WORKER VERSION / KEEP A COPY

KEEP THE CREW SAFE

Worker handout / plastering, painting and responsive maintenance

WHAT HAS BEEN UPDATED

SCS now has 18 field standards showing the controls that prevent serious injury or illness. We have also strengthened lead-paint checks, exposure monitoring decisions and protection of people living in the property.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Before starting: know the task, check the actual controls and sign the current job JSEA at prestart. A form, app tick or low residual risk score does not prove the work face is safe. Ask if anything is unclear.

01	02	03	04
STOP	MAKE SAFE	TELL	RECHECK

YOU CAN STOP UNSAFE WORK

If a control is missing, fails or the job changes, stop the affected task. Keep people clear, tell the supervisor and wait for the control to be fixed, checked and the crew rebriefed. Do not restart just because someone says to get on with it.

THE LAW CHANGE IN PLAIN LANGUAGE

Current health and safety duties still apply. The 2026 law changes start on 1 April 2027. SCS is preparing now by putting serious-harm controls first while keeping all relevant job risks in the SSSP/JSEA.

Remember: SSSP = the site safety plan. JSEA = the task, hazards and controls. A critical control is something that must work to prevent serious harm.

Prepared by Lacey Harkin / Health & Safety. Read with SCS-HS-CRS Rev 1.0 and the actual job documents.

WORKER VERSION / EXPOSURE CONTROLS

OLD PAINT. HIDDEN HARM.

Lead, asbestos, silica and other hazardous dust

1 / CHECK BEFORE YOU DISTURB

Check the property information, coating and substrate. Older paint may contain lead; buildings from the 1980s or earlier are presumed lead unless reliable evidence says otherwise. Unknown linings/coatings need a supervisor check. No report covering the material = ask before sanding, scraping, cutting or drilling.

2 / SUSPECT ASBESTOS = STOP

Stop the task, keep people clear and tell the supervisor. SCS does not remove or remediate asbestos under the current scope. Do not sample it yourself or try to vacuum/clean suspected asbestos debris. A lead test does not clear asbestos.

3 / KEEP DUST AT THE TOOL

Use the approved low-dust method. For lead or silica work, use suitable H-class extraction, correct shroud, filter/bag and working airflow. A domestic vacuum with a HEPA label is not enough. No uncontrolled dry sanding, compressed-air cleaning or dry sweeping of hazardous dust.

4 / PROTECT PEOPLE AND YOUR HOME

Keep residents, children and pets outside the work zone. Use the assessed respirator, current fit test and seal check each use. Wash/decontaminate before breaks and departure. Keep contaminated clothes/tools out of clean vehicle areas and your home. Seal and dispose of waste by the approved route.

Lead monitoring: recurring, higher-risk or uncertain lead exposure needs H&S/occupational-health review. Blood-lead testing and air monitoring are decided for the exposure; they are not a substitute for controlling dust. Report control failures or health concerns promptly. Clinical results remain private.

STOP: extraction fails, dust escapes, respirator leaks, someone enters the zone, or suspect material appears.

WORKER VERSION / PRACTICAL CHECKS

THE RISKS ON OUR JOBS

Use the relevant field standards / do not assume every method is approved

HEIGHT, SCAFFOLD & FRAGILE SURFACES / 01-04

Use the safe platform/access selected for the job. Check the actual scaffold bay and release. Never remove rails, ties or boards. No standing on ceiling linings; roof access needs separate approval. MEWP use needs verified competence, checks and ground rescue.

CHEMICALS & FIRE / 08-09

Know the exact product and SDS. Use the required ventilation, skin/eye/RPE controls and keep vapour from occupants. Keep ignition sources away. No open-flame lead removal; hot work is outside the current scope.

ELECTRICITY, TOOLS & SPRAY PRESSURE / 10-12

Locate services before drilling/cutting. Inspect leads, tools and RCD controls. Keep guards fitted and isolate before clearing/cleaning. Control knife paths and sharp waste. Spray needs its own approved method; injection injury needs urgent emergency care, even a tiny puncture.

VEHICLES & HEAVY LOADS / 13-14

Separate people from reversing and unloading. Stop if the spotter is lost. Secure loads before moving. Use suitable handling aids/team handling; do not carry heavy loads on ladders or stand in crush zones.

OCCUPANTS, NOISE & PEOPLE / 15-18

Keep work isolated, exits clear and tools/chemicals secure. Make safe at every break. Use assessed noise/vibration controls. Speak up about fatigue, heat, impairment or pressure. Withdraw from threats; use lone-work check-ins. Call 111 for immediate danger.

Scope limits still apply: SCS is a scaffold user. Asbestos removal, electrical/gas/plumbing/structural work, hot work, confined-space entry and excavation are not authorised by this handout. Refer new or excluded work to the supervisor.

WORKER VERSION / DAILY REMINDER

SIX CHECKS BEFORE STARTING

Use these at every job / speak up when something changes

1

RIGHT JOB

Is this the correct property, work order and approved task?

2

KNOWN MATERIALS

Have lead, asbestos, substrate and hidden services been checked for the surface we will disturb?

3

SAFE ACCESS

Are ladders/platforms/scaffold/MEWP suitable, released, inspected and safe at the actual work face?

4

WORKING CONTROLS

Are extraction, ventilation, isolation, PPE/RPE and rescue controls ready and effective?

5

PEOPLE PROTECTED

Are residents, children, pets, visitors and other trades kept clear, with exits and clean areas safe?

6

CURRENT BRIEFING

Have I read/heard the current JSEA, asked questions and signed on at prestart?

Before leaving: remove/secure hazards, clean using the approved method and record safe hand-back. Visual cleanliness alone does not prove absence of lead contamination.

Report: injuries, near misses, escaped dust, failed controls, service damage and unsafe resident interaction. Report to your supervisor promptly; contact Lacey Harkin for H&S support or Bob Seath for management support. In an emergency call **111** and use the job emergency plan.

Key message: if you cannot answer a safety check, pause and ask. A toolbox signature does not replace job-specific training or physical control checks.