



270
CLIMBING

RISK ASSESSMENTS

MOBILE EQUIPMENT

2025-2026 ISSUE

RISK ASSESSMENT SCALES

The following Risk Assessments are scored on the scales as listed below.

FREQUENCY	
Constant	Daily interactions with hazard
Very Frequent	Weekly interactions with hazard
Frequent	Monthly interactions with hazard
Infrequent	Annual interactions with hazard
Rare	Less than annual interactions with hazard

SEVERITY		
5	Risk of Death	
4	Severe	Fracture, break, overnight stay in hospital
3	Moderate	Strain, sprain
2	Minor	Small cut, abrasion
1	Trivial	Discomfort, slight bruising

PROBABILITY		
5	Almost Certain	
4	Likely	
3	Fair	
2	Unlikely	
1	Remote	

RISK RATING SCORING BANDS	
15-25	High Priority action
6 - 12	Medium Priority action
2 - 5	Low Priority action
0 - 1	No further action

Assessor/Reviewer Name	Job Title	Signature	Date	Review Date
Simon Baldwin	Director in Charge, Mobile Activities	<i>S Baldwin</i>	01/03/2025	01/03/2026
Liam O'Hara	Safety & Maintenance Officer	<i>Liam O'Hara</i>	01/03/2026	01/03/2026

Reason for Assessment	Area(s) Assessed	Assessment No.
Reassessment	Cave / Walls / Interactive Wall	1

Hazard Description

Fire

Hazard Category(ies)**Risk Groups**

Safety Physical	Employees & Customers
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Risk Assessment (without control measures)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Initial Risk Rating
Constant	5- Risk of Death	3 - Fair	15 - High Priority action

Existing Controls

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The mobile cave has several exits, staff are trained to evacuate those in the cave Staff are trained to talk down and unclip those on the wall After ensuring there are no members of public in/on the equipment staff will progress immediately to the designated venue assembly point Evacuation procedures are practiced at training sessions with the cave staff and mobile activity staff.
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Further Controls**Deadline**

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Risk Assessment (taking control measures into account)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Residual Risk Rating
Constant	5 - Risk of Death	1 - Remote	5 - Low Priority action

Notes

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Liam O'Hara	Safety & Maintenance Officer	<i>Liam O'Hara</i>	01/03/2026	01/03/2026

Reason for Assessment	Area(s) Assessed	Assessment No.
Reassessment	Cave, Interactive Wall	2

Hazard Description

Slips, trips and falls

Hazard Category(ies)	Risk Groups
Physical	Employees & Customers

Risk Assessment (without control measures)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Initial Risk Rating
Constant	2 - Minor	4 - Likely	8 - Medium Priority action

Existing Controls

- Extra exits are bolted to prevent accidental opening from the inside
- A step ladder is used to assist egress from the higher-level exit
- Staff are trained to only utilise the higher level when it is assessed as the best option
- Crash mats are used as required
- Chairs and other obstacles are not allowed on mats
- Only staff and those participating are allowed on mats
- Mats are inspected and maintained or replaced if defective
- Mats are coloured to make them more apparent to the eye.

Further Controls**Deadline**

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Risk Assessment (taking control measures into account)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Residual Risk Rating
Constant	2 - Minor	2 - Unlikely	4 - Low Priority action

Notes

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Reason for Assessment	Area(s) Assessed	Assessment No.
Reassessment	Cave	3

Hazard Description

Impact injuries to head

Hazard Category(ies)

Physical

Risk Groups

Employees & Customers

Risk Assessment (without control measures)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Initial Risk Rating
Constant	3- Moderate	3- Fair	9- Medium Priority action

Existing Controls

- Helmets are issued to all users and trained staff ensure they are fitted correctly and are worn properly
- The only reason for the removal of a helmet is to aid if needed in an emergency situation.

