	4	5 FATAL
5 ALMOST CERTAIN	5	10	15	20	25
4	4	8	12	16	20
3	3	6	9	12	15
2	2	4	6	8	10
1 RARE	1	2	3	4	5

1 to 6 low: proceed with controls. 8 to 12 medium: extra controls and supervision. 15 to 25 high: work does not start until the risk is reduced.

3. RISK ASSESSMENT

HAZARD	WHO AND HARM	RISK	CONTROL MEASURES	RESIDUAL
Gas escape, fire or explosion	Engineers, occupants and neighbours. Fatal injury	15	- Gas work only by engineers on the Gas Safe Register for the appliance type, ID card carried - Gas supply isolated and the pipework purged and tightness tested before and after work - No naked flames or smoking. Gas escape procedure followed if a smell is reported - Appliances commissioned to the manufacturer instructions and recorded	5
Carbon monoxide from flues and appliances	Occupants. Fatal injury	15	- Flue checked for correct route, terminal position and sealing, and a flue gas analysis carried out - Unsafe appliances classed and handled under the Gas Industry Unsafe Situations Procedure - Customer advised to fit an audible carbon monoxide alarm and shown how the controls work	5
Burns and scalds from hot water and pipework	Engineers and occupants. Burns	9	- Systems drained down and allowed to cool - Thermostatic mixing valves fitted where required, for example in care settings	3
Unvented hot water cylinder explosion	Occupants. Fatal injury	10	- Unvented cylinders fitted only by engineers holding unvented hot water qualifications - Safety valves and discharge pipework installed and tested to Approved Document G	5
Hot works: soldering	Engineers and building. Fire	12	- Press-fit fittings used where suitable - Heat mats used, combustibles moved, fire extinguisher at hand, area checked after work	4
Manual handling of boilers and cylinders	Engineers. Back injury	9	- Two-person lifts, sack trucks and stair climbers used - Route checked before moving heavy items	3
Legionella in stored and stagnant water	Occupants and engineers. Legionnaires disease	8	- Dead legs removed, stored hot water kept at 60C, systems flushed after installation - Commercial and care settings follow the site water safety plan	4
Asbestos in old boiler casings, flue pipes and cupboards	Engineers. Long-term lung disease	15	Asbestos information checked before work. Suspect materials not disturbed until tested	5

4. METHOD STATEMENT

- 1 Confirm the work, appliance and Gas Safe categories needed. Review asbestos information.
- 2 Brief the team on the RAMS. Protect floors and the route in.
- 3 Isolate gas, water and electrics. Drain down where needed.
- 4 Remove old equipment safely. Install new pipework and appliances to manufacturer instructions and Building Regulations.
- 5 Tightness test and purge. Commission the appliance, check the flue and record readings.
- 6 Fill, vent and test the system for leaks. Set controls with the customer.
- 7 Issue the Gas Safe certificate and Benchmark checklist, notify Building Control through Gas Safe, and register the warranty.

5. PPE

Safety boots

Gloves

Eye protection when cutting or soldering

Knee pads

FFP3 mask where dust is created

6. EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS

ACCIDENT OR INJURY

- Make the area safe, call 999 if needed
- First aider and first aid kit identified at the briefing
- Nearest A&E recorded on the site-specific RAMS
- Report to the office the same day. RIDDOR reports made by the office

FIRE, GAS OR SERVICE STRIKE

- Stop work, raise the alarm and evacuate to the assembly point
- Gas escape: no switches or flames, open windows, call the National Gas Emergency line 0800 111 999
- Cable strike: stay clear, keep others away, call the network operator
- Do not return until it is declared safe

7. LEGISLATION AND GUIDANCE

- Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998
- Building Regulations 2010, Approved Documents G, J and L
- Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999
- HSE L8 Legionnaires disease: control of legionella bacteria in water systems
- Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012
- Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992

8. BRIEFING AND SIGN-ON

I have been briefed on this RAMS, I understand the hazards and controls, and I will stop work and report if anything changes or looks unsafe.

NAME	TRADE / ROLE	SIGNATURE	DATE

BRIEFED BY	
SIGNATURE AND DATE	

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