



Central England Area Quaker Meeting (CEAQM)

Health & Safety 2023

To be completed:
Name of LM or Branch
Responsibility for implementing this policy falls to (role or roles)

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Introduction

The Area Meeting is required by law (Health and Safety at Work Act 1974) to provide a written statement of its general policy with respect to the health and safety at work of our employees*, voluntary workers* and volunteers*, and the organisation and arrangements in force to carry out the policy.

There are specific legal requirements in relation to the health and safety of employees, voluntary workers and volunteers, but this policy also covers health and safety in relation to everyone that uses our premises or joins in our activities.

It therefore includes advice and procedures to protect people in lone working situations (not just employees), a risk management procedure for events and trips, and a link to the Policy and Procedures for Safeguarding.

This is the policy document. It is divided into three parts.

- Section 1 is the general statement of policy.
- Section 2 specifies those persons with specific areas of responsibility.
- Section 3 gives arrangements and procedures, which apply to the whole Area Meeting, to ensure that we comply with the policy. Arrangements and procedures, which apply to a specific meeting house, are included in the relevant Meeting House Handbook.

Each Local Meeting and Branch* needs to incorporate into this policy provisions to cover any specific needs that apply to their circumstances.

If you need advice or support in implementing or adapting this policy please contact the CEQ office.

Section 1 General Statement of Policy

Central England Area Quaker Meeting's (CEAQM's) policy is to

- provide and maintain safe and healthy working conditions, equipment and systems of work for all our employees, voluntary workers and volunteers, which comply with the relevant statutory requirements and officially approved codes of practice;
- consult with our employees, voluntary workers and volunteers on matters affecting their health and safety;
- ensure safe handling and use of substances;
- provide information, instruction and supervision to enable all employees, voluntary workers and volunteers to contribute positively to their own and others' health and safety at work;
- ensure all employees, voluntary workers and volunteers are competent to do their tasks, and give them adequate training; prevent accidents and cases of work ill health.

We also accept appropriate responsibility for the health and safety of other people who are legitimately on our premises. This includes Members*, Attenders*, visitors and users*.

We are committed to ensuring as best we can the health and safety of people attending events or trips arranged by ourselves, whether on our premises or elsewhere.

The allocation of duties for safety matters and the particular arrangements applying to all our Meeting Houses or other premises, which we will make to implement the policy, are set out below.

This policy will be brought to the attention of all new staff, voluntary workers and volunteers. A copy of the policy will be kept at each of our Meeting Houses and other premises.

The Lone Worker Policy (Appendix 3) forms an integral part of this policy.

The policy will be kept up to date as the Area Meeting and its activities change. To ensure this, the policy and the way in which it has operated will be reviewed regularly.

Section 2 Responsibilities and Organisation

Overall and final responsibility for health and safety within the Area Meeting rests with the Trustees.

Day-to-day responsibility for ensuring this policy is put into practice is delegated as follows:

- For matters specific to each Meeting House, to its warden*, caretaker or equivalent post (from henceforward, referred to as “warden”), or, where there is no warden, to the Clerk or Convenor of the Meeting’s Premises Committee*.
- For matters related to employees based at other premises, to the Branch’s manager or management committee, or the employee’s line manager.
- For Bull Street Meeting House and Priory Rooms, to the directors of Priory Rooms (Birmingham) Limited.
- For non-employment matters, to the Clerk of the Local Meeting or Branch committee.

The people or bodies listed above are referred to as “the management” from this point forward.

Where Meeting for Worship or other activities are held in premises owned and managed by other organisations, responsibility for the health and safety of the premises belongs with the owner or manager of the building. However, those using the building have a duty to take reasonable care and to report problems to the building’s management.

All employees, voluntary workers and volunteers are responsible for:

- A. Taking reasonable care for the health and safety of themselves and of other persons, who may be affected by their acts or omissions at work.
- B. Co-operating with management to achieve a healthy and safe working environment.
- C. Telling their supervisor or the Clerk* of Premises Committee of any health and safety problem that they are not able to put right.

