

### **Lawn Mowing & Lawn Care**

Risk Assessment

|            | CREW DETAILS       |
|------------|--------------------|
| IN AN EMER | GENCY CALL:        |
| Team Lead: | Task Phone Number: |
| Crew:      |                    |

| TASK OVERVIEW    |  |               |  |  |  |
|------------------|--|---------------|--|--|--|
| Purpose of Task: |  | Date of Task: |  |  |  |
|                  |  |               |  |  |  |

**Task Benefit:** Enables regular inspections to identify issues early. | Enhances appearance and curb appeal for clients and visitors. | Improves drainage and usability of open spaces. | Maintains safe, even surfaces and reduces hidden trip hazards. | Supports turf health, weed suppression, and pest monitoring.

| HAZARD                                 | RISK  | RISK BENEFIT  | MEASURE   | RISK TO                               | RISK LEVEL                              |
|--|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| Chemicals (pesti<br>cides/fertilisers) | Skin burns,<br>poisoning,<br>respiratory<br>issues      | Effective vegetation control and healthier landscapes.                  | COSHH assessment before use; only trained/competent staff apply; PPE used as per label; mix in bunded areas; prevent drift with correct nozzles and calm weather; store securely to AIS16 standard; keep public off treated zones until safe. (ALL) | Operators,<br>public,<br>environment  | Before Measure: High After Measure: Med |
| Ejected<br>debris/projectiles          | Eye injuries,<br>facial injuries,<br>property<br>damage | Professional finish achieved without risk of injury or property damage. | 3.  | Operators,<br>public, nearby<br>staff | Before Measure: High After Measure: Med |



| HAZARD   | RISK   | RISK BENEFIT   | MEASURE  | RISK TO                   | RISK LEVEL                              |
|--|--|--|--|---------------------------|---|
| Electricity &<br>batteries                     | Electric shock,<br>electrocution,<br>fire                    | Cleaner, quieter operations with reduced emissions and safe charging.    | Always use 30 mA RCD protection for corded kit; check cables for wear before use; route leads away from moving parts; keep plugs and sockets dry; charge Li-ion packs with OEM chargers in ventilated areas; never leave charging unattended. (ALL)            | Operators                 | Before Measure: High After Measure: Med |
| Faulty<br>equipment and<br>poor<br>maintenance | Mechanical<br>failure,<br>accidents,<br>downtime             | Delivers reliable equipment, improved cut quality, and reduced downtime. | Daily PUWER checks recorded; service machinery to manufacturer schedule; tag and isolate unsafe kit; replace worn blades, guards or interlocks promptly; only use OEM parts; log repairs; check all safety cutouts/interlocks remain functional. (ALL)         | Operators                 | Before Measure: High After Measure: Med |
| Fuel handling & refuelling                     | Burns, fire,<br>explosion,<br>environmental<br>contamination | Provides reliable machine use and reduces fire or spill risks.           | Store fuel in labelled, approved containers in ventilated secure cabinets; refuel only on cool engines with spill kits available; use funnels; keep fuel away from ignition sources; carry minimal volumes; extinguishers provided at refuelling points. (ALL) | Operators,<br>environment | Before Measure: High After Measure: Med |
| Noise exposure                                 | Hearing damage, tinnitus, communication issues               | Protects long-term<br>hearing and ensures safe,<br>efficient operations. | Measure exposure regularly; establish hearing protection zones; provide SNR-rated ear defenders/plugs; train staff on correct fitting; maintain kit to reduce noise; rotate staff; provide regular hearing tests; control bystander exposure. (ALL)            | Operators, public         | Before Measure: High After Measure: Med |



| HAZARD                                       | RISK   | RISK BENEFIT   | MEASURE   | RISK TO                       | RISK LEVEL                                |
|--|--|--|---|-------------------------------|---|
| Ride-on mower<br>rollover                    | Crushing injuries, entrapment, fatality      | Large areas mowed efficiently with reduced strain and downtime.                  | Ensure ROPS fitted and seatbelt used; avoid steep side slopes, ditches and water; plan safe routes with wide turns; reduce speed on slopes; daily checks of brakes, tyres and interlocks; stop machine fully before dismounting; no passengers carried. (ALL) | Operators                     | Before Measure: High After Measure: Med   |
| Traffic and<br>roadside work                 | Vehicle collision,<br>struck-by<br>accidents | Maintains clear, safe roadside verges and compliance with regulations.           | Deploy signage/barriers to Chapter 8 standards; cones and beacons used; highvis clothing mandatory; banksman to control vehicle movements; plan work at off-peak times; ensure escape routes identified; vehicle amber beacons activated. (ALL)               | Operators,<br>public, drivers | Before Measure: High After Measure: Med   |
| Weather<br>conditions                        | Heat stress, cold exposure, lightning strike | Ensures continuity of service year-round while safeguarding staff health.        | Monitor forecasts; reschedule tasks in extreme heat, storms or frost; provide shaded breaks and hydration in summer; issue thermal/waterproof PPE in cold/wet weather; halt work during lightning; allow stop-work authority to supervisors. (ALL)            | Operators                     | Before Measure: High After Measure: Med   |
| Working near<br>water, banks<br>and edges    | Drowning, slips,<br>falls, entrapment        | Keeps drainage areas,<br>water margins and<br>access paths maintained<br>safely. | Assess banks for undercutting or collapse; no mowing within unsafe distances; wear PFD when working near water; use buddy system; throw lines and rescue equipment accessible; avoid ride-ons near edges; spotter present when risk identified. (ALL)         | Operators                     | Before Measure: High After Measure: Med   |
| Airborne dusts,<br>pollen and<br>bioaerosols | Respiratory irritation, asthma, allergies    | Allows continued work during allergy season with minimal disruption.             | Schedule mowing when dew suppresses dust; stand upwind; wet down dusty piles; wear FFP2/3 masks when necessary; maintain cab filters; rotate staff during peak pollen seasons; monitor and support staff with respiratory conditions. (ALL)                   | Operators                     | Before Measure:  Med  After Measure:  Low |



