

2023/  
2024

# HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY AND PROCEDURES EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

TREEHOGS LTD

Old Farm  
Bowling Bank  
Wrexham  
LL14 9RT

TREEHOGS LTD

Date Issued: 20/11/2023

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## SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

This policy outlines the commitment of Treehogs Ltd to meeting our legal duties and providing, as far as is reasonably practicable, the required standard or above for the Health, Safety and Welfare of the Company and the people affected by our business activities.

It outlines details of:

- Our organisation;
- The Health and Safety structure of our organisation;
- Responsibilities within the company for implementing our management system;
- Responsibilities of Personnel outside the Company;
- Safety arrangements and procedures;
- Arrangements for auditing, monitoring and reviewing the Health and Safety systems.

We have examined the way in which we carry out our business activities in line with the responsibilities placed on the Company by the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 (HASWA), established industry standards, nationally issued guidance and codes of practice.

The policy will be reviewed on an annual basis or more frequently if required, to ensure that it is current and reflective of our arrangements and legal requirements. The Health and Safety Policy Statement will be displayed in a prominent position.

Treehogs Ltd will exceed their standards for Health, Safety and Welfare within the work environment by engaging our employees through delegating responsibilities to managers, supervisors and any other personnel that have been given suitable and sufficient information, instructions, training and supervision.

All employees working for Treehogs Ltd understand their responsibilities for Health and Safety. Compliance and performance will be measured during management appraisals and company audits, this will be documented and kept on file with Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.

We support a 'don't walk by' culture and encourage everyone to be an ambassador of safety for the company. We will continue to monitor and review our business activities to ensure we maintain and improve the Health and Safety of the Company.

Competent Health and Safety advice is provided by Aventure Ltd to support our responsible personnel. Specialist advice and services will also be sought if required, and we will consult with our employees as deemed necessary.

For more in depth or specific information, please contact Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding who is the overall Responsible Person in charge of Health and Safety.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY STATEMENT

Treehogs Ltd are committed to, and accept our moral and legal duties for ensuring, so far as is reasonably practicable, the Health, Safety, Welfare and Wellbeing for all our employees within the work environment.

We take safety seriously and we will set clear action plans to continually improve our performance. Everybody in the company must 'play their part' so if you see something that is unsafe, 'don't walk by', take appropriate action.

In particular we will:

- Provide adequate control of the Health and Safety risks arising from our work activities;
- Consult with our employees on matters affecting their Health and Safety;
- Provide and maintain safe plant and equipment;
- Ensure safe handling, storage and use of substances;
- Provide information, instruction and supervision for employees;
- Ensure all employees are competent to do their tasks, and give them adequate training;
- Ensure sufficient resources are provided to meet the needs of the Health and Safety Policy;
- Prevent accidents and cases of work-related ill health;
- Maintain safe and healthy working conditions;
- Review and revise this policy as necessary at regular intervals.

To assist us in complying with our legal duties, all employees are required to cooperate with Treehogs Ltd, to ensure that they promote a positive safety culture and that their acts or omissions do not cause harm to themselves or others. Any dangerous activity will be subject to review which may result in disciplinary action for breach of the company rules.

Treehogs Ltd has employees that carry out work activities on external premises. We will ensure that all personnel are assessed, given suitable and sufficient information, training as well as ensuring they comply with our client's induction, emergency arrangements and procedures.

Treehogs Ltd also recognise our duty of care to ensure that the Health and Safety of visitors, contractors and the general public is not affected as a result of coming into contact with our premises and activities. These persons will be given the relevant information and instruction prior to visiting the premises/working with us and ensure that their activities are controlled and monitored in such a way as to identify health and safety failings early, so as not to cause harm to our employees or themselves.

All sections within this policy have been approved by Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding and are reviewed annually, one year from signature, or earlier if there is a significant change within the business.

Date: 20/11/2023

Review Date 20/11/2024

Name: Gareth Buckley and Alex Carding

Signed .....G. Buckley.....  
21/11/2023 19:47:00

Position: Director

*Gareth Buckley*

## ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY STATEMENT

Treehogs Ltd recognises the need to control environmental issues through a planned, systematic approach through an Environmental Management System (EMS), by reducing our global environmental burden. We aim to look at our direct effect on the surrounding environment, the disturbance that our work activities have on the people in the surrounding vicinity and the wider effect of our activities on global resources.

Treehogs Ltd aim to suitably control the environmental effects of our work activities by protecting and improving the environment through good management and adopting best practice wherever possible. This includes a commitment to develop a culture of continual environmental improvement and wherever possible, adopting greener alternatives.

We will:

- Assess the environmental impact of business operations and continuously seek to improve environmental efficiencies of our operations, including buildings and work practices;
- Raise staff awareness through the provision of suitable information and training on environmental issues and encouraging participation in environmental matters;
- Comply fully with relevant environmental legislation, codes of practice and regulations;
- Commit the necessary financial resources to fulfil the environmental policy;
- Endeavour to use sustainable materials and products that are reusable or can be recycled in order to minimise waste;
- Reduce energy consumption, and where possible, work with suppliers who themselves have sound environmental policies;
- Where necessary, ensure that all waste (*including hazardous*) is transported and disposed of in an environmentally acceptable manner, in accordance with statutory duty of care requirements.

We will regularly monitor performance and compliance with the Environmental Policy, and carry out an annual review of its content and amend where necessary. Treehogs Ltd will communicate the Environmental Policy to all employees and sub-contractors, to ensure that we work together to reduce our environmental burden. Upon request, it will also be available to customers and the general public.

Date: 20/11/2023

Review Date 20/11/2024

Name: Gareth Buckley and Alex Carding

Signed .....G.Buckley.....  
21/11/2023 19:47:00

Position: Director

*Gareth Buckley*

## ORGANISATION

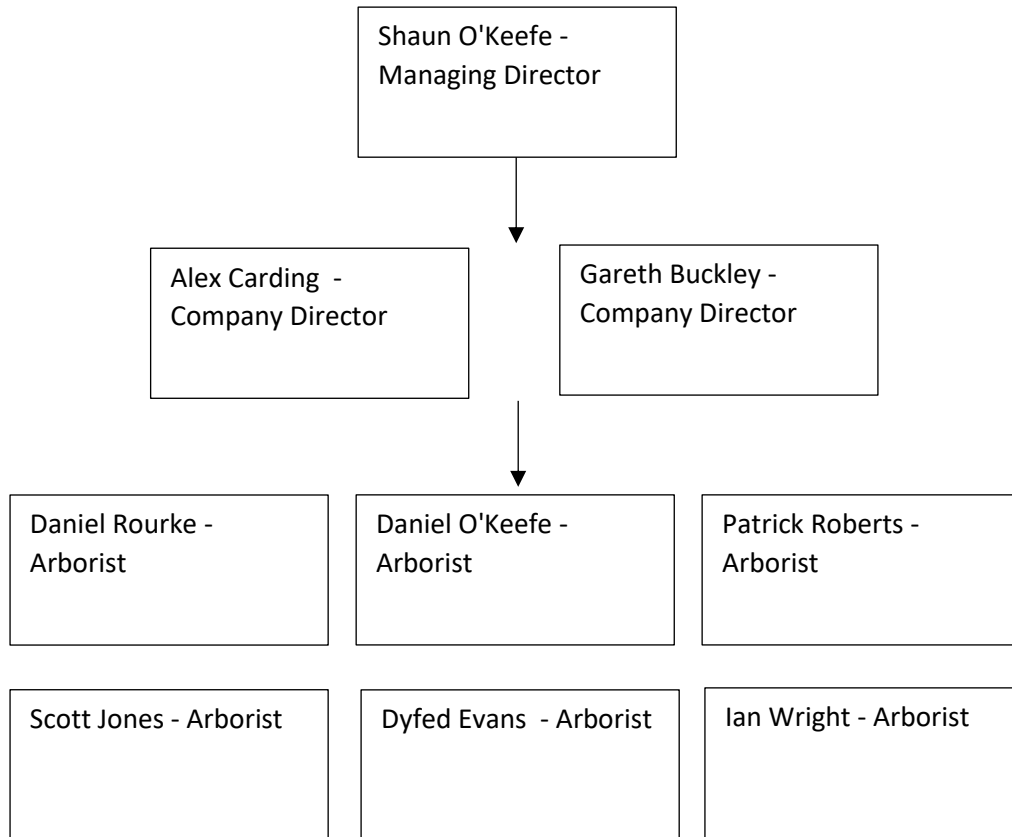
Treehogs Ltd recognises our legal duties to safeguard the Health, Safety and Welfare of all the people our business affects, as well as the environment. Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding has overall responsibility for this task. We have looked at how our workplace operates as well as the factors that may affect our operations. We shall continue to monitor, review and act on our findings in our commitment to continuous improvement of our Health and Safety procedures.

### General Responsibilities

As part of our responsibilities for Treehogs Ltd we will:

- Through Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding and management team, actively encourage and demonstrate by example, a commitment to promoting a positive Health and Safety culture;
- Fully involve all staff in our Health and Safety procedures and consult at all levels to ensure good two-way communication;
- Ensure adequate cover for Employers' Liability Insurance is in place and display the certificate in our workplace;
- Ensure that the Health & Safety Policy and Welfare Management System is kept up to date;
- Review the Health, Safety and Welfare Management System on a regular basis or if there is a need to address any issues, at any time;
- Establish good reporting procedures and maintain a record of significant findings, in addition to the legal requirements to record and monitor our procedures;
- Provide and liaise with an appointed Health and Safety Representative and have access to Health and Safety advice, in order to ensure we work within the current legislation;
- Make sure that the risk management systems are in place and effective. We will consider these in identifying risks, evaluating their potential consequences and determine an effective method of eliminating or controlling personnel, and where the risks cannot be eliminated, action will be taken to minimise the impact;
- Make sure that the whole of the Health and Safety requirements of the company are addressed and that individuals are aware of their own responsibilities;
- Ensure that this policy will be supported by supplementary written procedures, arrangements and guidance;
- Ensure that any work sub-contracted by our company shall, in all cases, be suitably planned and those commissioned for the work are vetted for competence, in order to ascertain that it can be demonstrated the work meets statutory requirements, and the contractors are competent to undertake the work safely. Where necessary, as part of this, Contractors will be required to provide suitable risk assessments and method statements;
- Provide the necessary support and assistance (interpreters, appropriate signage, etc.), should we employ or utilise the services of anyone who is non-English speaking;
- Employees have a legal duty to take reasonable care for the Health and Safety of themselves and other persons who may be affected by their acts or omissions and to fully engage in the environmental policy.