Further Controls**Deadline****Risk Assessment (taking control measures into account)**

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Residual Risk Rating
Constant	1 - Trivial	2 - Unlikely	2- Low Priority action

Notes

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Liam O'Hara	Safety & Maintenance Officer	<i>Liam O'Hara</i>	01/03/2026	01/03/2026

Reason for Assessment	Area(s) Assessed	Assessment No.
Reassessment	Cave	4

Hazard Description

Overheating within enclosed space

Hazard Category(ies)	Risk Groups
Physical	Employees & Customers

Risk Assessment (without control measures)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Initial Risk Rating
Constant	2 - Minor	4 - Likely	8 - Medium Priority action

Existing Controls

- There is an extractor vent on the upper level at the back of the mobile cave
- Air flow is checked by instructors and an emergency exit is be opened to allow more air flow if needed
- Clothing is checked and advice is given for the correct level of clothing for the activity
- Cave sessions are only run when the cave is under 35°C internally.

Further Controls	Deadline

Risk Assessment (taking control measures into account)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Residual Risk Rating
Constant	2 - Minor	2 - Unlikely	4 - Low Priority action

Notes

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Reason for Assessment	Area(s) Assessed	Assessment No.
Reassessment	Cave / Walls	5

Hazard Description

Panic attacks, fear of small spaces and getting stuck, freezing and fear of climbing down

Hazard Category(ies)**Risk Groups**

Psychosocial Physical	Customers
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Risk Assessment (without control measures)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Initial Risk Rating
Constant	2 - Minor	4 - Likely	8 - Medium Priority action

Existing Controls

- A safety briefing takes place at the start of the activity
- Staff are trained to assist people through the cave
- The cave is equipped with multiple exits
- Staff are trained to show people the nearest exit in the cave
- Where people cannot be talked down the wall or out of the cave staff will follow the applicable rescue procedure.

Further Controls**Deadline**

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Risk Assessment (taking control measures into account)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Residual Risk Rating
Constant	1 - Trivial	3 - Fair	3 - Low Priority action

Notes

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Reason for Assessment	Area(s) Assessed	Assessment No.
Reassessment	Interactive Wall & Climbing Walls	7

Hazard Description

Fall/Jump and landing badly/collision with a falling person or object

Hazard Category(ies)**Risk Groups**

Physical	Employees & Customers
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Risk Assessment (without control measures)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Initial Risk Rating
Constant	4 - Severe	4 - Likely	16 - High Priority action

Existing Controls

- Foam floor / crash mats fitted on Interactive Wall, to reduce impact
- Safety briefing given before sessions
- Participants are instructed to climb down from the interactive wall
- Participants are instructed not to enter the fall zone of someone who is climbing
- Climbers are instructed on how to descend in a controlled manner on climbing walls
- Padding is placed over the stabilising leg on climbing walls
- Any barriers required are placed 2.4m from the wall face
- All sessions are supervised by trained staff.

Further Controls**Deadline**

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Risk Assessment (taking control measures into account)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Residual Risk Rating
Constant	3- Moderate	2- Unlikely	6 - Medium Priority action

Notes

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Reason for Assessment	Area(s) Assessed	Assessment No.
Reassessment	Interactive Wall / Walls / Cave	8

Hazard Description

Hot Weather

Hazard Category(ies)**Risk Groups**

Physical

Employees

Risk Assessment (without control measures)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Initial Risk Rating
Constant	3 - Moderate	4 - Likely	12 - Medium Priority action

Existing Controls

- Equipment to be set up in the shade where possible
- Events must fulfil legal obligation to provide supplies of drinking water
- Senior member of staff will ensure that water bottles are topped up as required throughout the day
- Staff are provided with caps to shade
- Emergency water is provided with every vehicle
- Sun cream is carried with every vehicle.

Further Controls**Deadline**

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Risk Assessment (taking control measures into account)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Residual Risk Rating
Constant	2- Minor	2- Unlikely	2- Low Priority action

Notes

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Reason for Assessment	Area(s) Assessed	Assessment No.
Reassessment	Walls	9

Hazard Description

Falling

Hazard Category(ies)

Physical

Risk Groups

Employees & Customers

Risk Assessment (without control measures)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Initial Risk Rating
Constant	4 - Severe	4 - Likely	16 - High Priority action

Existing Controls

- No free climbing allowed on mobile walls
- Climbers are instructed by staff on the correct method for descent
- Autobelay system maintained in accordance with applicable legislation and best practice
- If a manual belay system is used, then;
 1. Instruction must be by a Climbing Instructor recognised by 270 Climbing as competent to instruct top rope belay
 2. Instruction must be in accordance with 270 Climbing top rope guidelines and are covered by Indoor Climbing Risk Assessments.

