Health and safety policy

THIS IS THE STATEMENT OF GENERAL POLICY AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR:

OVERALL AND FINAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY IS THAT OF:

SCOTTISH VETERANS RESIDENCES (SVR)

Chief Executive SVR through Property Services Manager

Residence Managers - Bellrock Close, Rosendael, Whitefoord House

DAY-TO-DAY RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENSURING THIS POLICY IS PUT INTO PRACTICE IS DELEGATED TO:

Statement of general policy	Responsibility of	Action	/ Arrangements		
To prevent accidents and cases of work-related ill health and provide adequate control of health and safety risks arising from work activities	Property Services Mgr through Residence Mgrs	notable a	ctivities with inherent ris	e with the risk assessment detailed below. Any sk that are not covered by the risk assessment should ices Manager so that they can, if necessary, be	
To provide adequate training to ensure employees are competent to do their work	Residence Mgrs/Property Services Manager		needs for specific roles I of a formalised training p	have been identified by the Residence Manager and plan.	
To engage and consult with employees on day-to-day health and safety conditions and provide advice and supervision on occupational health	Residence Mgrs	attention		ond to health and safety observations brought to their s, staff and contractors and should seek guidance ger if required.	
To implement emergency procedures - evacuation in case of fire or other significant incident.	Residence Mgrs	Residence Managers must instruct relevant staff on the actions to be taken in the event of an emergency and evacuation procedures.			
To maintain safe and healthy working conditions, provide and maintain plant, equipment and machinery, and ensure safe storage / use of substances	Property Services Mgr	Contracts are in place from Head Office for legionella control, landscape maintenar and lift maintenance. Site specific contracts are in place for gas, electrical, catering and fire system maintenance.			
Health and safety law poster is to be displayed:	Residence Mgrs				
Location of First-aid boxes are to be displayed: Accidents and ill health at work reported under RIDDOR: (Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations) http://www.hse.gov.uk/riddor	Residence Mgrs				
Signed:	Chief Executive	Date:	08 December 2020		
Subject to review, monitoring and revision by:	Property Services Manager	Every:	12	months or sooner if work activity changes	

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	Do you need to do anything else to manage this risk?	Action by whom?	Action by when?	Done
Fire	Employees, contractors, residents and public may suffer serious, possibly fatal, injuries from smoke inhalation, burns, structural collapse.	Each residence has a Record of Fire Safety Risk Assessment. Each Residence also has a fire log book with specific tasks for SVR staff and specialist contractors. Each Residence has a fully hard wired alarm system which connects direct to the fire service. Call points, emergency lighting and (where fitted) automatic door release mechanisms in Residences are tested weekly by SVR staff. The fire alarm system (panel, detection and sounders), emergency lighting and extinguishers are maintained/serviced by specialist contractors. Representatives from the local fire authority visit the Residences whether responding to activations or as part of licensing. Recommendations from Fire Officers are implemented. Staff undertake annual fire training. Site Management and Support Wardens undertake additional fire training. Residents take part in evacuation drills both planned and whenever there is a false alarm. Residents within the HMOs must must be capable of evacuating the building on their own Residents in Bellrock Close may have a PEEP for health reasons as the flats contains 30 flats which are either wheelchair ready or accessible flats. To counter this risk the site has a full sprinkler system, Redcare and formal refuge areas should the resident with a PEEP need to leave their flat to a point of safety. Smoking is permitted in resident's bedrooms/flats. Smoking is not permitted in any other part of the building. Bedsits with hobs are fitted with heat detection and fire blankets. All flats/houses have hard wired smoke/heat	Annual Fire Training of All Staff	Residence Manager/Property Services Manager	Annually	On-going
		All flats/houses have hard wired smoke/heat				

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		detection with battery backup. Storage of combustible materials such as beds, furniture and stationary is kept to a minimum and in locked storage areas.				