## ORGANISATIONAL CHART



## SECTION 2: RESPONSIBILITIES

### Responsibilities of Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding and/or Alex Carding

Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding has overall responsibility under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 for Health and Safety matters within the Company and in particular will:

- Take an active role around health and safety matters by promoting a positive work culture and acting promptly where deficiencies are identified;
- Ensure that resources are widely available for the successful implementation of the Health and Safety Policy;
- Delegate responsibilities to appointed, competent persons who will manage the Health, Safety and Welfare arrangements within the company;
- Ensure agendas for meetings incorporate Health and Safety matters, to ensure that the policy requirements detailed above, are fulfilled;
- Regularly review the Health and Safety standards and practices within the company and ensure that at least annually or more frequently, this Health and Safety policy is reviewed and reflects any relevant changes (business activities or legislation and guidance);
- Take an active role within the investigation procedure for serious accidents, incidents and cases of ill health. We will ensure that serious incidents are reported in accordance with RIDDOR, and will seek assistance from Avensure where necessary;
- Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding has the ultimate responsibility for ensuring that all contractors carrying out maintenance and/or construction work on the premises, are passed through the selection process, whereby we will require evidence of their competence and other supporting documentation (risk assessments, method statements, Health and Safety policy, accident reporting procedure, etc.).

The person identified as the overall responsible person for overseeing the day-to-day activities and maintaining high standards of Health and Safety within Treehogs Ltd is Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.

They will:

- Following meetings, they will consult with employees and any other relevant persons on Health and Safety matters through team meetings, memos, toolbox talks or on the noticeboards;
- Consider arrangements if/when purchasing materials and equipment outside the EU to ensure that the relevant Product Safety Legislation and Labelling requirements are complied with through manufacturer instructions, maintenance schedule and Safety Data Sheets;
- Ensure that the premises are maintained in a safe and sound condition by carrying out, or outsourcing testing, inspection and maintenance as applicable. This may include:
  - Fixed electrical installations;
  - Portable Appliance testing;
  - Fire alarm tests;



- *Facilitate Fire evacuation drill;*
- *Fire extinguishing media checks;*
- *Emergency lighting checks;*
- *Carry out a first aid needs assessment;*
- *Housekeeping;*
- *Combustible waste;*
- *Access and Egress to premises.*
- Make suitable arrangements for supervision and monitoring of employees (and sub-contractors) so far as is reasonable, taking into consideration the level of risk from the work activities and the competence within the workforce;
- Ensure so far as is reasonably practicable, work equipment and PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) is supplied to employees, and any other persons who enter our workplace and may be affected by our activities. These will be assessed for suitability and where necessary, maintained;
- Ensure that our external Health and Safety advisory service, Avensure, and any other specialist advisors as required, are informed of:
  - Any dangerous occurrence, incident or work-related illness which caused or had the potential to cause serious injury or ill health;
  - Any proposed changes to the business (premises location, activities or management structure);
  - Any potential new hazards brought to attention that may need to be assessed within the current risk assessments;
  - Any notification of Health and Safety failings from enforcing authorities through correspondence or visits;
- Where further assistance is required Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding will contact Avensure or a specialist advisor, to ensure that the relevant risk assessments for Treehogs Ltd are suitable and sufficient and communicated appropriately to all employees (and sub-contractors).

## Responsibilities of Managers and Supervisors

All Managers and Supervisors are required to:

- Read and understand the Treehogs Ltd Health and Safety Policy and comply with the arrangements identified in this document;
- Understand the importance of a positive Health and Safety culture by leading by example and enforcing health and safety rules;
- Co-operate with Treehogs Ltd to fulfil our various statutory requirements;
- Ensure compliance of the company's requirements under health, safety and environmental legislation.
- Monitoring on a daily basis that high standards of housekeeping are maintained, with gangways and exits remaining clear and unobstructed, and kitchens/toilets are in a clean condition;
- Ensure that the no smoking policy is strictly applied;
- Ensure that risk assessments are acted upon and that the results are shared with employees undertaking those activities;
- Report to Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding any health and safety concerns, which they are not able to resolve.

## Responsibilities of all Employees

All employees have legal duties under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974. These duties are:

- To take reasonable care for the health and safety of themselves and other persons who may be affected by their acts or omissions at work;
- To co-operate with the management to enable the employer to carry out legal duties or any requirements as may be imposed;
- Not to intentionally or recklessly interfere with, or misuse any item provided in the interest of Health, Safety and Welfare.

In order to fulfil these duties, employees at Treehogs Ltd will:

- Upon receiving of any health and safety information, familiarise themselves with the procedures relating to their work activities;
- Abide by the requirements set out in the Policy and Risk Assessments and raise any issues with their Manager;
- When carrying out work on our client's premises, employees will follow the site safety rules and be familiar with the emergency procedures;
- When working with Company vehicles, machinery/equipment, materials or substances, ensure that they are used in accordance with the manufacturers guidance and follow the information, instruction and training provided by Treehogs Ltd. This includes:
  - Following the Safe System of Work and not misusing equipment/machinery
  - Not to knowingly use defective equipment and report immediately to the superior if any defects are found
  - Wearing suitable PPE that has been provided, and ensure maintenance is carried out including reporting loss or damage.
- Report any colleagues who are not complying with the safety arrangements to their manager. This includes safety concerns, accidents or near misses;
- Not to work under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

**All employees of Treehogs Ltd are aware that any activity carried out which places colleagues or others in danger, or those who breach their legal requirements under health and safety legislation is a criminal offence and following further investigation, action may be taken against the individual by the Company or an Enforcing Authority.**

## SECTION 3: ARRANGEMENTS

### Risk Assessment / Risk Management

Treehogs Ltd recognises that we have a responsibility to provide a safe and healthy working environment and acknowledge that this includes ensuring that all significant risks arising from work activities are adequately managed.

Treehogs Ltd will endeavour to comply with the relevant legal requirements, as contained within the relevant legislation, other applicable legislation and guidance notes issued by the Health and Safety Executive.

In particular, the following rules and procedures will be applied in relation to these areas or work activities:

Treehogs Ltd will institute a programme of hazard identification and risk assessment of all its activities in order to eliminate, reduce or control, so far as is reasonably practicable, any harm or danger to employees or other affected persons.

- All risk assessments will be fully documented and recorded;
- All risk assessments will be reviewed annually (or sooner if an accident should occur or there is a change in the work process);
- All Risk Assessments will be monitored on a regular basis at a frequency determined by, and stated within, the assessment;
- All relevant employees or other persons will be informed of the significant findings of risk assessments that relate to their work activities or otherwise affect them.

#### **DEFINITIONS**

**Hazard** - something that has the potential to cause harm.

**Risk** - is the likelihood of the harm being realised. The risk, therefore, reflects both the likelihood that harm will occur and its severity. It will generally be recorded as insignificant, low, medium or high.

#### **CONTROL MEASURES**

Where work activities, items or areas with significant risks are identified, the risk assessment will contain details of the measures that must be applied or actions that must be taken in order to eliminate, reduce or control the risks in question and therefore allow the activity etc. to be carried out safely.

These required measures or actions are referred to as 'control measures'.

The following principles will be applied to adopting control measures:

- Avoiding the risks altogether;
- Evaluating the risks which cannot be avoided;
- Combating risks at source;
- Adapting the work to the individual;
- Adapting to technical progress;

- Replacing the dangerous with the non-dangerous or less dangerous;
- Developing a coherent overall prevention policy;
- Giving collective protective measures priority over individual protective measures;
- Giving appropriate instructions to employees.

### **REVIEW AND REVISION**

The risk assessments must be kept up-to-date and be reviewed and modified, where necessary. If changes take place which mean that the current risk assessment is no longer valid or that it can be improved, the assessment must be reviewed. In all cases, risk assessments will be reviewed on a regular annual basis.

All significant findings of risk assessments and subsequent monitoring must be recorded. The records must include:

- The significant hazards identified in the assessment - those which might pose serious risk to workers or others who might be affected by the work activity if they were not properly controlled;
- The levels of risk associated with the hazards;
- The existing or required control measures;
- The people who may be affected by the risks or hazards, including any groups of employees who are at special risk;
- Decisions taken as a result of the assessment.

The person responsible for Risk Assessment and Management is Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.

## Safe Systems of Work and Working Procedures

Treehogs Ltd recognises that we have a responsibility to provide a safe and healthy working environment and acknowledge that this includes ensuring that safe systems of work and/or safe working procedures are developed, understood and followed.

In particular, the considerations that will be applied in relation to the preparation and development of safe systems of work and safe working procedures will include:

- The work or tasks being carried out;
- The associated potential hazards;
- Any existing instructions or procedures;
- Who is doing the work;
- The skills and abilities of the people;
- The level of control and supervision required;
- The tools or equipment that are required;
- The personal protective equipment required;
- The associated training requirements;
- Any isolation or locking-off requirements;
- Any permit to work requirements;
- Other activities being carried out;
- Communication requirements;
- Emergency planning;
- Handover procedures upon completion;
- Monitoring requirements;
- Review and updating requirements.

The following rules and procedures will be followed in relation to this area:

- All safe systems of work and safe working procedures will be developed by the relevant manager / supervisor in conjunction with **Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding**;
- All safe systems of work and safe working procedures will be brought to the attention of all employees and other persons that they affect;
- Regular monitoring of compliance with, and the effectiveness of, all safe systems of work and safe working procedures will be carried out;
- All safe systems of work and safe working procedures will be reviewed and amended, where necessary, on an annual basis or when significant changes in the activities or other matters to which they relate occur;
- All safe systems of work and safe working procedures will be reviewed and amended, where necessary, following an accident or incident arising from the related activities, or when the results of monitoring reveals problems of compliance or effectiveness.

The person responsible for our Safe Systems of Work arrangements is **Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding**.

## Information, Instruction and Training

The need for effective communication between all parties in the workplace is recognised by Treehogs Ltd.

To enable them to carry out their work activities, Treehogs Ltd will ensure that its employees are provided with adequate information and suitable instructions.

Information and instruction will be provided in a form which takes account of any language difficulties or disabilities.

Information relevant to the safety of all will be communicated where the workplace is shared.

- Treehogs Ltd will not require any employee to perform any work activity or task unless they have received suitable and adequate information, instruction and training, or is working under the supervision of a trained and competent employee;
- Treehogs Ltd acknowledges the importance of providing information, instruction and training to all new staff as soon as is practicable after commencement of employment;
- Treehogs Ltd recognises that instruction and training may also be necessary for existing employees to act as a reminder and to accommodate any changes in their work practices or environment;
- Treehogs Ltd accepts the responsibility of ensuring that all temporary employees are also given basic health and safety information, instruction and training appropriate to their work activities and environment;
- The training needs for all employees (or groups of employees) and their related work activities will be evaluated, and the results of the evaluation will form the basis of a training matrix;
- Training need`s assessments will be reviewed periodically, and the training matrix updated as required;
- Records will be kept of all training provided to employees and any relevant outcomes.