Section 3 - Arrangements and Procedures common to all Meeting Houses and Branch Premises

3.1 Accident / Injury

The Area Meeting will comply with the Health and Safety (First-Aid) Regulations 1981 as follows:-

At each Meeting House or Branch premises:

- We provide a suitably stocked and properly identified First Aid box. The management is responsible for maintaining the contents, and ensuring that all employees, voluntary workers, volunteers and users know where the box is.
- The most senior staff member on duty is appointed to take charge of any situation in which an injury arises. Where there is no staff, an appropriate Friend will take charge.
- We have an accident book or record sheet in which all accidents and cases of work-related ill health are to be recorded.
- We will ensure that all employees, voluntary workers, volunteers and users know where the book or record sheet is.
- The management is responsible for reporting accidents, diseases and dangerous occurrences to the Clerk of Premises Committee or equivalent body. This person will record and report each incident at any of our meeting houses by one of the following means:

(To be completed locally)

First-aid needs must be assessed to decide whether any specific provision should be made, and reviewed after any operating changes and at least every five years.

3.2 Risk Assessment (also see appendix 6)

Separate risk assessments will be carried out at each Meeting House or Branch Premises. The clerk of each Premises Committee or equivalent body will decide where risk assessments are required, arrange for them to be carried out, and ensure the relevant staff, voluntary workers and volunteers read, agree them and sign them.

At each Meeting House or Branch premises other than Bull Street/Priory Rooms:

- The management will undertake risk assessments (template Appendix 6) in collaboration with a member of the Premises Committee or equivalent body.
- The findings of the risk assessments will be reported to the clerk of the Premises Committee or equivalent body.
- The clerk of each Premises Committee will report the findings of risk assessments to the clerk of the Trustees' Property Committee.
- If action is required at Area Meeting level to remove/control risks, the clerk of the Property Committee will be responsible for ensuring the action is implemented and checking that it has removed/reduced the risks. Where the action needed to remove/control risks is local to a specific Meeting House or Branch, management, in

conjunction with the clerk of the relevant committee, is responsible for ensuring the action is completed and checking that it has removed/reduced the risks.

- Assessments will be reviewed every five years or when the work activity changes, whichever is sooner.

The management, as defined in Section 2, will be responsible for risk assessments.

3.3 Consultation with employees

Consultation with employees on health and safety issues is through the clerk of Employment Committee and property link Trustees.

3.4 Safe Plant and Equipment

The management of each Meeting House or Branch will be responsible for

- Ensuring all equipment / plant is properly maintained.

Any problems found with plant/equipment should be reported to Premises Committee or equivalent body.

3.5 Safe handling and use of substances

It is the preferred policy to avoid the use of substances which fall within the Control Of Substances Hazardous to Health regulations (COSHH). Where this is not possible, management will be responsible for -

- identifying all substances which need a COSHH assessment, undertaking COSHH assessments and implementing them.
- . Assessments will be reviewed every five years or when the work activity changes, whichever is sooner.

3.6 Visual Display Units

The Area Meeting will comply with the Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations 1992 by doing the following:

A. Assess workstations and reduce risks to users.

New assessments are needed if there are new workstations, changes to a workstation, or a new user of a workstation.

B. Ensure workstations meet minimum requirements.

C. Arrange eye tests on request, and provide spectacles if special ones are needed.

We shall make arrangements if and when an employee requests a test.

D. Provide health and safety training and information.

The Health and Safety Executive's leaflet [Working with VDUs](#) is recommended for this purpose.

Management will ensure that these actions are carried out.

We believe that the work of staff naturally provides adequate breaks from display screen use. Should any employee find they need more breaks than they are able to arrange for themselves, they should contact their line manager.

3.7 Information, instruction and supervision

Management at each Meeting House or Branch premises is responsible for:-

- Displaying the Health and Safety Law poster.
- Arranging and undertaking or monitoring the supervision of any young workers/trainees employed at the Meeting House or Branch.
- Displaying the certificate of employers liability insurance

The employee's line manager is responsible for ensuring that any of our employees working at a location under the control of another employer is given relevant health and safety information.

3.8 Competency for tasks and training

Any new employee, voluntary worker or appropriate volunteer should be given appropriate health and safety and fire training

Induction and job- or role-specific training will be provided for all employees, voluntary workers and appropriate volunteers, as follows:-

- By Premises Committee for the warden / MH manager of a Meeting House.
- By the warden / MH manager of each Meeting House for others employed or volunteering there.
- By their line manager for any other employee.