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	Do you need to do anything else to manage this risk?	Action by whom?	Action by when?	Done
Arson	and public may suffer serious, possibly fatal injuries from explosion, fire or being overcome by carbon monoxide.	The fire alarm systems and fire fighting apparatus are checked and maintained to a high standard by professional, specialist contractors. Each site has a 24 hour a day staff presence to react quickly to any incident. Residents are assessed at initial assessment prior to being offered occupancy. They are asked "Have you ever committed arson?" Those who answer yes are denied the service.	No No	N/A Residence Managers	N/A Ongoing	N/A

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	Do you need to do anything else to manage this risk?	Action by whom?	Action by when?	Done
Hot Works	Employees, contractors, residents and public may suffer serious, possibly fatal injuries from explosion, fire or being overcome by carbon	Residence Managers/Property Manager will ask maintenance contractors coming to site whether any proposed maintenance works involve hot works (flames).	Yes – Residence Managers to instruct reception staff to ask maintenance contractors before they start their work whether their task involves hot works.	Residence Managers Property Mgr	Ongoing	
	monoxide.	Any contractor planning to carry out any hot works needs to complete the SVR hot works permit and submit this to the Property Services Manager for approval before commencing the work.	Yes – Residence Managers to ensure that reception staff are aware of the hot works permit and that it must be completed and approved by Property Services Manager before such work commences.	Property Services Manager	Ongoing	
			The Planned Maintenance Contractors are required to evaluate their works before commencing and undertake a risk assessment, method statement and complete a hot works permit before they commence but other smaller contractors may not be aware of this requirement.	Property Services		
			It is planned that the question 'Does your task require a hot works permit if so complete the site hot works permit and get authority from the Property Services Manager before commencing' will be added to the booking in system.			

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Gas	Employees, contractors, residents and public may suffer serious, possibly fatal injuries from explosion, fire or being overcome by carbon monoxide.	If you suspect a gas leak evacuate the property immediately and call 0800 111999. Only Gas Safe registered contractors are permitted to service, inspect and repair SVR gas appliances. Gas boilers in the Residences are serviced at 6 monthly intervals and Gas Installation Safety Report produced for each boiler room. Domestic boilers and gas appliances in SVR houses/flats are serviced annually. Landlord's/Homeowners Gas Safety Records produced. All safety items identified in the safety reports/records are corrected. Commercial boiler rooms in the Residences are fitted with gas detection and automatic shut off. Domestic properties with gas appliances have carbon monoxide alarms. Specialist contractors are employed to service the catering equipment in the Residences. Residence kitchens are fitted with emergency buttons to allow staff to switch off the gas supplies in an emergency. Gas cut off detection and carbon monoxide detectors are fitted in the relevant kitchens and boiler rooms in the HMOs and flats as required.	No	N/A	N/A	N/A

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	Do you need to do anything else to manage this risk?	Action by whom?	Action by when?	Done
Electrics	Maintenance staff/residents and visitors may suffer shock and burns injuries from faulty electrical equipment or installation	Only NICEIC enrolled contractors are permitted to service, inspect and repair the electrics in SVR Residences, houses and flats. Fixed installations are inspected on a 3 yearly basis to ensure continued compliance with BS7671 – requirements for electrical installations. Fixed installations in houses and flats are inspected every 5 years. Portable appliance testing is carried out annually on all equipment in the Residence - including the residents' personal electrical items. The Maintenance Officer/staff only undertakes basic items such as replacing light bulbs and only after having ensured that the electricity supply to the light is switched off. Cable trackers must be used before pictures, mirrors etc are attached to walls.		N/A	N/A	N/A

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Legionella	Staff, contractors and residents who use common hot and cold water supply particularly vulnerable people, such as the elderly. Water systems within flats, not connected to hot and cold systems, are responsibility of individual tenants.	A detailed Legionella Risk Assessment has been carried out for each Residence and is reviewed at least annually with our specialist contractor. The Risk Assessment identified all hot and cold water services and supplies on the site with schematics showing the connections. Maintenance staff carry out weekly flushing of infrequently used outlets, monthly temperature checks of hot water cylinders/calorifiers and outlets and quarterly cleaning of all shower heads and hoses (where removable). A specialist contractor is employed to inspect and when necessary clean the hot water cylinders, calorifiers and cold water storage tanks. The contractor chemically treats the cold water storage tanks and showers 6 monthly. Samples are taken from the cold water storage tanks on a 6 monthly basis and from a rolling sample of showers on a quarterly basis to monitor bacteria levels. Any remedial action required as a result of laboratory results in undertaken. All legionella tasks are scheduled and recorded on the online database. The Property Service Manager and Maintenance Officer undertake regular training in Legionella Awareness.	Continue to carry out tasks iaw legionella risk assessment and online database.	Prop Svcs Mgr	Ongoing	Ongoing