At all workplaces where employees are located, all relevant safety information will be provided. This will include:

- HSE law poster
- Fire safety instructions
- Names of Fire Wardens and First Aiders
- Employer`s Liability Insurance Certificate
- Health and Safety Policy
- Environmental Policy
- Other safety instructions relevant to that workplace

The person responsible for overseeing Information, Instruction and Training is [Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding](#).

## Consultation

Treehogs Ltd recognises that communication is a two-way process.

Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding or an appropriate supervisor will call regular meetings in which all onsite employees will be briefed as to what is required of them on a day-to-day basis and also, should an emergency arise, what steps should be taken.

At such meetings, in addition to the technical aspect of the work activities, safety will be discussed, and controls developed and handled on an equal level of priority with other elements of the business meeting.

Details of these meetings and discussions will be documented.

The consultation will involve not only giving information to employees but also listening to and taking account of what employees say before any Health and Safety decisions are made.

In order to communicate effectively, we will ensure that employees understand the meaning and purpose of the policy, vision, values and beliefs, which underline it.

Designated Managerial/Supervisory staff (as applicable) will establish lines of communication with other organisations/persons that may be affected by Treehogs Ltd's activities. This may be through the use of signage, verbally, in writing or a combination of these methods.

Likewise, Managerial/Supervisory staff (as applicable) shall expect that other organisations/persons will communicate health & safety or organisational issues that may affect Treehogs Ltd's staff welfare & Health and Safety.

The person responsible for overseeing our consultation arrangements is Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.



## Accident Reporting and Investigation

Treehogs Ltd recognises that it has a responsibility to provide a safe and healthy working environment and acknowledge that this includes ensuring that all accidents and incidents are reported and investigated.

In particular, the following rules and procedures will be applied in relation to this area by Treehogs Ltd and its employees:

All employees are required to report all accidents to **Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding** as soon as possible.

For these purposes, an accident is defined as any unplanned event which may give rise to injury, ill health, property or plant damage or any other potential loss, including near misses. All accidents involving injury must be recorded in the accident book or equivalent form of recording. This record can be made by the relevant first aider, injured person or another suitable person e.g. manager, colleague or another appointed person.

- All accidents must be recorded by the appropriate manager on the Accident Report Form. The completed accident report form must be forwarded to **Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding** for further analysis or investigation;
- All accidents must be investigated by the appropriate manager and recorded on the Accident Investigation Form;
- If the accident or incident is reportable under RIDDOR the required notification procedures as detailed below must be followed by the nominated person(s);
- Where an accident investigation reveals matters that are required to be implemented in order to prevent a recurrence, the required action must be taken immediately by the appropriate manager;
- Where an investigation reveals that immediate action is required to prevent a recurrence but circumstances dictate that it is not possible or feasible, any required interim measures to ensure the safety of the persons affected must be taken (e.g. disconnection of equipment).

The person responsible for overseeing our Accident Reporting and Investigation arrangements is **Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding**.

## Fire Safety and Other Emergencies

Treehogs Ltd will endeavour to control the associated risks and to comply with the legal requirements relating to fire safety and other emergencies, as contained within the relevant Legislation.

The following rules and procedures will be applied in relation to this area and associated work activities:

- The company will take such general fire precautions that will ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the safety of all employees and other persons that may be affected by its activities;
- Risk assessments will be completed for all premises occupied by the Company for the purpose of identifying the general fire precautions required to be implemented;
- The significant findings of the assessments and details of any groups of persons identified as being especially at risk will be recorded and brought to the attention of relevant employees and other affected persons;
- All relevant risk assessments will be subject to periodic monitoring at a frequency prescribed by the assessment;
- All relevant risk assessments will be subject to periodic review at a frequency prescribed by the assessment or when they are no longer valid or significant changes have occurred;
- Where dangerous substances may be present in or on premises, the risk assessment will take account of any relevant special hazards with a view to eliminating or reducing the risks so far as is reasonably practicable;
- All premises will be equipped with appropriate fire-fighting equipment and with fire detectors and alarms where considered to be necessary, as determined by the risk assessment;
- All non-automatic fire-fighting equipment will be easily accessible, simple to use, and their location will be indicated by signs.
- Suitable and sufficient emergency routes and exits in order for employees and any other persons to evacuate as quickly as possible;
- All emergency routes and exits will lead to a place of safety and will be indicated by signs;
- All emergency exits and the routes to emergency exits from premises must be kept clear at all times. All emergency exit doors will open in the direction of escape and allow easy and immediate opening. All emergency exit doors must remain unlocked and unfastened at all required times;
- All emergency exits and routes requiring illumination will be provided with suitable emergency lighting;
- All fire alarms will be maintained in efficient working order, good repair, serviced at required intervals and tested at regular intervals, as determined by the risk assessment. A suitable record of such tests will be kept and maintained;
- Fire drills / emergency evacuations will take place at required intervals. A suitable record of such drills shall be kept and maintained;
- All employees will be provided with suitable and sufficient instruction and training on the appropriate precautions and actions required to be taken by them in case of fire or other emergencies. This training will be provided at induction and repeated periodically and/or when required;

- All visitors to Company premises, including contractors, will be provided with suitable information and will be required to record their details in a register, including times of arrival and leaving.

Treehogs Ltd will appoint one or more suitable `Competent Persons` for every premise, who will be responsible for ensuring that all preventative and protective measures for fire and other emergencies are in place. All such appointees will be provided with adequate information, training and other resources in order to carry out their role and duties effectively.

Treehogs Ltd will appoint a sufficient number of fire marshals at every premise in order to implement and manage the emergency evacuation procedures. Duties of fire marshals will be as detailed below.

The company will prepare and publish a Fire / Emergency Plan for all company premises as detailed below.

### **Fire / Emergency Plan**

Any person discovering a fire shall raise the alarm and then notify the fire marshal or appropriate Manager/Supervisor. The Fire Marshal or Manager/Supervisor shall ensure that the relevant emergency services are phoned giving the following information:

- Name of person making call
- Site address;
- Telephone number;
- Nature of incident (if known);
- The Fire Marshal shall remove the visitors book/staff register and vacate the premises by the nearest available exit.

All personnel should vacate the premises calmly and quickly by the nearest available emergency exit and assemble at their nominated point.

Once at the assembly point employees must report to the fire marshal who will conduct a roll call to establish complete evacuation or any missing persons.

The person responsible for overseeing our Emergency arrangements is **Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.**

## First Aid

Treehogs Ltd recognises that it has a responsibility to provide a safe and healthy working environment and acknowledges that this includes ensuring the provision of adequate numbers of trained First Aiders and adequate First Aid equipment and facilities.

In particular, the following rules and procedures will be applied in relation to this area:

- The Company will ensure that adequate and appropriate equipment, facilities and personnel are provided at all workplaces to enable First Aid to be given to employees and other persons if they are injured or become ill at work;
- The level of provision of First Aid facilities at each workplace will be determined by an assessment of the particular circumstances and risks involved;
- When carrying out an assessment to determine the level of provision of First Aid facilities the factors that will be considered will include:
  - Any significant risks present as identified within a risk assessment;
  - Any specific risks present e.g. hazardous substances, dangerous machinery;
  - Areas where different levels of risk have been identified;
  - Records of accidents or ill health;
  - Numbers of employees;
  - Employees with special needs or disabilities;
  - Special site location issues;
  - Shift work or out-of-hours working;
  - Employees who travel or work alone;
  - Employees on sites occupied by other employers;
  - Work experience trainees;
  - Access by members of the public.
- Suitable and sufficient First Aid boxes will be provided in all workplaces and work situations;
- All First Aid boxes will be stocked in accordance with the outcomes of the first aid assessment; Where no significant risks or other factors are revealed by the assessment, boxes will contain a minimum stock of the items recommended by HSE guidance;
- First Aid boxes will be located in conveniently accessible positions in workplaces and these locations will be clearly marked;
- The Company will ensure the appointment of suitable and adequate Appointed Person(s) and First Aider(s) for every workplace;
- The numbers of Appointed Persons and First Aiders in each workplace will be determined by the First Aid risk assessment and in accordance with HSE guidance;
- A list of current First Aider(s) and Appointed Person(s) will be displayed on all company notice boards or otherwise brought to the attention of employees;
- All Appointed Persons and First Aiders will receive suitable and sufficient training in accordance with HSE guidance and will receive appropriate refresher training as and when required;
- The duties of Appointed Persons and First Aiders will be as indicated below.

**Duties of First Aiders**

- To ensure the First Aid facilities are available and boxes are stocked according to the issued instructions;
- To maintain records in all of the cases that they treat;
- To inform Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding of any matter relating to the provision of First Aid that they deem necessary;
- To carry out the duties of an Appointed Person as appropriate;
- To maintain a current First Aid certificate;

**Duties of Appointed Persons**

- To take charge of situations where someone is injured or falls ill;
- To ensure a First Aider is summoned (if available);
- To call an ambulance and/or other emergency service;
- To give any emergency First Aid treatment to the level for which they have been trained;
- Maintain the First Aid box and replenish as necessary.

The person responsible for overseeing our First Aid arrangements is Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.

## Manual Handling

The main injuries associated with manual handling include:

- Musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) e.g. back strain, slipped discs;
- Hernias;
- Lacerations, crushing of hands or fingers;
- Repetitive strain injuries e.g. tenosynovitis;
- Bruised or broken toes or feet;
- Various sprains and strains.

The following rules and procedures will be applied in relation to this area and associated work activities:

- Treehogs Ltd will, wherever possible or feasible, avoid the need for potentially hazardous manual handling by providing mechanical means or other working systems;
- Where it is not possible or feasible to avoid potentially hazardous manual handling, suitable and sufficient risk assessments of the tasks involved will be carried out, with a view to reducing the risk of injury by the implementation of control measures;
- All manual handling assessments will be designed to look at all of the following areas:
  - The tasks involved;
  - The individual capacities required
  - The loads involved;
  - The working environment involved;
  - Other factors (PPE).
- Suitable records will be kept of all manual handling assessments, which will be brought to the attention of all relevant employees.
- Suitable and sufficient instruction, training and supervision will be provided in the correct handling and lifting techniques to all employees involved in manual handling tasks.
- Suitable and sufficient required personal protective equipment will be provided to all employees involved in manual handling.
- Employees will not be required to lift or move any loads that are beyond their individual capabilities.
- Employees will be encouraged to seek assistance when lifting or moving loads from other employees when required.
- The selection of persons to carry out manual handling or lifting tasks will be based on the training given, age, physique etc.

The person responsible for overseeing our manual handling arrangements is Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.

## Workplace Transport

The main hazards/issues associated with transport and vehicles include:

- Collisions with pedestrians;
- Collisions between vehicles;
- Reversing of vehicles;
- People falling from vehicles;
- Overloading of vehicles;
- Overturning vehicles.