Further Controls**Deadline****Risk Assessment (taking control measures into account)**

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Residual Risk Rating
Constant	4 - Severe	1 - Remote	4 - Medium Priority action

Notes

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Reason for Assessment	Area(s) Assessed	Assessment No.
Reassessment	Walls	10

Hazard Description

Being Fallen on, person or objects dropped including holds breaking

Hazard Category(ies)**Risk Groups**

Physical	Employees & Customers
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Risk Assessment (without control measures)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Initial Risk Rating
Constant	4 - Severe	4 - Likely	16 - High Priority action

Existing Controls

- Landing zone is marked off below the wall, only the instructor and climbers are allowed in this area
- Climbers are asked to secure any loose shoes and remove heavy objects from open pockets (mobile phones, keys etc)
- Holds are checked as part of scheduled safety inspections
- Staff or suitably trained operators supervise all operations.

Further Controls**Deadline**

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Risk Assessment (taking control measures into account)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Residual Risk Rating
Constant	2 - Minor	2 - Unlikely	4 - Low Priority action

Notes

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Reason for Assessment	Area(s) Assessed	Assessment No.
Reassessment	Walls	12

Hazard Description

Auto Belay Failure

Hazard Category(ies)	Risk Groups
Physical	Employees & Customers

Risk Assessment (without control measures)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Initial Risk Rating
Constant	4 - Severe	3 - Fair	12 - Medium Priority action

Existing Controls

- Daily inspections by trained staff are carried out each day prior to use
- Full thorough inspections are carried out every month by the technical team
- Yearly inspections are carried out by an external body (ADIPS inspection)
- Climbers are instructed what to do should the autobelay system stop working.

Further Controls**Deadline**

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Risk Assessment (taking control measures into account)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Residual Risk Rating
Constant	4 - Severe	1 - Remote	4 - Low Priority action

Notes

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RISK ASSESSMENTS: MOBILE EQUIPMENT

Reason for Assessment	Area(s) Assessed	Assessment No.
Reassessment	Walls / Interactive Wall	14

Hazard Description

Head Injuries, through contact with floor or wall

Hazard Category(ies)

Physical

Risk Groups

Employees & Customers

Risk Assessment (without control measures)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Initial Risk Rating
Constant	3 - Moderate	2 - Unlikely	6 - Medium priority action

Existing Controls

- Climbers are instructed on how to descend in a safe, controlled manner
- All sessions are supervised by trained staff.

Further Controls

Deadline

Risk Assessment (taking control measures into account)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Residual Risk Rating
Constant	2 - Minor	2 - Unlikely	4 - Low Priority action

Notes

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Reason for Assessment	Area(s) Assessed	Assessment No.
Reassessment	Walls / Interactive Wall	15

Hazard Description

Climber getting caught on holds (clothing/hoods/helmets/ Jewellery)

Hazard Category(ies)	Risk Groups
Physical	Employees & Customers

Risk Assessment (without control measures)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Initial Risk Rating
Constant	4 - Severe	3 - Fair	12 - Medium Priority action

Existing Controls

- No helmets are to be worn when using the climbing wall with an autobelay system
- Staff are trained to ensure the following;
 - All hooded clothing must be removed or tucked in and loose-fitting clothes to be secured or removed to prevent clothing becoming caught
 - Necklaces must be tucked in or removed, large earrings (especially hoops) should be removed
 - Climbers are briefed on the correct method of descent.