| HAZARD  | RISK   | RISK BENEFIT  | MEASURE   | RISK TO               | RISK LEVEL                                |
|---|--|---|---|-----------------------|---|
| Hand-arm<br>vibration                           | Hand-arm<br>vibration<br>syndrome,<br>numbness         | and trimming while  | Select low-vibration models; maintain balanced blades and lines; limit daily trigger time using exposure calculators; rotate tasks to reduce HAV risk; keep hands warm/dry; health surveillance in place; replace damaged AV mounts promptly. (ALL)       | Operators             | Before Measure:  Med  After Measure:  Low |
| Inadequate<br>safety briefings<br>& supervision | Confusion,<br>accidents, poor<br>emergency<br>response | Ensures smoother, safer jobs with fewer incidents or misunderstandings. | Toolbox talks before work; clarify roles and communications; review site-specific hazards; confirm emergency arrangements; check staff competence; reinforce stop-work authority; record attendance; adapt briefings to changes or new risks. (ALL)       | Operators             | Before Measure:  Med  After Measure:  Low |
| Leptospirosis/ani<br>mal waste                  |  | Maintains worker health while enabling safe grounds maintenance.        | Avoid contact with stagnant water; use waterproof gloves; cover cuts; clean hands before eating; provide clean water and sanitiser; use damp cleaning of droppings to avoid dust; brief staff on symptoms and encourage medical checks promptly. (ALL)    | Operators             | Before Measure:  Med  After Measure:  Low |
| Manual handling,<br>loading &<br>transport      | Back strain,<br>sprains, crush<br>injuries             |   | Use rated ramps with side rails when loading; team lifting for heavy kit; use trolleys or mechanical aids; secure equipment with straps; isolate fuel/batteries during transport; maintain clean, dry vehicle floors; follow neutral spine lifting. (ALL) | Operators,<br>drivers | Before Measure:  Med  After Measure:  Low |



| HAZARD                                      | RISK   | RISK BENEFIT   | MEASURE  | RISK TO                        | RISK LEVEL                                |
|---|--|--|--|--------------------------------|---|
|   | Accidental injury, safeguarding allegations        | Builds trust and ensures safe operations around public spaces.                     | Fence or cordon work zones; stop machinery if public enter; schedule away from school times; use DBS-checked staff on school sites; maintain professional code of conduct; ensure clear complaint routes; display visible safety signage. (ALL)            | Operators,<br>public, children | Before Measure:  Med  After Measure:  Low |
| Rotating blades (<br>walk-<br>behind/hover) | Severe cuts,<br>amputations,<br>entanglement       | Maintains safe, tidy turf reducing trip hazards and ensuring high-quality grounds. | Operators trained and supervised; guards/deflectors fitted at all times; engines switched off and plug/battery removed before maintenance; hands/feet kept clear; blades sharp and balanced; sturdy footwear, goggles and leg protection mandatory. (ALL)  | Operators,<br>bystanders       | Before Measure: High After Measure: Low   |
| Slopes and<br>unstable ground               | Slips, trips, falls,<br>machine loss of<br>control | Enables safe<br>management of banks<br>and slopes while<br>preventing overgrowth.  | Inspect slopes for holes, erosion or edges; keep within safe gradient limits of machine; mow across slopes where specified; never operate on wet, icy or loose soil; reduce speed, raise deck; wear cleated non-slip footwear; mark unstable areas. (ALL)  | Operators                      | Before Measure:  Med  After Measure:  Low |
| Ticks and Lyme<br>disease                   |  | Preserves staff health during outdoor tasks, reducing sickness absence.            | Wear long sleeves/trousers; tuck trousers into socks; apply DEET or permethrin to clothing; perform daily tick checks; provide tick removers; brief on symptom awareness; encourage early reporting of rashes or flu-like illness; record incidents. (ALL) | Operators                      | Before Measure:  Med  After Measure:  Low |



| HAZARD                  | RISK   | RISK BENEFIT  | MEASURE  | RISK TO   | RISK LEVEL                                |
|-------------------------|--|---|--|-----------|---|
| Whole-body<br>vibration | Musculoskeletal<br>disorders,<br>fatigue, back<br>pain | Improves productivity on large sites while limiting operator fatigue. | Maintain suspension seats and tyres; avoid long periods on uneven ground; plan slower routes; rotate operators regularly; schedule breaks; keep surfaces graded; monitor and report early signs of musculoskeletal issues from operators.  (ALL) | Operators | Before Measure:  Med  After Measure:  Low |
| Unpredicted<br>risks    | Illness, injury,<br>death                              |   | Continuous risk monitoring conducted by all staff. Any unforeseen hazards must be reported promptly to supervisors or management, with immediate corrective action taken as necessary. (ALL)   | All       | N/A                                       |

|                                 | NO.                  | IES                  |                      |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Extra Notes & Activity Evaluati | on:                  |                      |                      |
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| Completed by                    | Reviewed/Approved by | Risk Assessment Date | Review Required Date |