

# Potential for Infections

## (Weils Disease / Sharps / Needles).

No	Activity	Hazard	Person(s) in Danger	Control Measures	Residual Risk Rating
04	<p><b>All work activities that may expose people to vermin (rats, pigeons, mice, bats etc).</b></p> <p><b>Areas that may have sharps / needles present.</b></p>	<p>Coming into contact with animals, sharps and needles.</p> <p>Risk of infection through coming into contact with substance (rats / cattle urine etc) and other biological hazards.</p> <p>Needles can be found discarded on work sites; if the needle penetrates the skin there is a potential exposure to infection such as Hepatitis B, C or HIV.</p>	<p>Employees Contractors Public Visitors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete a site-specific risk assessment checking your work area at the start and during your shift for any rats, bird droppings or discarded sharps / needles.</li> <li>If any of the above are found, stop work and make the area safe and tell others in the working area.</li> <li>Take particular care around locks, underneath handrails and any areas where sharps and needles have been found in the past.</li> <li>Consult your Line Manager or Team Leader to arrange removal of needles.</li> <li>Always wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).</li> </ul> <p><b>If you receive a needle-stick injury:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stay calm and do not panic. You must keep your heart rate low.</li> <li>Encourage the wound to gently bleed, ideally holding it under running water.</li> <li>Wash the wound using running water and plenty of soap.</li> <li>Do not scrub the wound whilst you are washing it and do not place your mouth over the wound.</li> <li>Dry the wound and cover it with a waterproof plaster or dressing.</li> <li>Seek urgent medical advice.</li> <li>Report the injury to your Line Manager or Team Leader.</li> <li>Ensure the incident is reported to the Incident Line (0330 123 1092).</li> </ul>	Low