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	Do you need to do anything else to manage this risk?	Action by whom?	Action by when?	Done
Working at height	Maintenance Officers or contractors. Serious injury or even fatality if someone fell from height.	Only the Maintenance Officer (where relevant) is permitted to carry out any working at height. Working at height involves the chance of falling from one level to another and so one step up a ladder is working at height. The Maintenance Officer is to inspect site ladders on at least an annual basis and report any defective ladders to the Residence Manager. Working at height is to be kept to a minimum and all options for working from the ground should be considered. All high risk activities such as external window cleaning, high level decoration, gutter clearing, roof repairs etc are carried out by specialist contractors who have the appropriate qualifications, risk assessments, method statements and insurances for such work. Fixing bolts are checked and certified annually for the windows at Whitefoord House.	Yes – Maintenance staff need to undertake Ladder Training and refresh this	Maintenance Officer	Renewed 3 yearly	

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Slips, trips and falls on the level	Employees, contractors, residents and others might suffer sprains, fractures. Kitchen/food service staff and customers may be injured if they trip over objects or slip on spillages	Good lighting in all areas. Removing any trailing cables or obstruction in walkways. Steps and changes in poorly illuminated areas should be highlighted. The condition of floors, stairways and paths are checked regularly by site staff. Any areas reported as requiring repair are dealt with swiftly including faulty equipment. A 'Clear up as you go' policy is adopted and enforced with all equipment and materials to be cleared away as soon as the job has been completed. Staff clean up spillages (including dry spills) immediately and leave the floors as dry as possible. Warning signs for wet floors and other hazards are displayed when appropriate. External areas in need of repair are coned off, if necessary. Doormats are placed at entrance doors to reduce the likelihood of wet floors and are checked regularly. Floors not to be overly polished. Staff are advised to wear sensible work shoes with good grip. Arrangements are in place to grit the site and clear the paths and roads of snow during adverse weather. An automated system is currently in place for our contractors to grit the sites whenever severe frost or snow is expected. The site management also have their own grit supplies and can call upon the services of the landscaping contractors if required.	No	N/A	N/A	N/A

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Hazardous substances	Staff, residents and visitors risk getting skin problems such as dermatitis, and eye damage, from direct contact with bleach and other cleaning chemicals, eg solvents and detergents.	Appropriate PPE provided and staff trained in their use. Relevant staff trained in the risks, use and storage of cleaning chemicals and wear personal protective equipment as instructed. All containers clearly labelled.	No	N/A		N/A
	Prolonged contact with water, particularly in combination with detergents, can cause skin damage. Vapour may cause breathing problems.	Cleaning 'chemicals' marked irritant' substituted, where possible, for milder alternatives. Cleaning machines designed to minimise handling of cleaning chemicals. COSHH Assessments for all hazardous substances. Data sheets displayed where available. Hazardous substances stored kept to a minimum on site and stored in locked cleaners cupboards/stores. Dishwasher used instead of washing up by hand.				