The following rules and procedures will be applied in relation to this area and associated work activities:

- All activities involving workplace transport and vehicle movement will be subject to risk assessment and subsequent action, as detailed within the Risk Management section of the policy;
- Workplace vehicle transport systems will be developed with the following aims and objectives:
  - Ensuring that vehicles and pedestrians are kept safely apart;
  - Providing suitable pedestrian crossing points on vehicle routes;
  - Providing suitable vehicle parking;
  - Avoiding sharp or blind bends;
  - Ensuring that vehicle routes are sufficiently wide for all vehicles using them;
  - Ensuring firm and even floor surfaces on all routes;
  - Ensuring that floor and other signage is provided and maintained;
  - Considering the adoption and enforcement of speed limits;
  - Considering the need for barriers in high risk areas;
  - Considering the need for speed humps;
  - Considering the need for fixed mirrors at blind bends;
  - Ensuring that loading / unloading operations can be carried out safely;
  - Ensuring that reversing manoeuvres are kept to a minimum;
  - Considering the feasibility of one-way systems;
  - Ensuring good levels of lighting in all areas;
  - Provision of banksmen or other means of controlling any necessary reversing operations;
  - Carrying out regular safety checks of traffic routes using an appropriate checklist.
- All company vehicles will be safe and suitable for their purpose including:
  - Proper maintenance according to a pre-planned maintenance programme;
  - Provision of safety features (e.g. seat belts, horns, lights, reflectors, reversing lights and reversing alarms);
  - Provision of guards on dangerous parts of vehicles;
  - Suitable driver protection from adverse weather and environmental conditions (eg noise, vibration, fumes);
  - Protection from overturning or falling objects;
  - Daily driver safety checks using an appropriate checklist.
- Every authorised driver must check his / her vehicle at the beginning and end of each shift to ensure that it is safe to use and shall report all defects as soon as possible to their manager;

- Only personnel authorised and qualified to the appropriate standards will be permitted to operate any vehicle owned or leased by Treehogs Ltd;
- Drivers will be subject to comprehensive selection and training procedures relevant to their vehicle including:
  - Checks on previous experience and training;
  - Tests of competence;
  - Provision of required induction training;
  - Provision of regular refresher training.
- Records will be kept of all driver training with copies of relevant licences, certificates or authorisations;
- All drivers shall report any accident / incident irrespective of any injury / damage to their manager / supervisor as soon as practicable;
- All lift truck drivers and other employees or other persons present around high-risk traffic routes must wear high visibility vests or jackets;
- All drivers must ensure that all loads are safely secured before moving a vehicle;
- Any driver operating on public roads must comply with the Road Traffic Act and regulations;
- All delivery drivers must remain in the rest room, other safe area or cab during loading/unloading operations.

#### **Fork Lift Truck (FLT) Drivers**

Treehogs Ltd will adopt the following rules and procedures in respect of the training and competence of lift truck drivers:

- All employees whose duties contain an element of lift truck driving will receive sufficient driver training to enable them to achieve agreed safety, quality and efficiency standards;
- All potential employees whose authorised duties contain lift truck driving must possess a Fork Lift Truck licence and receive an assessment of their truck driving ability before being offered employment within Treehogs Ltd;
- All employees who fail to reach the required standard at the annual assessment of competence in truck driving will receive sufficient re-training to enable them to achieve the required standard;
- All staff who have a supervisory responsibility for lift truck operation will be trained to a RTITB/ITSSAR Certification which enables them to identify malpractice in lift truck operation;
- Where an accident or incident has occurred in relation to an FLT, a refresher training will be considered.

The person responsible for overseeing Workplace Transport is **Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding**.



## Driver Safety and Security

The statistics released annually by the HSE and information in the media, is recognised by Treehogs Ltd who acknowledges the risks from driving when at work. Controlling the health, safety and welfare of their employees whilst driving either company or self-owned vehicles used for work, is a responsibility of Treehogs Ltd.

The hazards and problems associated with driving include:

- Fatigue due to excessive driving hours;
- Distractions during driving;
- Driving without care or attention;
- Driving without a valid licence or insurance;
- Driving when disqualified or under the influence of alcohol or drugs;
- Exceeding speed limits due to unreasonable demands;
- Loading and unloading of vehicles;
- Failing to report accidents or offences;
- Driving in adverse weather conditions;
- Unsafe conditions of vehicles;
- Overloading or unsafe loading of vehicles;
- Theft from vehicles and associated violence.

Drivers must be in control of their vehicle at all times, this is company policy. Even for the shortest period when in control of a vehicle, no electronic devices are to be used. Means of communication including mobile phones are to be used only if the vehicle has stopped in a safe place with the handbrake applied.

- Drivers must be fit to drive. It is forbidden for any employee who is under the influence of drugs, alcohol or any substance likely to cause a danger to themselves or others to drive. A Supervisor or Manager should be immediately informed, should any member of staff feel unfit to drive for any reason;
- Only those employees who hold a current valid driving licence for the vehicle type they plan to drive are authorised to do so;
- A copy of all drivers full UK driving licence will be held on file in order for authority to drive company vehicles/on company business to be given;
- It will be required of authorised drivers to notify the Company of driving convictions and offences. For all drivers, business use insurance must be in place;
- The required Road Tax and MOT (if applicable) will be held and a register kept and held on file for all company vehicles;
- Company vehicles will be subject to maintenance and servicing, in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Additionally, regular checks will be carried out on the roadworthiness of all company vehicles;
- Instructions on how to carry out these checks will be issued to employees and they will be reminded to undertake them;

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- Driving without the correct glasses or contact lenses (where required), when fatigued, when under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or if suffering from any illness or taking any medication that may affect their ability to drive safely, will be highlighted to employees as circumstances when they must not drive;
- Treehogs Ltd employees should, as far as possible, avoid the use of mobile phones when driving in order to avoid the disturbance of their concentration;
- Treehogs Ltd will not put any pressure on its employees to answer calls whilst driving;
- Calls should be made prior to the start of the journey or when the journey has concluded;
- If calls need to be taken or made during a journey, employees will only do so when they are parked in a safe area and the engine switched off.

The person responsible for overseeing driver safety is **Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding**.

## Slips, Trips and Falls

Treehogs Ltd will ensure that areas and operations which involve a high risk of slip, trip and fall accidents will be eliminated, so far as is reasonably practicable.

Treehogs Ltd will designate a senior member of staff to oversee and implement the necessary control measures.

Treehogs Ltd will look in detail at the design of work areas and traffic routes and ensure regular maintenance.

Risk assessments, processes, methods and controls will be developed, implemented and clearly communicated to all involved. All risk assessments must consider the hazards that could result in slips and trips and, where identified, measures must be taken to eliminate, reduce or control the risks involved. When carrying out risk assessments, account must be given to access of areas by members of the public and possible vulnerable groups (e.g. older people and disabled).

Treehogs Ltd will ensure there are periodic visits and monitoring of work areas and traffic routes by the Responsible Person and carry out checks on site so as to ensure that the applicable controls are maintained.

Treehogs Ltd will ensure that our staff are kept safe by identifying the risks and providing the necessary training for which the appropriate records will be kept.

Other measures that Treehogs Ltd will include:

- Selecting floor surfaces must include consideration of the slip resistant qualities and general suitability to the areas in question and the activities or processes carried out;
- Spillage procedures must ensure the rapid clean-up of any spillages or contamination by designated personnel without further endangering employees and other persons. Where floors are greasy a suitable cleaning agent must be used;
- Warning signs and barriers must be erected during the removal of spillages;
- Levels of lighting must be provided and maintained in all areas and walkways;
- Suitable footwear will be provided for employees, taking into account the conditions, the work and the individual, where necessary;
- Trailing leads must be avoided in all working areas and walkways;
- All accidents and incidents involving slips and trips must be recorded and investigated fully, with consideration being given to the underlying causes and required improvements to prevent a recurrence. Employees must report all spillages immediately to their Manager/Supervisor together with any building defects or other problems that are causing floors to be wet, slippery or uneven.

The person responsible for overseeing our slips, trips and falls policy is [Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding](#).

## Stress

The likelihood of an employee having or contributing to an accident, becoming a hazard to themselves as well as to others, may significantly be increased by an employee who is severely stressed.

Treehogs Ltd will review the impact of stress at work and acknowledges they have a responsibility to control the Health, Safety and Welfare of its employees. The HSE's management standards for stress shall be applied in order to manage stress in the workplace.

Primary sources of stress at work are covered by these:

**Demands** – workload, work patterns and the work environment

**Control** – how much say the employee has in the way they do their work

**Support** – the encouragement, sponsorship and resources provided by the employer, management and fellow employees

**Relationships** – includes promoting positive working, the avoidance of conflict and dealing with unacceptable behaviour

**Role** – whether the employee understands their role and conflicting roles are avoided

**Change** – how change is managed and communicated.

The symptoms of stress in individuals and in groups should be looked for by management and supervisory staff who should have a good awareness of this. Additionally, any employee strongly suspecting a fellow employee or themselves are being affected by stress must refer this to the appropriate Manager who will arrange for the person to be supported.

Treehogs Ltd employee's work performance and workload will regularly be reviewed under this policy. Every chance to air views and grievances at these reviews will be offered.

The person responsible for overseeing our stress policy is **Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding**.

## Display Screen Equipment

The main health problems associated with the use of display screen equipment include:

- Aches and pains in the hands, wrists, arms, neck, shoulders or back;
- Eyestrain or similar visual problems;
- Headaches;
- Stress and fatigue;
- Skin irritation or rashes.

Treehogs Ltd will identify all “Users” in accordance with current legislation – those employees who use DSE for a significant part of their working day (usually in excess of 1 hour).

For all “Users”, a suitable assessment of the risk will be carried out. As far as is reasonably practicable, any risks identified will be reduced.

Adequate training and information in the correct set up and use of DSE will be received by all “Users” on a regular basis.

Treehogs Ltd will make a contribution to the basic price of spectacles provided specifically for the use of DSE and eye tests will be provided upon request.

Any user who works at home or away from the Company’s premises will receive adequate information on the correct set up and use of DSE. This information should enable the person to complete their own DSE risk assessment, which once done, must be returned to their Managerial/supervisory staff (as applicable).

Any risks identified will be reduced to as low as is reasonably practicable.

The person responsible for overseeing our DSE arrangements is Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.

## Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Treehogs Ltd recognises PPE will be selected following a risk assessment identifying its need. The use of PPE is part of Treehogs Ltd's strategy to control risk.

PPE shall be provided free of charge, to all personnel requiring it to carry out their allocated tasks. The selection will be based on the PPE's ability to afford the best protection.

It will be ensured, by Treehogs Ltd, that suitable and adequate quantities of PPE are available at all workplaces and used appropriately.

Personnel shall report any loss or damage of PPE. Employees will utilise issued PPE fully and correctly.

PPE will be personally issued to the individual.

