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RISK ASSESSMENT AND METHOD STATEMENT

Security fencing, Unit 12, Longford Trading Estate, Stockport: yard boundary

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

Job details

Company	Hollins & Reed Fencing Ltd
Site and work area	Unit 12, Longford Trading Estate, Stockport: yard boundary
Planned dates	12 to 14 October 2026
Customer	Longford Plant Hire Ltd
In charge on site	Dan Hollins
Team	Two operatives: Dan Hollins leads and checks the area each morning; Priya Shah works with him.
Work	Security fencing
Prepared by	Dan Hollins
Signature	
Date	

Work and boundaries

Mesh fence installation. Areas: North and east boundary of the yard

Working arrangement

- Access: the floor or ground.
- 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 12, Longford Trading Estate, Stockport. Dan Hollins calls 999 and meets the ambulance.

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 mesh system**
Check the delivered mesh, posts, rails, fixings and any gate interface against the job information. Keep the manufacturer instructions with the work.

3 **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.

4 **Check the weather before you start**
Stop handling fence panels and pales when the wind is strong enough to catch them. Stop in heavy rain, ice or lightning.

5 **Carry the fence posts, panels and pales safely**
Plan the route, clear it, and get help with anything long or heavy. Store materials close to the work so nobody carries further than they need to.

6 **Keep the boundary secure**
Barrier each open section and every open foundation while the fence is incomplete. Close or secure gaps before leaving the work area.

7 **Mark the mesh fence line**
Use a string line and setting-out pegs to mark the agreed fence line. Mark post positions from the supplied panel width and check the line before digging.

8 **Control sparks, swarf and fume when cutting**
Cut with snips, a pipe cutter or a cold-cut saw where you can, and keep grinder sparks off anything that burns. Ask whether the site needs a hot works permit before you grind, and check the area for smouldering before you leave. Deburr cut edges and clear swarf and dust with a vacuum; wear an FFP3 mask if the cut makes dust or fume.

9 **Use the grinder or disc cutter safely**
Check the disc is the right type and speed for the tool and the material. Keep the guard on and both hands on the tool. Wear impact-rated eye protection.

10 **Limit noise and vibration**
Wear ear defenders when cutting. Note how long each person's hands are on each tool while it runs. Take the tool's vibration figure from the maker or HSE's table and check it fits how you use it. Points per hour times hours on the trigger, added up for the day, gives the exposure: 100 points is the action value, 400 is the limit. HSE's vibration calculator does the sum. Over 100, cut it with lower-vibration kit or less time, and never pass 400. Write the result down. Sharing the work does not replace this. Keep the tools maintained.

11 Prepare the mesh post foundations

Excavate or prepare the agreed post fixing method to the system instructions. Keep holes and open foundations covered or guarded when the team is not working there.

12 Erect and fix the mesh

Set posts plumb and at the specified spacing before fitting rails and panels. Fix each panel with the specified clips, bolts or brackets and check every connection.

13 Inspect the mesh fence

Walk the finished run and check line, plumb, panel joints, fixings and sharp projections. Remove offcuts and leave no loose part or open hole behind.

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 wrong or incomplete system leaves the fence weak or impossible to finish safely Step 2	The fencing team, site users and the fence owner	Stop if the parts do not match the specified system. Do not substitute fixings from another system.
Hitting a live cable or gas pipe causes shock, fire or gas escape Step 3	The person doing the work and everyone nearby	Check again wherever the work moves. If you hit something, stop, keep clear and report it.
Wind catches the fence panels and pales and blows them onto people nearby Step 4	The team and people nearby	Check the forecast before you start and agree when the wind stops the work. Tie down or take in loose materials before you leave.
Back and shoulder injury from carrying heavy or long items Step 5	Everyone handling materials	Use a trolley or sack truck on the flat where the load suits one. Where the work is up a level, hand items up or hoist them. Never carry them up a ladder.

Hazard	Who might be harmed and how	Controls in place
An unauthorised person enters the work area or reaches an open foundation Step 6	The public, visitors and other workers	Use a physical barrier that cannot be moved casually. Check the boundary at the end of each work period.
Posts or panels are put in the wrong place and the fence cannot be aligned Step 7	The fencing team, site users and the fence owner	Use the supplied panel dimensions. Recheck corners, returns and gate positions before excavation.
Sparks, hot swarf and sharp burrs from power cutting metal or plastic Step 8	The person cutting and anyone nearby	Wear eye protection and cut-resistant gloves when cutting and handling cut edges. Keep a fire extinguisher to hand where sparks can land.
A disc bursts or the tool kicks back and cuts the user Step 9	The person cutting	Only someone trained to change discs fits them. Stop and swap any cracked or worn disc.
Hearing damage and hand-arm vibration from power tools Step 10	The person cutting	Use sharp blades and discs, which cut faster with less vibration. Warn people nearby before you start cutting.
A person falls into an open hole or the posts do not have the required support Step 11	Fencers, other workers and the public	Do not change foundation sizes or spacing on site without agreement. Keep spoil and materials back from open holes.
A panel or post comes loose and falls or leaves the boundary insecure Step 12	The fencing team and people near the boundary	Support panels until their fixings are complete. Do not leave a partly fixed panel unattended.
A loose fixing, sharp edge or open foundation remains after the work Step 13	The fencing team, site users and the public	Repair defects before handover. Record any section that still needs work.
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.