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Hazardous substances Asbestos Containing materials (ACMs)	Employees, contractors, residents and others might be exposed to asbestos which could lead to asbestosis.	Type 2 asbestos reports have been carried out for Rosendael & Whitefoord House. All asbestos identified in the reports was removed. Bellrock Close is a new build with no asbestos. Contractors carrying out construction works are advised that all asbestos identified in the type 2 asbestos reports was removed. Contractors advised to remain vigilant and report any substances that they consider could contain asbestos prior to commencing work. The age of the buildings and the relatively recent refurbishment mean that there is relatively low risk of discovering any further asbestos.	Property Services Manager to continue to advise contractors carrying out construction work of the outcome of the Type 2 report but the need to remain vigilant and seek advice prior to commencing work if there is any suspicion of asbestos being present. Planned Maintenance Contractors have a copy of the latest asbestos risk register reports on file as does the architect and CDM adviser.	Property Services Manager	On-going	On-going

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Infectious Diseases	All staff, residents and others may come into contact with individuals, surfaces or objects and may become infected.	All staff instructed in good hygiene practice to reduce the risk of infection. SVR Managers will remain vigilant to NHS Scotland,	No Remain vigilant to any new guidance issued	N/A Residence	N/A Ongoing	N/A
	Staff and residents could be exposed to health risks from pests.	Public Health Scotland, Care Inspectorate, Scottish Housing Regulator and Scottish Federation of Housing Association and the guidance that they offer in relation to infectious diseases.	Tremain vigilant to any new guidance issued	Mgrs & PSM	Origoning	
		Where required SVR will undertake specific risk assessments and introduce safety measures that are over and above standard good hygiene instructions to staff.	Update the risk assessments and safety measures iaw guidance and updates.	Residence Mgrs/PSM & Specialist Consultant where required.	Ongoing	
		Additional measures may include: further training on the specific disease, PPE, signage, increased hygiene, social distancing and changes to working practices to keep employees, residents/tenants and other visitors to site safe.				
		If Residence Managers become aware of residents/staff with infectious diseases they are to consult with Public Health/NHS and follow the instructions/guidance in place at that time – taking appropriate measures to safeguard all those on site and reporting infections to the relevant agencies. Assisting/informing arrangements for testing where required.	Instruct staff to remain vigilant for any signs/symptoms of the infectious diseases and take appropriate action and reporting where suspected.	Residence Mgrs		
		Specialist pest-control contractor manages rodent traps, fly and insect control at Residences with traps placed at appropriate locations.				
		The bins in the stores have lids and are a good distance from the kitchens thus minimising attraction to rodents.				

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Waste management, sharps etc	Staff and residents could get health risks from pest and infection risk from sharps, used syringes etc.	No known problem with contaminated sharps, but support maintenance and domestic staff advised to remain alert to the possibility of coming across sharps. Individuals are required to empty their own rubbish thus reducing the risk of contact with sharps.	Remind staff of the need to be observant for sharps and the requirement to report such findings to the Management for further action. Staff are to be trained on how to safely dispose of sharps and the action to be taken in the event of a sharp injury. A training package has been provided by the Property Services Manager along with a complete sharps disposal kit with instructions.	Residence Manager/Property Services Manager	Ongoing	
		Specialist contractors should be used where biohazards are suspected in a room.	Residents are to be reminded of the requirement to dispose of their sharps in sharp bins and ensure safe disposal and renewal of bins. Yes – Staff on site are to alert senior staff to any discoveries of sharps or rooms that are considered to present a risk due to their hygienic staff so a decision can be taken as to whether the cleaning/clearance should be	Residence Manager		
		Skips provided on site for disposal of large items of furniture etc. Skips removed from site when full,	passed to a specialist contractor.			
		No hazardous waste to be disposed of through general waste.				

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Manual handling	Staff and residents receiving back, neck and limb injuries from lifting heavy loads, eg refuse items for disposal, deliveries of cleaning materials etc.	All staff likely to do significant lifting as part of their job must undertake manual handling training. The training teaches the staff to carry out on the spot assessments considering the task, the load, the working environment and the individual. The Residence Managers/Property Services Manager should identify any tasks likely to involve significant loads. Wherever possible trolleys should be used for transporting heavy loads. When trolleys are unsuitable the load should be divided to reduce the weight and/or additional personnel be called upon to assist with moving the item. In the kitchens: Ingredients should be bought in package sizes light enough for easy handling. Commonly used items and heavy stock stored on shelves at waist height. Sinks and surfaces are at good height to avoid stooping.	Residence Managers/Property Services Manager to arrange manual handling training for their staff.	Residence Managers/Property Services Manager	Ongoing	