Other considerations include:

- Treehogs Ltd acknowledges that, as a means of hazard elimination, the use of PPE is the last consideration;
- Where it has been established that PPE is the only means, or is required to supplement other control measures, Treehogs Ltd will ensure that adequate supplies of suitable PPE are available and maintained;
- Each department will maintain a list of all tasks requiring PPE and specify the standard of the PPE required;
- Registers of PPE will be kept, including details of any inspection, maintenance or replacement requirements and relevant records;
- Where appropriate, all PPE will conform to the applicable British Standard, and/or the relevant `Certificates of Approval` issued by the Health and Safety Executive, or will be required to have the appropriate CE marking;
- Where required, suitable and sufficient storage accommodation will be provided for PPE when not in use;
- All employees required to wear PPE will receive suitable and adequate information, instruction and training in its use, maintenance, cleaning and storage and the relevant risks it will avoid or limit;
- All employees required to wear PPE must use it in accordance with the training and instructions provided;
- All employees must report any defects to PPE or loss to Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.

The person responsible for overseeing our PPE arrangements is Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.

## Machinery, Plant and Equipment

Treehogs Ltd will ensure that:

- We take steps to eliminate any risks associated with work equipment by ensuring all equipment is assessed and any risks identified;
- If elimination is not possible, we take steps to reduce these to an acceptable level. As a last resort, PPE will be provided to address any outstanding issues;
- Employees notify us of any defective or dangerous parts or occurrences;
- No equipment brought onto site will be used without having first been approved and identified as safe;
- Safe systems of work are compiled, assessed and put into practice with all associated training and information;
- Competent maintenance support is applied to all equipment and machinery including breakdowns and maintenance.

The person responsible for overseeing our Machinery, Plant and Equipment policy is Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.

## Visitors

Visitors are asked to sign in and out of our buildings as it is good practice and the register forms an essential part of the roll call during an emergency evacuation. Visitors will be under the supervision of one of our members of staff and/or will be provided with information via signage that will assist them in remaining safe during their visit.

Contractors undertaking work within the premises will be subject to our contractor control arrangements.

The person responsible for overseeing our Visitor arrangements is Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.



## Contractors

Treehogs Ltd and any appointed contractors have responsibilities under Health and Safety law. We will only use contractors who we have considered suitable to ensure the protection of all persons whose activities affect.

We will work with the contractors to ensure that everyone knows their roles and responsibilities in taking all necessary precautions and control measures to reduce the risks of workplace dangers where work activities are carried out.

We will identify and assess risks and implement control measures required to deal with them.

We will work with the contractor to ensure that processes, methods and controls will be clearly communicated to all involved.

We will ensure there are periodic inspections by the Responsible Person to carry out checks on site, so as to ensure that a consistently high level of technical expertise, good practice and the necessary Health and Safety controls are maintained.

We will ensure that our staff and customers are kept safe by identifying the risks and making sure that the works are separated from non-essential personnel where required.

We will request copies of the necessary training to evidence competence for the task from the Contractor.

We will consider:

- The scope of the works;
- The suitability of the contractor and their personnel;
- Responsibilities under the CDM regulations;
- The planning and design of the works;
- Certification and outside bodies such as Local Authorities;
- Who will be responsible for the work;
- The roles and responsibilities for the work and the personnel;
- What measures are required to control the risks;
- What equipment will be used;
- The methods of work;
- Emergency procedures;
- Controls in place to stop the work if there are serious health and safety concerns;
- Monitoring and reviewing work in progress;
- Investigations for near misses and accidents;
- Reporting procedures.

We recognise that the above measures are not exhaustive and will be reviewed on specific activities and projects.

The person responsible for overseeing our Contractors arrangements is Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.

## Violence and Aggression in the Workplace

Treehogs Ltd has strict rules and codes of conduct to ensure that all persons, work colleagues, visitors and members of the public are treated with equal respect and consideration.

We actively encourage reporting of all forms of harassment, aggression or violence in the workplace and make sure our managers and supervisors are adequately trained to recognise any signs of such issues. They will oversee and implement the necessary control measures.

Where necessary Treehogs Ltd will provide counselling or occupational health services support.

It is necessary to have an easy channel of communication for people to make the senior management aware of any issues regarding workplace aggression and violence.

In particular, the following rules and procedures will be applied in relation to this area and associated work activities:

- An assessment of the risks relating to work related violence faced by employees must be carried out for all relevant work activities or situations;
- Management and employees at all levels will be encouraged to take work related violence seriously. It must not be accepted as “part of the job”;
- The Company will adopt suitable measures to minimise exposure of employees to work related violence;
- All employees who could be affected by work related violence must receive adequate and suitable information, instruction and training to assist them in recognising signs of aggression and situations that could result in violence and how to avoid or deal with them;
- The Company will implement and monitor a system for the reporting and investigation of any incidents of work-related violence;
- Where work-related violence is due to physical violence, mental abuse or threatening behaviour by management or a fellow employee the Company will fully investigate the feasibility of taking legal and/or disciplinary proceedings against any perpetrators as appropriate;
- All employees are required and encouraged to report to their manager/supervisor any incidents of work-related violence regardless of the circumstances;
- Employees who have been victims of, or otherwise affected by, work related violence will receive all support, counselling, legal advice or other assistance from the Company as is necessary to assist them in their recovery.

The person responsible for overseeing our Violence and Aggression policy is **Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding**.

## New or Expectant Mothers

An employee is required to notify Treehogs Ltd (in writing) that she is pregnant, has given birth within the previous six months, or is breastfeeding.

A certificate from a registered medical practitioner or a registered midwife showing that she is pregnant is required to be provided to Treehogs Ltd by the employee.

In the event that an employee notifies Treehogs Ltd that she is pregnant, and on return to work following birth, we will undertake a specific risk assessment of her work taking into account HSE guidance and any particular information which the employee has provided.

Reviews of the assessment at regular intervals by managerial/supervisory staff (as applicable) or as/when the employee requests it, will be carried out.

Suitable facilities for pregnant and breastfeeding mothers to rest while at work will be provided by Treehogs Ltd.

Some activities involve risks to new or expectant mothers at work e.g. use of chemicals, exposure to vibration, risk of specific infections, exposure to lead, heavy lifting, etc. As a result, additional risk control measures which are implemented on notification of pregnancy should be informed to the employee and anyone else who would need to know and be observed by all parties. These control measures will be the outcomes of a specific risk assessment for the employee, which will take into account such considerations as the impact of their pregnancy on them, the nature of the work and physiological changes during the period they are pregnant.

Recommendations arising from the assessment are implemented promptly and the assessment is reviewed every 3 months or as required.

If a new or expectant mother has a medical certificate stating that night work could adversely affect her health, we will offer alternative day time work or if such work is not available, will suspend her from work on paid leave.

The person responsible for overseeing our New or Expectant Mothers policy is Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.

## Young Persons

Ensuring the safe working environment of young people, particularly those under 18, is an accepted responsibility of Treehogs Ltd.

Treehogs Ltd will undertake a risk assessment in accordance with current legislation before employing a young person.

Treehogs Ltd will make arrangements for the protection at work of all young persons from any risks to their health & safety which are a consequence of their lack of experience or absence of awareness of existing or potential risks, or the fact that they have not yet fully matured.

A young person will not be employed by Treehogs Ltd for work that:

- Involves a risk of accidents, which they are unlikely to recognise because of their lack of experience
- Training or attention to safety
- Is beyond their physical or psychological capacity
- Involves a risk to their health from extreme heat, noise or vibration;
- Exposes them to substances chronically harmful to human health, e.g. toxic or carcinogenic
- Substances, or effects likely to be passed on genetically or likely to harm any unborn child
- Exposes them to night work, which is not normally permitted between 22.00 and 06.00 but may be varied in writing to 23.00 to 07.00 hours
- Exposes them to radiation.

In the following special circumstances, the restrictions do not apply:

- As a requisite for training (e.g. NVQ, SVQ, In-House, Apprenticeships)
- Where supervision by a competent person will be provided to the young person, and
- Where reduction of the risk to the lowest level that is reasonably practicable is achieved.

Treehogs Ltd will obtain parent or guardian consent before employing a young person below the minimum school leaving age and provide the local authority with relevant information on the individual so that he/she can be issued with an employment permit.

The person responsible for overseeing our Young Persons policy is Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.

## Drugs and Alcohol Misuse

The Health and Safety of staff, employees and others effected by Treehogs Ltd's work or in Treehogs Ltd premises, could be adversely impacted by alcohol or drug misuse by their employees or contractors.

Therefore, alcohol and/or drugs are prohibited in the workplace and whilst representing Treehogs Ltd as a matter of policy.

A report must be made to the appropriate supervisory or management representative in the event that any persons are known to be, or strongly suspected of being affected by alcohol and/or drugs. Arrangements will be made for the person under the influence to be removed from the workplace.

Substance abuse is divided into three main categories:

- Alcohol Dependence/Excessive Consumption;
- Taking or possession of illegal drugs;
- Solvent abuse (inhalation of glues or gases).

Substance dependency is a condition where an employee's consumption of alcohol/drugs/solvents continually or repeatedly interferes with his/her health, attendance or work performance.

If any employees feel there may be an issue with any of the above in relation to themselves or colleagues, they will inform Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.

The person responsible for overseeing our Drugs and Alcohol policy is Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.

## Smoking at Work

With no exceptions, smoking is prohibited throughout the entire workplace. Any Company vehicles are also inclusive of this. Employees, contractors, or visitors are covered by this policy.

To smoke or permit smoking in a smoke-free area is an offence. Should anyone be seen smoking in a smoke-free area this should be reported to managerial/supervisory staff (as applicable).

On clear display at or near the entrances to smoke-free premises, public spaces and within vehicles are 'No Smoking' signs of the appropriate size and containing the information required by the relevant regulation.

The person responsible for overseeing our Smoking policy is **Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.**

## Homeworking

The definition of a homeworker is 'any person who carries out work at their home on behalf of, authorised by or with the consent or knowledge of Treehogs Ltd and its management'.

In particular, the following rules and procedures will be applied in relation to this area and associated work activities:

- Work activities carried out at an employee`s home will be subject to risk assessment in the same way as if the work was carried out at company premises;
- All equipment provided by Treehogs Ltd for use at home will be maintained inspected and maintained in accordance with the relevant legal requirements and company policy;
- The employee will be responsible for the maintenance of the building structure and equipment, fixtures and fittings within their home that they own, including the domestic electrical system;
- All display screen equipment provided by Treehogs Ltd for use at home will be subject to a system of analysis and inspection;
- All homeworkers will be provided with suitable and adequate information, instruction and training relevant to the work activities carried out by them at home;
- All homeworkers will be provided with adequate first aid provisions in accordance with an assessment of the nature of the work activity and the risks involved;
- All homeworkers are required to report all accidents and incidents involving work activities carried out at their home to their manager / supervisor;
- Managers / supervisors of homeworkers are responsible for ensuring their health, safety and welfare, including making regular contact by telephone or other means of communication.

