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RISK ASSESSMENT AND METHOD STATEMENT

Bird proofing, Unit 7, Ashton Trading Estate, Stockport: loading bay

Hollins & Reed Pest Proofing Ltd · 12 to 14 October 2026 · In charge: Dan Hollins

Job details

Company	Hollins & Reed Pest Proofing Ltd
Site and work area	Unit 7, Ashton Trading Estate, Stockport: loading bay
Planned dates	12 to 14 October 2026
Customer	Ashton Distribution Ltd
In charge on site	Dan Hollins
Team	Two operatives: Dan Hollins leads and works the MEWP controls; Priya Shah is the ground person. Both hold MEWP operator cards.
Work	Bird proofing
Prepared by	Dan Hollins
Signature	
Date	

Work and boundaries

Install bird exclusion. Areas: Loading bay canopy beams, bays 1 to 4

Working arrangement

- Access: a mewp, cherry picker or scissor lift.
- Working height: canopy beams at about 6 m.
- Ground or floor: level concrete loading yard.
- The work area will be kept clear of other people.

Emergency arrangements

Continuous siren; assemble at the site gate. First aider: Dan Hollins, first aid kit in the van. Ambulances come to the main entrance: Unit 7, Ashton Trading Estate, Stockport. Dan Hollins calls 999 and meets the ambulance. Name who works the ground controls and practise the rescue.

Planned method

1 **Set up the work area**
Confirm the work area and scope before starting. Keep other people outside the active work area. Keep entrances and escape routes clear.

2 **Check the approved proofing system**
Have the system instructions and the agreed area with you before fixing. Check the surface, clips, fixings and spacing match the system.

3 **Check birds before closing the area**
Check the whole area again before fixing or closing it. Do not start displacement during the breeding season or close an area that birds are using.

4 **Check for asbestos before you disturb anything**
Check the asbestos survey covers exactly what you will disturb, to the full depth. Register only, or nothing: get a refurbishment survey or a sample first. Read what it says about old soffits, roof edges, sheets and sealants where the proofing is fixed. No survey, or a material you do not recognise: stop and get it checked.

5 **Find and isolate hidden services**
Find cables and pipes before you disturb anything: drawings, then a detector. Mark what you find. Not sure what is there? Turn the supply off, or do not start. Have cables and gas isolated by the right person and prove them dead before you start.

6 **Check the weather before you start**
Do not lift or fix netting, mesh and loose proofing materials in strong wind. Stop in heavy rain, ice or lightning.

7 **Stop things falling on people below**
Keep people out of the area below the work so nobody walks under the netting, mesh, tools and fixings. Keep toe boards and guards in place on any platform, and lanyard tools where you can.

8 **Use safe access**
Avoid height where possible and otherwise use the planned equipment correctly. Keep people out from below the work.

9 **Use the MEWP**
Check the MEWP and work area before use. Look up for overhead lines and check the wind limit before raising the platform. Set up on suitable ground within the machine limits. Keep the platform within the planned work zone. Lower and secure the machine after use.

10 **Fit the system as specified**
Fix netting, ledge proofing or an entry guard at the spacing and tension the instructions require. Keep the system tight, secure and clear of sharp loose ends.

11 **Close hidden gaps and entry points**
Check corners, returns, joins and service openings as the proofing goes in. Close only the agreed areas and leave no route behind the system.

12 **Inspect the finished proofing**
Walk the full perimeter and check every fixing, join, corner and exit route. Remove loose wire, offcuts and tools before the area is handed back.

13 **Check the proofing after installation**
Arrange a follow-up check to see whether the proofing is working. Carry out remedial work if it has failed or birds are still being affected.

14 **Clear and hand back the area**
Remove tools, waste and unused materials. Check the area is clean and ready to use. Tell the customer or whoever runs the site when the work is complete.

Risk assessment

Hazard	Who might be harmed and how	Controls in place
People entering the work area or tripping over materials Step 1	Workers, occupants and visitors	Mark or barrier the active work area. Store tools and materials away from access routes.
The proofing comes loose or leaves a gap because the wrong product or fixing is used Step 2	The installation team, building users and people below	Stop if the approved product or surface instructions are missing. Do not substitute a system without agreement.
Birds are trapped or disturbed by exclusion work Step 3	Wild birds and the installation team	Stop and seek wildlife advice if a bird, nest or egg is present. Keep the area open until the check is complete.
Breathing asbestos fibres from old boards, sheets, sealants or insulation Step 4	The team and anyone in the building	Do not cut, drill or break any material until it is confirmed asbestos free. Licensed work is not for this method; hand it to a licensed contractor.
Hitting a live cable or gas pipe causes shock, fire or gas escape Step 5	The person doing the work and everyone nearby	Check again wherever the work moves. If you hit something, stop, keep clear and report it.

Hazard	Who might be harmed and how	Controls in place
Wind catches the netting, mesh and loose proofing materials or blows someone off balance at height Step 6	The team and people below	Agree a wind limit for this work and check the forecast before you start. Tie down or take in loose materials before you leave.
Netting, mesh, tools and fixings falling onto people below Step 7	People below	Bring waste down by hand or in bags. Never throw it. Keep the exclusion zone up until the last item is down.
The installer falls while fixing netting or ledge proofing Step 8	The installer and people below	Follow the work-at-height hierarchy. Stop if the planned access does not reach the fixing points safely.
The MEWP overturning; contact with overhead power lines; tools or materials dropped from the platform Step 9	The operator, and anyone beside the machine, where the ground gives way or it is worked outside its limits. The operator, and anyone touching the machine, from shock or burns. Anyone passing or working underneath.	Use a trained operator and follow the machine limits. Stop when the wind reaches the machine's limit. Keep the agreed rescue arrangement available. Check for overhead lines before raising the platform and keep the agreed clearance. Barrier the area below so the public and other workers cannot walk under the platform.
Loose proofing falls, fails to exclude birds or creates a snagging hazard Step 10	Wild birds, the installation team and people below	Use this job's clips and fixings for the surface. Check each fixing before moving to the next section.
Birds get behind the proofing or become trapped in a hidden space Step 11	Wild birds and the building user	Inspect the full perimeter before leaving. Do not seal a gap until you have checked it is clear.
A loose fixing, sharp end or missed gap harms people or lets birds behind the proofing Step 12	Wild birds, workers and building users	Repair defects before leaving. Record the inspection and any part that needs follow-up.

Hazard	Who might be harmed and how	Controls in place
Failed proofing or harm to birds is missed after installation Step 13	Wild birds, the client and maintenance workers	Record who owns the follow-up. Repair failed or damaged proofing.
Debris, tools or unfinished work left in the area Step 14	Workers, occupants and visitors	Remove waste by the agreed route. Record and protect any unfinished work.