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Lone Working and Violent or Threatening Behaviour	Staff, residents, tenants and visitors may suffer assaults, threats and abuse from residents, visitors and trespassers. Lone workers may also find themselves injured and unable to move e.g if they were to fall down stairs.	All SVR site staff received training in dealing with aggressive behaviour and de-escalation techniques. Duty staff have mobile and landlines from which to summon help if the situation allows or lone worker devices that discretely connect to a 24/7 monitored service that will call the emergency services to attend incidents – as appropriate. Lone workers have Identicom protection devices which are monitored 24 hours a day by Reliance who will contact emergency services if appropriate. There is good, although not comprehensive, CCTV coverage on the sites and appropriate warning located around the Residences to deter offending. Potential residents are interviewed and assessed prior to offering accommodation. All non-residents are required to sign in and out. SVR operates a zero tolerance policy and any resident/tenant who acts in a violent or threatening manner is in breach of their occupancy/tenancy and could face losing their accommodation. All complaints about violent and threatening behaviour are passed to the Management for action. SVR has a good liaison with the local police forces. Support Wardens at all sites contact each other at 2100hrs, midnight, 0300hrs and 0600hrs. They will contact the Residence Managers if these calls go unanswered.	Residence Managers to ensure that site staff have received de-escalation training. Residence Managers to instruct that lone workers are to wear the Identicom units provided.	Residence Managers	Ongoing	N/A

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	Do you need to do anything else to manage this risk?	Action by whom?	Action by when?	Done
Lifts	Residents, staff and public may suffer serious, possibly fatal, injuries from serious lift failure.	Lifts at the Residences have been inspected by a Lift Consultant and are in good condition. Lift maintenance contracts are in place for each Residence. Every 2 months inspections and servicing of the lifts are carried out by the contractor in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract and include for undertaking SAFed LG1 Annual Equivalent certified tests and examinations for each lift installation. Each lift has an alarm that allows an individual in the lift to talk to reception in the event of the lift failing to open. The Kyd lift does not have an audio but is directly beside the manned reception. The contractor is required to respond to a general call out within 120 minutes and an emergency within 60 minutes. The performance of the contractor is monitored by audits carried out by the Lift Consultant. The lifts are also inspected on a 6 monthly basis by our insurance providers.		Duty Staff	Ongoing	N/A

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Landscape Maintenance	Employees, contractors, residents and others might be injured from misuse of petrol powered or electrical equipment.	Landscaping contracts are in place at all Residences. The contracts are drawn up and tendered by landscaping consultants. The performance of the contractors is monitored by monthly site visits from a landscaping clerk of works. All issues of health and safety concerning the contractors or the landscaping itself such as overhanging branches, uneven paths etc are identified and addressed by or through the clerk of works and landscaping consultant. There is no requirement for any member of SVR staff, residents or volunteers to operate any petrol powered or electrical machinery in the grounds. The contractor is responsible for the provision, use and storage of all hazardous substances such as fertilisers and weed killers and is not permitted to store such items on SVR property.	No	N/A	N/A	N/A

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Site Vehicles	Staff could suffer serious or fatal injuries from a failure of the vehicle to be maintained correctly	A separate Driving at Work Policy has been produced which cover this subject in detail.				
	or misuse of the vehicle.	The policy reminds employees to:				
		Check oil, water levels and tyre pressure before embarking on long journeys.				
		Plan route and build in stops to prevent fatigue.				
		Never use mobile phones whilst driving.				
		Drive within speed limits and weather conditions.				
		Be familiar with breakdown procedures.				
		Residence Managers are required on an annual basis to check the driving licenses of any staff using the SVR vehicles	Confirm annual checks of documentation.	Residence Managers	Annually	
		Employees are required to advise Residence Managers:				
		Of any penalty points affecting their license.				
		Of any health factors affecting their ability to drive.				
		All but one of the vehicles operated by SVR are leased and as such are subject to routine servicing and MoTs in accordance with the requirements of the lease and as called forward by the leasing agent.	Note dates for renewal of MoT and Tax.		Annually	
		The site van at Whitefoord House is owned by SVR and is therefore outside of the lease. The vehicle is used by the Maintenance Officer. Responsibility for ensuring the vehicles is MoT'd and Taxed rests with the Residence Manager.	TNOTE dates for reflewar or fivor and Tax.	Residence Manager	Aillually	