The person responsible for overseeing our Homeworking arrangements is **Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding**.

## Visiting Redundant or Derelict Premises

Treehogs Ltd will assess the risks of entering the building, prior to visiting any premises that may be unoccupied, subject to vandalism or in a run-down state.

Through an initial visual inspection, Treehogs Ltd will identify key areas that could cause particular hazards such as:

- Areas where vagrants may be occupying the building;
- Exposure to unprotected leading edges;
- Incomplete or unsafe flooring;
- Exposure to areas where drug abuse may have occurred; risks from hypodermic needles, etc.;
- Exposure to biological risks such as Weil's disease (Leptospirosis) in areas where vermin may be present or pigeon droppings;
- Exposure to potential sources of contamination, such as asbestos containing materials.

In accordance with the relevant standards and risk assessments, all work must be carried out as planned.

Any information, instruction and training that an employee may require to carry out his or her work in a safe manner when working at height will be provided by Treehogs Ltd.

The regular inspection of all equipment required for working at height will be arranged by Treehogs Ltd, principally where there is a statutory requirement to do so.

Immediately prior to use and to ensure any defective equipment is exchanged or repaired before use, all employees must inspect their equipment.

The person responsible for overseeing our Redundant or Derelict Premises policy is [Gareth Buckley](#) and/or [Alex Carding](#).



## Working in Hospitals

Treehogs Ltd may work within hospitals on occasion.

Isolation and emergency procedures will be followed, as with all buildings/sites that the Company works in/on.

Risk assessments will be compiled in addition to this for work in situations encountered such as:

- Violent patients – (assaults etc.)
- Health monitoring – (MRSA etc.)
- Needle stick injuries – (SHARPS Risk Assessment and procedure)
- Abduction – (Children’s wards etc.).

Treehogs Ltd’s personnel will on all occasions, work closely with the hospital management teams and be fully briefed on the procedures for each establishment.

The person responsible for overseeing our Working in Hospitals policy is **Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding**.

## Work in other Employer's Premises

All Treehogs Ltd activities undertaken within other employer's premises, will be subject to risk assessment.

In order that suitable cooperation and coordination can be established to ensure the health and safety for all involved, liaison with the controller of the premises will be achieved.

The person responsible for overseeing arrangements for staff working in other Employer's premises is Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.

## Sun Exposure to Outdoor Workers

Treehogs Ltd recognises that it has a responsibility to provide a safe and healthy working environment and acknowledges that this includes ensuring that the health risks to outdoor workers associated with exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun are adequately controlled.

The hazards and other problems associated with exposure to the sun include:

- Skin damage, including sunburn, blistering, skin ageing and skin cancer;
- Heat stress;
- Dehydration;
- Damage to the eyes due to glare;
- Increased skin sensitivity to sunlight caused by some types of medication;
- Increased skin sensitivity arising from contact with certain chemicals such as dyes, wood preservatives and coal-tar;

In particular, the following rules and procedures will be applied in relation to this area or work activity:

- In all situations where outdoor work is scheduled to be carried out during the daytime period of the summer months (i.e. April to September), a comprehensive risk assessment must be completed in order that the appropriate sun protection measures are developed and put into place;
- Employees must not be allowed to carry out any work for the company without wearing a shirt or other suitable over clothing. This rule is to be applied in order to protect the health and safety of employees and also to maintain the correct image and reputation of the company at all times;
- Suitable clothing, including long-sleeved shirts and suitable hats, must be provided for the use of all employees who regularly work outdoors during the summer period;
- Sun protection advice must be provided as a routine part of health and safety information and training to relevant employees in order to raise and maintain awareness of the associated health problems and recommended means of protection;
- Where employees are unable to cover parts of their skin sunscreen of at least SPF (Sun Protection Factor) 15 will be provided;
- Outdoor workers must be encouraged to take their breaks in the shade, if possible, rather than staying out in the sun;
- Where possible managers/supervisors must consider scheduling work to minimise exposure to sun, particularly during peak periods of sunshine around midday or early afternoon;
- Suitable and sufficient supplies of drinking water must be maintained for outdoor workers in order to avoid dehydration;
- Water supply points and rest areas must, where possible, be located in areas with shade;
- Outdoor workers must be encouraged to check their skin regularly for unusual spots or moles that change size, shape or colour and to seek medical advice promptly if they find anything that causes them concern.

The person responsible for overseeing our outdoor working arrangements is **Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding**.

## Working at Height

Under the working at height regulations employers are required to:

- Make effective use of safe places of work already provided;
- Where they cannot eliminate the risk of a fall liable to cause personal injury, use equipment or other measures to minimise the distance and consequences of a fall should one occur;
- Avoid employees working at height where it is possible;
- Use work equipment or other measures to prevent falls where working at height cannot be avoided.

To identify the risks of work at height and develop processes to eliminate or control the risks, Treehogs Ltd will carry out a risk assessment. Additionally, Treehogs Ltd will ensure that all work at height is adequately planned, organised, supervised and carried out in a safe manner.

It will be ensured by Treehogs Ltd that everyone involved in working at height is competent (or being trained and supervised by a competent person). In order for an employee to carry out his or her work in a safe manner when working at height, Treehogs Ltd will provide any information, instruction and training necessary.

Inspection and maintenance of work at height equipment (including places of work) at the statutory intervals determined by the environment and frequency of use, will be done by persons appointed by Treehogs Ltd. All personal protective equipment provided to maintain safety when working at height (i.e. harnesses and lanyards), will be inspected at the required frequency and any defects noted during those inspections. Prior to or during use, where discovered, these will be reported by operatives and will be attended to immediately.

Immediately before they use it, employees must inspect the equipment provided and ensure any defective equipment is exchanged or repaired before use.

Prevention of falls will be the first priority if work is to be undertaken at height.

Treehogs Ltd will take account of the working conditions when selecting work equipment, as well as the distance to be negotiated and the distance and potential consequences of a fall.

For the event of an emergency or a rescue needing to be facilitated, Treehogs Ltd will ensure that arrangements are in place.

For employees that work on constructions sites the following information will be adhered to by them:

- Scaffolding or mobile towers erected by competent persons and complying with the relevant legislation; or
- Mobile Elevating Work Platform; or
- Podium or deck type platform; or
- Step ladders and ladders (Subject to criteria set out in the section on ladders and step ladders).

The person responsible for overseeing our Working at Height arrangements is **Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding**.

## Working at Height - Ladders and Step Ladders

Only where the use of more suitable work equipment is not justified, will ladders be used. Factors such as risk and short duration of use or, because of existing features within the workplace, which cannot be altered, which make ladders the only possible suitable equipment, are examples of reasons for this.

Unless a risk assessment shows that this is the only reasonably practicable and final option, no work will be conducted from ladders. Treehogs Ltd will make every attempt to eliminate the use of ladders and step ladders as an option for working at height.

Where it is decided that ladders are the only option, only if a risk assessment shows the following, will they be used:

- That the task is low risk;
- That the operative can maintain three points of contact;
- Ladders are clearly identifiable and subject to regular inspections;
- All ladders are EN131 standard only;
- That the task is of short duration (under 30 minutes);
- Ladders can be set at an angle not exceeding 75 degrees (1 out to 4 ratio).

To reduce the risks to a minimum, additional control measures will be introduced (if practicable). Ladder stays, stand offs or other proprietary ladders or ladder securing devices will contribute to such measures.

Persons using ladders will be familiar with the hazards associated with the use of this equipment and will have attended training in the use of ladders and any associated accessories.

Only when the risk assessment determines that their use has a low risk and is of a short duration (less than 30 minutes), and where other equipment cannot fit due to space restrictions, will step ladders be used. For work whilst the operative is on the steps, priority will be given to selecting work equipment with a working platform and some type of edge protection or rail. In the first instance, podium steps or similar design equipment will be considered.

To enable the work to be carried out from no higher than the third tread from the top, we will ensure step ladders will be of sufficient height and only used on a firm and level base.

Prior to each use and on a regular basis, all ladders and step ladders will be inspected, which shall be recorded.

The person responsible for overseeing our Ladders policy is [Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding](#).

## Lifting Equipment

A wide range of equipment is incorporated and categorised as “lifting equipment”. For example, lifts in buildings, hoists, cranes, vehicle mounted tail lifts, excavators, forklifts, cradles, pulley blocks, etc.

Suitability for the task must be assured for all lifting equipment prior to use.

Adequate information from the installer or supplier of lifting equipment on its safe and proper use will be obtained by Treehogs Ltd.

Thorough examination and inspection in accordance with the relevant standards, for any lifting appliance or lifting equipment provided or delivered to a workplace, must be completed for this appliance or lifting equipment and it must have been tested.

All lifting equipment including lifting accessories, are identified on a schedule which is used to ensure that each item has received the maintenance and inspection required.

At the workplace copies of inspection certificates, register entries etc. must be available.

On a daily basis, when in use, the equipment will be subject to recorded inspections by the operator and on a regular basis dependant on its use and environment.

Equipment weight capacity must not exceed the safe working load of that lifting equipment or be used in a way or for a purpose for which it is not intended. This equipment must only be used by employees trained in the use of all such apparatus.

Equipment is clearly marked with its 'safe working load' (SWL). As appropriate, equipment is also signed to indicate its prohibition for the carriage of persons or where applicable, is marked to indicate the maximum number of persons which it is designed to carry.

Suitable storage is provided for lifting accessories to prevent accidental damage or corrosion.

Equipment is subject to a maintenance regime in accordance with good practice and taking into account manufacturers' instructions. Equipment is also subject to periodic thorough examination and testing to a schedule, meeting the requirements of the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER) and an inspection report is issued. Equipment must also be examined on assembly. Improvements identified through inspections are undertaken as required.

Pre-use inspections are carried out by operators of lifting equipment and the results recorded. Defective equipment is taken out of service whilst awaiting repair or replacement.

The person responsible for overseeing our Lifting Equipment arrangements is [Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding](#).

## Mobile Elevating Work Platforms

Only competent employees who hold relevant proof of training and have undergone familiarisation training by the plant hirer, are permitted to operate Mobile Elevating Work Platforms (MEWPs).

Employees will be attached to the proprietary fixing point by a harness and fixed length restraint lanyard when Cherry Picker type MEWPs are used.

An employee operating a Scissor Lift type MEWP should fix harnesses to the attachment point when operating the machine over rough ground, and while the platform ascends and descends, to prevent being thrown out. Whilst working within the confines of the platform when it is in a static position there is no requirement to be harnessed to the Scissor Lift.

The person responsible for overseeing our Mobile Elevating Work Platforms policy is [Gareth Buckley](#) and/or [Alex Carding](#).

## Mobile Plant

For any mobile plant under Treehogs Ltd's control, only trained and appointed personnel will be permitted to operate it.