Further Controls**Deadline**

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Risk Assessment (taking control measures into account)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Residual Risk Rating
Constant	2 - Minor	1 - Remote	2 - Low Priority action

Notes

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Reason for Assessment	Area(s) Assessed	Assessment No.
Reassessment	Walls / Interactive Wall	16

Hazard Description

Structural failure of wall

Hazard Category(ies)**Risk Groups**

Fractures / Bruises	Employees & Customers
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Risk Assessment (without control measures)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Initial Risk Rating
Constant	5 - Risk of Death	2 - Unlikely	10 - Medium Priority action

Existing Controls

- Visual checks are carried out prior to use
- Full thorough detailed inspection of joints and weld points carried out each month
- NDT testing of wall by external inspectors carried out each year.

Further Controls**Deadline**

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Risk Assessment (taking control measures into account)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Residual Risk Rating
Constant	5 - Risk of Death	1 - Remote	5 - Low Priority action

Notes

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Reason for Assessment	Area(s) Assessed	Assessment No.
Reassessment	Walls	17

Hazard Description

Failure of equipment (Maillon / Carabiner / Swivels / Harnesses / Cable etc.)

Hazard Category(ies)**Risk Groups**

Physical	Employees & Customers
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Risk Assessment (without control measures)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Initial Risk Rating
Constant	4 - Severe	2 - Unlikely	8 - Medium Priority action

Existing Controls

- All equipment is appropriate for use
- All equipment is inspected prior to use
- Full, thorough inspections are carried out a minimum of every 3 months (or more frequently if required)
- All equipment is repaired or replaced as when required
- All equipment is inspected by an external body each year.

Further Controls**Deadline**

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Risk Assessment (taking control measures into account)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Residual Risk Rating
Constant	2 - Minor	1 - Remote	2 - Low Priority action

Notes

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RISK ASSESSMENTS: **MOBILE EQUIPMENT**

Reason for Assessment	Area(s) Assessed	Assessment No.
Reassessment	Walls	18

Hazard Description

Incorrect use of equipment: Incorrectly fitted harnesses/ Incorrectly attached Carabiner

Hazard Category(ies)	Risk Groups
Physical	Employees & Customers

Risk Assessment (without control measures)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Initial Risk Rating
Constant	4 - Severe	2 - Unlikely	8 - Medium Priority action

Existing Controls

- Staff are fully trained in the use of the equipment
- Harnesses are fitted by a trained member of staff and then a final check is carried out by the member of staff supervising the climbing
- Final 'squeeze' test on carabiner carried out before climbing.

Further Controls	Deadline

Risk Assessment (taking control measures into account)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Residual Risk Rating
Constant	2 - Minor	1 - Remote	2 - Low Priority action

Notes

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Reason for Assessment	Area(s) Assessed	Assessment No.
Reassessment	Walls / Interactive Wall / Cave	19

Hazard Description

Unauthorised/ unsupervised access to equipment

Hazard Category(ies)**Risk Groups**

Physical	Public
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Risk Assessment (without control measures)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Initial Risk Rating
Constant	3 - Moderate	3 - Fair	9 - Medium Priority action

Existing Controls

- Remote control is unplugged and placed in a secure location for walls
- One member of staff will always remain with wall at a live event or alternate supervision will be arranged (e.g. teacher at school lunchtime or room locked)
- Wall is lowered, with barriers put in position if left overnight
- Cave entrance points are locked when left overnight.

Further Controls**Deadline**

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Risk Assessment (taking control measures into account)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Residual Risk Rating
Constant	3 - Moderate	1 - Remote	3 - Low Priority action

Notes

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Reason for Assessment	Area(s) Assessed	Assessment No.
Reassessment	Walls	20

Hazard Description

Weather: Rain - causing slips/poor visibility

Hazard Category(ies)**Risk Groups**

Fractures / Bruises	Employees & Customers
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Risk Assessment (without control measures)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Initial Risk Rating
Constant	3 - Moderate	3 - Fair	9 - Medium Priority action

Existing Controls

- Climbers are instructed to take extra care while ascending and descending
- Climbers are instructed on how to descend in a safe, controlled manner
- Climbers are constantly monitored by staff to ensure instructions are followed
- If rain reaches an intensity where staff can no longer monitor the wall reliably (i.e. vision obscured by rain), the equipment risks becoming too slippery to handle, or staff feel that they and/or the climbers are at potential risk then climbing must cease.