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Kitchen Hazards	Residents and staff could become seriously ill if food is contaminated.	All chefs have Intermediate Food Hygiene Certification and Assistants have basic Food Hygiene Certification. Systems are in place for food and equipment temperature monitoring and cleaning as well as storage.	Confirm qualifications. Suitability of staff for catering positions can always be referred to the Catering Consultant where there is any uncertainty.	Residence Managers/Chef Manager	Ongoing	
	Kitchen staff, food service staff	The kitchens are routinely inspected by Environmental Health and any observations or recommendations implemented. The kitchens and staff are audited twice a year by a professional catering consultant and a report with recommendations and actions requiring attention is passed to the Residence Manager for completion with the catering staff.	Arrange Catering Consultant visit as soon as COVID 19 allows.	Residence Mgr Chef Mgr		
	may suffer scalding or burns injuries. Staff involved in food preparation and service could suffer cuts from	Staff trained in risks of hot oils and release of steam plus procedure for emptying/cleaning fryers. Heat resistant gloves/cloths/aprons provided.	.Ensure training remains in date.	Chef Mgr		
	contact with blades. Frequent hand washing can cause	Staff trained to handle and store knives. First aid box provided and nominated first aider always on site when kitchens in operation.		Chef Mgr		
	skin damage. Some foods can cause some staff to develop skin allergies.	Where possible and sensible, staff use tools (cutlery, tongs scoops etc) to handle food rather than hands. Food grade, single-use, non-latex gloves are used for tasks that can cause skin problems, eg salad washing, vegetable peeling and fish filleting. Where handling cannot be avoided hands are rinsed		Chef Mgr		
	Staff risk serious injury from contact with dangerous/ moving	promptly after finishing the task.				
	parts on machinery.	Staff trained in cleaning, assembly and operating procedures. All dangerous parts to machinery suitably guarded with automatic cut off if guards off or incorrectly fitted.		Chef Mgr		
	Staff may suffer serious/fatal injury from explosion.	Staff trained to spot and report any defective machinery. All industrial catering equipment and		Chef Mgr		

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	Kitchen staff may suffer ill health when they overheat in hot working conditions.	safety critical repairs are carried out by specialist contractor. Fans and extractors provided to control air temperature. Staff encouraged to take rest breaks in cooler conditions when required.		Chef Mgr		

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Laundry Machinery	Laundry staff could be injured or killed if electrical equipment is faulty or driers catch fire.	All electrical equipment is tested as part of the annual Portable Appliance Testing and fixed installation inspections. The washers and driers are on a circuit that is protected by Residual Current Devices. Staff are instructed to regularly clean filters and remove fluff from driers.	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Laundry staff could be burnt by steam irons.	Laundries have appropriate fire detection. Residents have access to laundry areas for their personal clothing.				
	Laundry staff could have skin reactions from washing powders and detergents.	Both laundries have domestic irons and therefore do not have any significant risk from steam.				
		Staff are advised to report any health issues such as skin irritations. However, materials that are used are domestic in nature and low risk.				

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Maintenance Officer Tools	Maintenance Officer could be injured if the equipment is faulty or used	All electrical equipment is tested as part of the annual Portable Appliance Testing. The Maintenance Officer has also received PAT training. The Maintenance Officers are experienced tradesman and operate all of the equipment in accordance with manufacturer instructions. The Maintenance Officer works closely with the Property Services Manager. All medium and high risk repair work is passed to specialist contractors who have the appropriate qualifications, risk assessments, method statements and insurances for such work. The Maintenance Officer discusses all work items with notable risk factors with the Property Services Manager to ensure that suitable safeguards or suitably qualified contractors are in place. The Maintenance Officer is instructed in the use of the cable tracer and joist finders before hanging items on walls.	No	N/A	N/A	N/A