For any mobile plant that is new to them (i.e. hired items from a different manufacturer that the personnel are used to), such personnel will be familiarised with this.

All manufacturers/supplier's instructions on operation, servicing and maintenance will be accessible to personnel.

Unless there is a safe place for them to do so, personnel will not travel on mobile plant.

Any safety features fitted to the mobile plant will be fully used e.g. seat belts, roll bars etc.

Only Plant with the correct requisite features is permitted to operate on the public highway.

The person responsible for overseeing our Mobile Plant policy is Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.



## Mobile Towers

To provide a safe place of work for employees required to use mobile tower scaffolds, all reasonable steps will be taken by Treehogs Ltd.

Only competent persons with the relevant proof of training, in accordance with the mobile towers instruction manual, will erect and use this equipment.

Prior to use, these persons will be required to inspect the individual components and the tower as a whole. In addition, it will be inspected after every occasion that the tower is erected. It shall also be subject to inspection if the tower remains static for more than 7 days.

Records will be retained at the place of work until completion and thereafter for three months at head office. All inspections will be recorded.

To prevent falls of persons or materials from the workplace or of the tower itself, the Company will ensure that the necessary preventative and protective measures are put in place and will liaise with any other persons involved in the work activity. Throughout the process and likewise during dismantling, the safety of the personnel erecting the tower must be maintained. Treehogs Ltd will ensure that mobile towers selected are appropriate for the work and that the methods of erection and dismantling provided are the most suitable method possible, when selecting this equipment for use.

The person responsible for overseeing our Mobile Towers policy is Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.

## CDM (Construction Design Management)

The Company recognises that it has a responsibility to provide a safe and healthy working environment and acknowledges that this includes ensuring that its responsibilities as a Contractor or Sub-Contractor during construction projects and related works are fully met.

- **Employee Awareness** - Everyone working on site must be aware of their obligation to report to their immediate superior any defect which may endanger the Health and Safety of themselves or other persons;
- **Safe Places of Work** - Safe access, egress, prevention of unauthorised access and safe/sufficient defined work areas will be provided. Good Order and Site Security - All sites must be kept in a good state of cleanliness, with the work area clearly defined by signage and/or barriers. No timber or other material with projecting nails or sharp objects/edges will be used or allowed to remain anywhere on site where it may harm anyone;
- **Stability of Structures** - Any existing or new structure must not become unstable or weak due to the works and at no time loaded with materials, plant and equipment rendering it unsafe;
- **Demolition or Dismantling** - Plans shall be devised and implemented via the site Method Statement to prevent or minimise the danger of anyone being harmed by parts of a structure during demolition or dismantling;
- **Energy Distribution Installations** - Overhead power cables presenting a risk are to be redirected or isolated and if appropriate earthed for the duration of the works via a permit to work system. If this is not possible place warning signs and barriers and position suspended protection. Detection, isolation and safe digging practices are to be used for underground services which impact on the work area;
- **Prevention of Risk from Fire** - Measures are to be taken to prevent risk of harm from fire, explosion, flooding and any substance which may cause asphyxiation;
- **Emergency Procedures** - Arrangements must be in place to deal with any foreseeable emergency, including evacuation procedures. Emergency Routes and Exits - Direct and sufficient emergency routes and exits must be provided to allow persons to reach a place of safety quickly in an emergency. All routes and exits must be kept clear, signed and if appropriate lit;
- **Fire Detection and Fire Fighting** - Site safety boards must be provided containing suitable and sufficient fire extinguishers. These must be in an accessible location on site and have them regularly inspected and tested. All operatives to be trained in the correct use of the firefighting equipment supplied and any operative must be prevented from undertaking an activity which may lead to a particular fire risk unless he has had the appropriate training and instruction for dealing with that fire risk;
- **Fresh Air** - Sufficient supplies of fresh or purified air to the work area must be maintained e.g. basement. If a mechanised means has to be used to achieve this there must be a visual and audible alarm which is activated to warn of plant failure and clear instructions to the installation team as to the action to be taken if the alarm is activated;
- **Temperature and Weather Protection** - The temperature in the work area must be reasonable having regard to the purpose for which it is used. Additional protective measures will be taken for operatives required to work outside in adverse weather;
- **Lighting** - The work area and access routes are to be sufficiently and suitably lit wherever possible by natural light. Any artificial lighting used must not change the appearance of Health & Safety signs or signals from the worker's perspective. If failure of the primary lighting system

in the work area would result in a risk to health and safety, secondary lighting should be provided;

- **Accident Reporting** - All operatives must report all accidents or incidents, including near misses that have or could have resulted in injury or harm to themselves or other persons on site. The Company will ensure the required site accident reporting procedures are followed, including RIDDOR reporting where necessary.

The person responsible for overseeing our CDM arrangements is Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.

## Welfare Facilities

Availability of suitable and sufficient welfare facilities at all workplaces for all employees, contractors and visitors will be facilitated. This should include:

- Drinking water;
- Toilet facilities;
- Washing facilities;
- Facilities for rest, preparing/eating meals, including means for boiling water.

At all facilities, a satisfactory standard will be upheld, with regard to:

- Temperature;
- Ventilation;
- Cleanliness/hygiene;
- Accessibility;
- Lighting.

For employees working out on site and undertaking construction type activities, the following will be provided, where applicable:

- Accommodation for clothing;
- Changing rooms and lockers where appropriate.

Arrangements must be made for convenient sanitary facilities for use by operatives throughout the duration of the works, before work commences on site.

Arrangements and procedures for the proper use and maintenance of those facilities must be developed and communicated to all parties, where welfare facilities are to be shared on site between different contractors. This will be detailed on a notifiable site within the Construction Phase Plan or in the Induction Procedure.

The person responsible for overseeing our Welfare arrangements is **Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding**.

## Drugs and Medicines

A separate policy is in place for the drugs and medicines administered along with the relevant legislation. Controlled drugs and medicines are locked away in a cupboard.

The Drugs and Medicines Policy should address issues such as:

- Training and education of employees that distribute, order and store drugs and medicines;
- Safe storage of drugs and medicines;
- Risks involved with handling;
- Labelling;
- Procedures for issue;
- Procedures for auditing and accounting during distribution;
- Authorised drugs and medicines workers;
- Emergency procedures.

The policy is available to all employees, particularly those who are registered to administer drugs and medicines. The policy must be read and understood and signed to state that they fully understood the content of the policy.

The person responsible for overseeing our Drugs and Medicines policy is Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.

## Biological Hazards

### Control of Infection

To control the risks associated with biological hazards such as viruses from blood, faeces, and urine there must be infection control policies put into place as a separate item to the Health and Safety Policy, although they should both support each other.

The Infection Control Policy must address such issues as:

- Education and training of employees in infection control issues;
- Protocols on hand washing;
- Service user isolation;
- Aseptic procedure;
- Disinfection and decontamination including domestic cleaning;
- Ill health reporting and recording;
- Monitoring, surveillance, and auditing;
- Prevention of exposure to blood borne viruses including prevention of sharps injuries and immunisation policies for employees at risk;
- Use of personal protection equipment including disposable powder free gloves;
- Generation, collection, and disposal of clinical waste;
- Legionella.

The policy must be made available and read by all employees who must sign the signature sheet to indicate that they have read and understood the policy. The policy must be reviewed annually or when any significant change occurs whichever is soonest.

The person responsible for overseeing our Biological Hazards policy is Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.

## **Hazardous Substances/COSHH**

(Control of Substances Hazardous to Health)

A Hazardous Substance is any material, substance or process to be used or likely to be encountered which could be a Hazard to the Health of employees or others.

Risk assessment(s) related to the use of products or the creation of by-products, to identify whether those substances are Hazardous to Health, shall be carried out by Treehogs Ltd. A workplace/job specific Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) assessment will be produced if necessary. To ensure the Health and Safety of personnel affected by the use of substances Hazardous to Health and the protection of the environment, appropriate control measures must be identified and implemented. To provide collective protection and/or personal protection, such control measures may seek to eliminate/substitute the substance.

### **General Precautions**

The following general precautions apply to the use, handling and transporting of chemicals and other Hazardous Substances:

- Products must never be allowed to come into contact with, for example the eyes and skin;
- Personal protective equipment and clothing must be worn, if required;
- Always observe good industrial hygiene practices;
- Do not swallow materials or use in areas where food is being consumed;
- Inhalation of chemical vapours or dust should be avoided;
- Adequate ventilation must be provided;
- Suitable respiratory protection must be worn, if required;
- Facilities for the washing and cleansing of the skin must be made available with the necessary cleaners and barrier creams;
- Store all products in ventilated areas away from extremes of temperatures;
- Clean up spillages instantly and dispose of waste using suitable containers;
- Except for transport in closed packages, materials must only be handled by authorised personnel;
- Ensure the correct equipment for handling the products is made available;
- Any person using or handling chemicals and other Hazardous Substances who shows symptoms which may possibly have been caused by exposure to the product should immediately be removed from the area and medical advice sought. Reference should always be made to the relevant COSHH assessment and material safety data sheet.

The person responsible for overseeing our COSHH policy is **Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding**.

## English As a Second Language

Legislations require us to provide our employees with understandable and relevant information on risks to their health and safety, and on precautions to take to avoid those risks. Information shall be provided in a way that takes account of any language difficulties or disabilities. It will be provided in a form that is most suitable in the circumstances, as long as it can be understood by everyone. For employees or workers with little or no understanding of spoken or written English, we will make special arrangements.

### Site Work

We also recognise that at some work locations our employees and sub-contractors may be working alongside people for whom English is not their main language. We recognise that such circumstances can create significant additional safety issues.

Mitigating these issues is a shared responsibility involving:

- The person responsible for the site making contractors etc. aware that there may be language issues within the site/premises,
- Contractors ensuring that their operatives recognise the need not to rely on spoken/written English as being wholly effective (A shouted warning may not be understood). Operatives must be aware of the need to pause their work if someone approaches them and to guide them away from any hazards.

As far as is reasonably practicable, as a contractor, we will endeavour to use pictorial signs to indicate safety issues associated with our work.

The person responsible for overseeing our English As a Second Language policy is **Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding**.



## Noise

Control of Noise at Work legislation requires employers to reduce and control the exposure to noise to their employees. By assessing the risk and taking account of exposure levels set within the Regulations, this is achieved.

The main problems associated with occupational noise include:

- Noise induced hearing loss;
- Temporary and permanent threshold shift;
- Tinnitus;
- Stress;
- Injuries arising from distracted attention.

Either a daily or weekly exposure based on 8 hours is applicable under the exposure levels - dB (A) in a working day, the maximum noise (peak sound pressure) - dB (C):

### **Lower Exposure Action Value**

Personal Noise exposure (daily or weekly) – 80 dB (A) Peak sound – 135 dB (C). To establish potential risk and where hearing protection is required to be made available, assessment is required.