Further Controls**Deadline**

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Risk Assessment (taking control measures into account)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Residual Risk Rating
Constant	3 - Moderate	1 - Remote	3 - Low Priority action

Notes

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Reason for Assessment	Area(s) Assessed	Assessment No.
Reassessment	Walls	21

Hazard Description

Weather: Danger due to high winds

Hazard Category(ies)**Risk Groups**

Physical	Employees & Customers
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Risk Assessment (without control measures)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Initial Risk Rating
Constant	5 - Risk of Death	2 - Unlikely	10 - Medium Priority action

Existing Controls

- The wind speed is checked before use and if a noticeable change in the weather occurs then it is checked again
- The walls can only be operated in wind speeds of less than 30mph
- The surface the wall is erected on must be sound and level with a gradient of no more than 5cm in a 2m length
- Each wall is equipped with an anemometer (wind measuring device).

Further Controls**Deadline**

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Risk Assessment (taking control measures into account)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Residual Risk Rating
Constant	5 - Risk of Death	1 - Remote	5 - Low Priority action

Notes

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Reason for Assessment	Area(s) Assessed	Assessment No.
Reassessment	Walls	22

Hazard Description

Weather: Danger due to Lightning

Hazard Category(ies)**Risk Groups**

Physical	Employees & Customers
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Risk Assessment (without control measures)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Initial Risk Rating
Constant	4 - Severe	2 - Unlikely	8 - Medium Priority action

Existing Controls

- If thunder is heard or lightning is visible (whichever is seen/heard first) climbing must cease and all staff and customers must move away from the climbing tower (at least 12 meters)
- Climbing can be resumed 15 minutes after the last clap of thunder or visible lightning (whichever occurs last).

Further Controls**Deadline**

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Risk Assessment (taking control measures into account)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Residual Risk Rating
Constant	4 - Severe	1 - Remote	4 - Low Priority action

Notes

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Reason for Assessment	Area(s) Assessed	Assessment No.
Reassessment	Walls	23

Hazard Description

Towing/ Setup: Injury while Sitting the wall

Hazard Category(ies)**Risk Groups**

Physical	Employees & Customers
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Risk Assessment (without control measures)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Initial Risk Rating
Constant	4 - Severe	2 - Unlikely	8 - Medium Priority action

Existing Controls

- Only competent staff approved by the company are allowed to drive vehicles and trailers
- Staff are trained to ensure vehicles are hitched correctly
- Pre-drive vehicle and trailer checks are carried out on according to procedure
- Vehicles and trailers are driven onsite carefully, site speed limits will not be exceeded
- Trailer is only positioned when safe to do so, location is clear of public and /or obstructions
- Second staff member to act as banksman or venue to provide staff to control area if single staffed.

Further Controls**Deadline**

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Risk Assessment (taking control measures into account)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Residual Risk Rating
Constant	4 - Severe	1- Remote	4 - Low Priority action

Notes

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Reason for Assessment	Area(s) Assessed	Assessment No.
Reassessment	Walls	24

Hazard Description

Towing / Setup: Injury during setup / raising and lowering of the wall

Hazard Category(ies)**Risk Groups**

Physical	Employees & Customers
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Risk Assessment (without control measures)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Initial Risk Rating
Constant	4 - Severe	3 - Fair	12 - Medium Priority action

Existing Controls

- Area around wall is carefully supervised by staff
- Wall is made ready following the setup procedures according to manufacturer's guidelines
- All supervising staff are trained in the setup procedure and have passed assessment in the setup of the wall
- Before wall is raised;
 - Overhead area is checked for obstructions
 - Wind speed is checked.

Further Controls**Deadline**

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Risk Assessment (taking control measures into account)

Frequency	Severity	Probability	Residual Risk Rating
Constant	2 - Minor	1 - Remote	2 - Low Priority action

Notes

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