

Risk Assessment

Task	RA-007 Use of Hand Held Power Tools (Battery Operated)				Assessor	Luke Dennison		
Assessment date	11/05/2026	Location: Swinnow Community Centre - Swinnow Ln, Leeds LS13 4RF						
Activity Date	21/05/2026	Business: Yorkshire Water - Kier - Tilbury Douglas						
Potential Hazard	Risk ranking without controls in place			Controls	Residual Risk with Controls in place			
	Severity *	Likelihood **	Overall Risk		Severity *	Likelihood **	Overall Risk	
Inadequate planning	5	2	10	Individual project tasks are to be reviewed by Project Lead prior to the attendance of the Business Volunteers. Use of hand held power tools should be balanced against the ability of the users, the size of and location of the job/ task. Yorkshire Water staff members attending the volunteer day MUST NOT under any circumstance use Power Tools. If you are employed directly by Yorkshire water, this risk assessment is not applicable to you as you WILL NOT be using Power Tools.	1	2	2	
Mains operated hand tools	4	2	8	Use of mains operated power tools must be avoided at all costs and mitigated by the use of battery operated tools instead.	4	1	4	
Condition of tools.	2	2	4	Any battery operated tool should be in good condition with no damage to the battery or the carcass of the tool. Pre use inspection to be undertaken and any damaged tool to be removed from use and quarantined for disposal.	2	1	2	
Cuts/ amputation (circular saw)	5	3	15	Battery operated circular saws may be required to be used. Project Leads or Project Support staff should be the only persons using a circular saw. Suitable gloves and eye protection to be worn during use.	4	2	8	

				Extreme care on hand placement and the hand placement of any assistants supporting the item being cut. Consideration of dust masks should also be made depending upon the quantity of timber being cut and of dust produced. Good communication and vision of all persons involved in the task to be ensured with confirmation of all digits/ hands clear of the cut line prior to the cut starting. Ensure correct and suitable and stable work support is maintained during the cutting process. Ensure long hair and loose clothing is clear of the tool prior to use.			
Stabbing/ sprains from power drills.	1	4	4	Suitable gloves to be worn, where necessary to prevent against stabbing injuries from the power drill. Maintain a good stable work position and grip on the tool to prevent accidental sprains from rotating equipment.	1	3	3
Battery Chargers	3	2	6	Battery chargers should be inspected prior to use and determined to be in good condition with no visible damage. All battery chargers should hold a PAT certificate. Prior to plugging in and use of battery chargers, on a client's site clarification should be sought as to the suitability of the sockets and circuit to be used.	2	2	4
User experience	2	3	6	Assessment and questioning of the Business Volunteers should occur during the TBT to best determine their stated knowledge and competency. Identification of "at risk" Volunteers prior to tasks commencing	2	2	4
Individual capabilities	2	3	6	Volunteers to be asked and offered the opportunity during the TBT to assess their own abilities and highlight any injuries or limits to their abilities to undertake any painting activities.	2	2	4
Lack of Volunteer understanding	2	3	6	Safe and correct usage of the tools provided will be undertaken with the Volunteers. On completion of the TBT all attendees are to sign the TBT to	2	2	4

				signify their acceptance and understanding of the pre job assessment. All attendees to be offered the opportunity to ask questions and clarify.			
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KEY:

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Severity

1. Very small injury – on site first aid treatment only
2. Minor injury – Requires visit to A&E but no time off work
3. Moderate injury – 3 or fewer days off work
4. Severe injury – greater than 3 days off work
5. Risk of death or serious permanent injury

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Likelihood

1. Very unlikely (Almost unheard of)
2. Unlikely (It happens in wider world)
3. Reasonable (Its happened to other charities)
4. Likely (Its happened to us since-10 years)
5. Very likely (Its happened to us recently- year)

Overall Risk = Severity x Likelihood