

# Undertaking of Excavations.

No	Activity	Hazard	Person(s) in Danger	Control Measures	Residual Risk Rating
28	<b>Excavating and work in excavations</b>  <b>Inclusive of visiting excavation sites</b>	<p>Undertaking Excavations</p> <p>Risks of collapse of falling into excavation.</p> <p>Risks of undermining adjacent structures causing property damage.</p> <p>Risks of plant/ equipment and other items stored in vicinity of excavation falling into excavation.</p>	<p>Employees</p> <p>Contractors</p> <p>Public</p> <p>Visitors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avoid opening excavations by using trenchless techniques where possible.</li> <li>If excavating cannot be avoided, you must complete a site-specific Risk Assessment.</li> </ul> <p><b>Risk Assessment must include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Depth of the excavation.</li> <li>Soil type - this may vary from fine sand to heavy clay, which is harder to break up when dry.</li> <li>The type of work involved, e.g. at the side of the road, in built-up areas, laying pipes or cables etc.</li> <li>The use of mechanical equipment -the types being used.</li> <li>How close the excavation is to roads, water courses or structures.</li> <li>The presence of the public / children.</li> <li>The weather conditions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Additional controls:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Never excavate next to an adjacent structure without authorisation.</li> <li>Barriers must be used to prevent public access to the work area and segregate vehicles from the work area and use edge protection.</li> <li>If the ground is unstable excavations must be battered back or supported - regardless of the depth.</li> <li>Store spoil and materials away from the edge of the excavation.</li> <li>Use secured ladders to gain access / egress and never throw items to someone in an excavation.</li> </ul>	Low

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