### **Upper Exposure Action Value**

Personal Noise exposure (daily or weekly) – 85 dB (A) Peak sound – 137 dB (C). Where this is not successfully controlled despite noise reduction (ideally through mechanical means), then control through mandatory use of appropriate hearing protection is required.

### **Exposure Limit Value has additionally been set:**

Personal Noise exposure (daily or weekly) – 87 dB (A) Peak sound – 140 dB (C). Even taking account of the protection afforded by hearing protection, this must not be exceeded.

Suitable and sufficient risk assessment for all activities where it is believed that there is a risk of employees being exposed above the lower action value of 80 decibels, will be carried out by Treehogs Ltd.

Where it is practicable to do so, Treehogs Ltd will eliminate or control noise at source. Treehogs Ltd will provide its employees with suitable and sufficient hearing protection selected according to the noise risk to which the employees are exposed, where noise elimination or appropriate control is not considered practicable.

Treehogs Ltd will:

- Ensure suitable ear protection is supplied for the conditions of exposure;
- Workplace Management and Supervisors will ensure compliance with any noise levels;
- Ensure plant and equipment is selected and maintained to minimise noise levels;
- Ensure that all employees, contractors and visitors receive such information as is necessary to warn them of the risk. Furthermore, ensure that they will obey any instructions and warning notices with regard to the wearing of hearing protection in areas where a risk exists;

- Ensure adequate means of communication in noisy environments, especially if relevant alarm sounds may need to be heard.

The measures that Treehogs Ltd provides under the regulations should be adhered to by employees, who have a duty to comply. These measures include:

- Not to misuse or interfere with hearing protection and report any defects to the employer
- To use any controls as determined by the risk assessment
- To wear any hearing protection provided when exposed at or above the Upper Exposure Limits or where mandatory areas have been designated.

The person responsible for overseeing our Noise policy is **Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding**.

## The Control of Vibration

Employers are required to make a suitable and sufficient assessment of the risks posed by either hand/arm and/or whole-body vibration under current legislation on the Control of Vibration at Work. In the first instance, employers must introduce control measures to eliminate the vibration at source or, where this is not reasonably practicable, reduce the vibration to as low a level as reasonably practicable.

The common early symptoms associated with exposure to vibration include:

- Tingling and numbness in the fingers;
- Loss of sense of touch;
- Loss of grip strength;
- Pain in the wrist (carpal tunnel syndrome);
- White and red colouration in the fingers (vibration white finger);
- Back pain.

### Exposure action and limit values

- For hand-arm vibration the exposure values, assuming an 8 hour working day, are: Exposure action value: 2.5 m/s<sup>2</sup> A(8) - Exposure limit value: 5.0 m/s<sup>2</sup> A(8);
- For whole-body vibration the exposure values, assuming an 8 hour working day, are: Exposure action value: 0.5 m/s<sup>2</sup> A(8) - Exposure limit value: 1.15 m/s<sup>2</sup> A(8).

Avoiding the risk wherever possible is the basis of the risk assessment. However, the following steps will be taken if the job cannot be done without exposure to vibration equipment:

- **Select** - Select equipment that produces the least possible vibration or by using remote control equipment, removes the operative from the source of the vibration;
- **Provision** - Consider other equipment that can be used in conjunction with the vibrating equipment that reduces the risk of injuries caused by vibration, for example foul weather protection for cold and damp;
- **Maintain** - Good maintenance can reduce vibration levels considerably; instruction in basic maintenance such as the replacement of blunt drills or chisels should be provided to all operatives;
- **Limitation** - Ensure that appropriate rest periods are taken and limits/durations are set on tasks;
- **Train** - Make operatives aware of the risks and the precautions, for example gripping tools properly;
- **Inform** - Up to date information on the vibration risks should be provided;
- **Review** - Review the use of vibrating equipment as technological advances are made available.

The person responsible for overseeing our Vibration policy is [Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding](#).

## Asbestos

A significant risk within the work environment is presented by asbestos where it is in situ. Such steps as are necessary will be taken by Treehogs Ltd to control this risk as it affects their undertakings.

Common sources of asbestos in buildings include:

- Sprayed asbestos and asbestos loose packing - generally used as fire breaks in ceiling voids;
- Moulded or preformed lagging on pipes and boilers;
- Sprayed asbestos used as fire protection in ducts, firebreaks, panels, partitions, soffit boards, ceiling panels and around structural steel work;
- Insulating boards used for fire protection, thermal insulation, partitioning and ducts;
- Millboard, paper and paper products used for insulation of electrical equipment;
- Asbestos pipe lagging;
- Asbestos insulation board;
- Perforated ceiling tiles;
- Asbestos cement products including corrugated roofing, gutters and rainwater pipes.

### Management of Premises Containing Asbestos

In premises under its control, Treehogs Ltd recognises its duty to manage asbestos.

To establish the presence of asbestos any premises under Treehogs Ltd control will be surveyed. Information produced from that survey must be provided to any person carrying out work within those premises where the asbestos could be disturbed.

Asbestos condition monitoring and an assessment of the likelihood of anyone being exposed to the materials must be considered and adequate provisions for this be made. The asbestos management plan will be reviewed annually or if deemed necessary, more frequently.

Treehogs Ltd controlled buildings where asbestos is present and is in such a condition that it represents a significant risk, shall be removed under suitable controls.

### Work where Asbestos may be encountered

In order to locate materials in Treehogs Ltd's controlled premises likely to contain asbestos, steps will be taken to locate, identify and test any suspect materials via a competent person.

Awareness training will be provided to employees and any others who are likely to encounter asbestos, which will include safe working practices, emergency procedures and decontamination processes.

Contractors working at Treehogs Ltd controlled buildings will be made aware of the location of any asbestos-containing materials prior to the start of any work and will be trained in asbestos awareness.

A specific and intrusive investigation may be required to ensure that any concealed asbestos-containing materials are identified, before any work is carried out on the fabric of any premises.

**No works that will result in disturbance of asbestos-containing materials will in any circumstances be undertaken.**

The person responsible for overseeing our asbestos control arrangements is **Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.**

## Safe Hot Water and Hot Surface Temperatures

We ensure that temperatures at hot water outlets accessed by more vulnerable persons are thermostatically controlled to prevent scalding. We also ensure that taps delivering water at unregulated temperatures are clearly marked 'warning, very hot water', and are not located in areas accessible to vulnerable persons. This means that doors to such facilities are locked and the keys restricted to authorised staff.

Heating appliances within the areas accessed by more vulnerable persons, are designed in such a way as to prevent accidental burns, thus ensuring that surfaces do not exceed 43°C.

A testing regime is undertaken by the responsible person to check that the temperatures are within the safe range. Records are kept of the tests and appropriate remedial action where it is identified.

All staff are trained in safe systems of work such as bathing, including a clear understanding of when additional supervision and temperature checks must be carried out. They are made aware that any temperature they observe which appears to be outside of the expected range must be reported for appropriate remedial action. Sufficient numbers of staff are also trained in emergency first aid for burns and scalds.

The person responsible for overseeing our Safe Hot Water and Hot Surface Temperatures policy is [Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding](#).

## Underground Services

Treehogs Ltd will ensure that before any excavation work commences, all information on existing underground services is to be obtained.

To agree any precautions required, full consultation will be carried out at all stages with representatives of the various service authorities.

Physically locating and marking all services by means of locating equipment and hand dug trial holes will be carried out by trained operatives only.

Plans should be used as an indicator for position, layout and numbers of services. Operatives should not assume that the plans are accurate or to scale.

Physical indicators such as previous excavations, junction boxes, manholes etc. will also be used and reliance should not be placed upon locating equipment alone.

The person responsible for overseeing our Underground Services policy is Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.

## Electricity

The use of electricity in the workplace is widespread and represents a significant risk of personal injury and fire.

Unless employees hold the relevant qualifications and have been authorised, no Treehogs Ltd employee is to undertake electrical work on any equipment or system within the workplace.

In the event of faults or hazards related to electrical equipment or installation, this should be reported to managerial/supervisory staff (as applicable) for action.

Electrical installations are subject to inspection, testing and where required maintenance, which Treehogs Ltd will ensure is carried out.

Treehogs Ltd ensure that any permanent or temporary (if required) electrical installations are on record and in date, managers responsible for premises will obtain certification.

As suggested by associated guidance or specified by the Treehogs Ltd's insurance company, in accordance with whichever is the shortest period, Periodic Portable Appliance Testing (PAT) will be carried out for all electrical equipment.

Visual inspection of any electrical equipment under their control by personnel is required and intended to identify defects, which should be reported for corrective action.

In the event of an employee having problems powering equipment through such issues as a lack of integrated plug sockets, the employee should not remedy this in isolation by using extension leads, but report the situation to a Supervisor or Manager.

The person responsible for overseeing our Electricity arrangements is Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.



## Pressure Systems

Treehogs Ltd has systems/vessels which fall within the requirements of the relevant legislation.

A written scheme of examination has been drawn up by a competent person and that written scheme is held in a location readily accessible to the plant and personnel. Examination and testing are carried out by our insurance inspector/other competent person in accordance with the written scheme.

We have appointed our responsible person to oversee the operation of the pressure system on a day-to-day basis by those deemed competent, including undertaking [daily/periodic] checks and the completion of a planned preventative maintenance schedule. To ensure competency, operatives have been trained in the Safe Systems of Work, which have been devised as a result of risk assessments of the work activities. Operatives have been made aware that the system may not be modified without the changes being first evaluated by the competent person. The safe operating limits of the equipment are clearly displayed for the information of our maintenance personnel.

Appropriate emergency response procedures have been devised.

Records are retained of all inspections, testing, examinations and maintenance which takes place and of any other correspondence or report relating to the system. Our maintenance log is also used to record any abnormal or particularly arduous operating conditions and these records are made available to the competent person during the next examination.

The person responsible for overseeing our Pressure Systems is **Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding**.

## Control of Waste Materials

All waste materials, accrued as a result of work being performed on the site, within the premises, or its boundaries will be disposed of in line with Treehogs Ltd legal duties.

We will designate a senior member of staff to oversee and implement the necessary control measures. Processes, methods and controls will be clearly communicated to all involved.

We shall ensure that any waste produced by our company or being created on our behalf by contractors, is placed in suitable applicable waste bins, or sealed skips, in a compound whenever possible so as to prevent this from being accessed by vermin, or vandals, who may otherwise spread it beyond this control and cause an environmental hazard.

Hazardous wastes will be controlled and dealt with using our CoSHH systems and safe means of disposal will be utilised.

The person responsible for overseeing our Waste arrangements is Gareth Buckley and/or Alex Carding.



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## Document History

Tue, 21 Nov 2023 19:47:00	<b>Gareth Buckley</b> Signed the Document (IP: 86.130.176.56)
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