


HAZARD / WORK ACTIVITY ASSESSED	Work on Live Sewage Connections
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Hazard (something with the potential to cause harm)	Risk rating prior to control			Who may be harmed					Control Measures	Risk rating after control		
	Severity	Probability	Risk	Operator	Employee	Visitor	Public	Sub-cont		Severity	Probability	Risk
Contact with vermin / pathogens / biological waste – Leptospirosis (Weill's disease), Hepatitis A&B, Polio, Legionella, Tetanus, Diptheria	3	2	6		x				Overalls, gloves, safety boots and masks must be worn when there is a likelihood of contact with sewage. Operatives to have all necessary jabs from their doctor. ID cards to be carried that clearly state that operatives come into contact with sewage and operate high pressure water jetting units.	1	2	2
Presence of toxic gases – inhalation	4	1	4	x	x				Any Area where toxic gases may be present must be checked out with gas detectors and escape kits must be used (see confined space entry).	2	1	2
Presence of flammable gases – explosions	4	2	8	x	x				As above	4	1	4
Lack of oxygen – suffocation	5	1	5	x					As above	1	1	1
Oxygen enrichment – disorientation	2	1	2	x					As above	1	1	1
Excess water – drowning	5	1	5	x					Where possible isolate the sewer prior to works commencing. If this is not possible safety harnesses must be worn and operatives anchored to a fixed point.	2	1	2

SAFETY METHOD STATEMENT

1. Planning to take into consideration the potential hazards, other risks including excavations and natural ventilation.
2. Where ventilation is poor, specific method statements will be required.
3. Sufficient numbers of trained operatives and competent supervision must be available on site at all times.
4. Monitoring equipment and personnel trained in its use will be required.
5. Relevant COSHH assessments will be present before work starts.
6. Contingency plans for possible flooding of excavation will be considered.
7. Adequate welfare provisions will be available on site.
8. Monitoring equipment capable of detecting flammable gases, toxic or explosive atmosphere, lack of oxygen and presence of methane and hydrogen sulphide must be used.
9. PPE may include waterproof gloves, foot protection, overalls, head, eye, hearing, barrier cream and where necessary respiratory protection.
10. Hygiene and first-aid facilities to be available.
11. Openings will be suitably fenced or closed off when not being worked upon.
12. Suitable means of access / egress will be provided at all times when in use.
13. Leptospirosis medical instruction cards will be issued to all workers (yellow card).
14. Pipes will be ventilated by removal of chamber covers and below work area prior to the start of any work, ensuring suitable fences and signs are present.

	Date of first issue:	February 2005	Authorised & published by:	Sharon Kaye
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	Last review date	2017-06-14		
	Revision period (months)	12		

Severity	Probability	Risk Rating		
1 No Injury, property damage	1 Very Unlikely	Severity X Probability = 1 to 5	Low	Y – acceptable risk, work can start
2 Minor Injury	2 Unlikely			
3 +3 Day Absence	3 Likely	Severity X Probability = 6 to 14	Med	Y or N – may need further consideration
4 Major Injury	4 Very Likely			
5 Death	5 Virtually Certain	Severity X Probability = 15 to 25	High	N – Unacceptable risk Do not start work