3.9 Monitoring

Management is responsible for investigating accidents at the Meeting House or Branch premises. The Clerk should refer to CEAQM's policy and procedures on *Management of Sickness Absence and Long-Term Ill-health*.

Each Premises Committee will organise an annual inspection of the premises (Annual Property Questionnaire) and include health and safety issues.

3.10 Emergency procedures - fire and evacuation

Management of each Meeting House or Branch Premises is responsible for ensuring the fire risk assessment is undertaken and implemented.

Section 4 General

4.1 All Local Meetings

All Local Meetings and worshipping groups are responsible for the health and safety of Members, Attenders, children and young people, and visitors. Those meeting in other's

premises should be aware of risks of the sort set out in this document, and Clerks should make sure that any accidents, injuries or perceived risks are reported to the management of those premises.

Local Meetings must appoint a Safeguarding Lead and ensure that the Safeguarding Children, Young people and Adults at Risk notice is displayed – so that everyone knows who to contact for support or advice.

CEAQM's Safeguarding Policy and Procedures can be found at <http://centralenglandquakers.org.uk/safeguarding/>

4.2 Events and trips

Local Meetings, Committees and others, who are organising events or trips, are advised to use the CEAQM *Risk Assessment Form for Events or other activities (appendix 5)*, especially if the event is taking place in non-Quaker premises or is a trip or excursion.

4.3 Records of accidents and work- or premises-related ill-health

Accidents & work- or premises-related ill health:-
The current accident records are kept.....**to be completed locally**
Old accident records are filed..... **to be completed locally**

4.4 Working at Height

Working from ladders, step ladders or scaffolding can be hazardous, especially for people with reduced mobility and/or balance. This should only be done when the operator is fully fit, competent / trained in using the equipment and accompanied by another person. Otherwise a suitable tradesperson should be used.

4.5 Electricity

Use a qualified electrician to undertake all electrical work beyond changing a bulb or fuse.

4.6 Building Maintenance

Routine building maintenance should be undertaken by someone competent to perform the task. If in doubt, employ an external worker e.g. a carpenter.

4.7 Slips, Trips and Falls

Slips, trips and falls are the most common accident. Regular inspections should take place to ensure that buildings are free from hazards such as loose carpets, obstructions / clutter, unmarked steps. Any hazards identified should be made safe.

4.8 Records

Building records such as gas safety checks, legionella or electrical certificates etc. should be held by the manager, warden or premises committee.

4.9 Advice

CEAQM Trustees' Employment Committee – please contact via the Area Meeting Office 0121 236 2644 / admin@ceaqm.org.uk

CEAQM's Policies, Procedures and Forms can be found at <http://centralenglandquakers.org.uk/employment/>

Quaker Life at Friends House acts as a link for employers and employees and is able to offer guidance and advice on resources. The following links may be helpful

<http://www.quaker.org.uk/resources/directory-of-services/wardens>

<http://www.quaker.org.uk/employers>

Appendix 1: Definitions

Attenders: regular attenders at Meeting for Worship, who are not in membership.

Branch: CEAQM currently has employees managed by 2 committees – for the West Midlands Quaker Peace Education Project (Peacemakers), and Peace Hub. These are labelled as “Branches” of the charity.

Clerk: Premises Committees are usually ‘led’ by a Clerk, but some may have a convenor.

Employee: an employee is here defined as someone paid a wage or salary for work that they undertake. It excludes people who undertake work on a self-employed basis or contractors taken on to undertake a specific task (e.g. builders, plumbers, etc.).

Local Meetings: these are the basic building blocks of the national Quaker organisation. They hold public meetings for worship at regular times, usually each week, and are responsible for the spiritual nurture of those who worship with them, for the care and protection of children and young people, and for various organisational tasks, such as finance and care of premises and records. At the time of writing, CEAQM has 14 Local Meetings.

Management: for the purpose of this document only, “management” includes

- Wardens, meeting house managers, or equivalent persons responsible for a Meeting House
- Branch manager or management committee, or clerk to management committee
- Line managers
- Clerks or convenors of Premises Committee
- Local Meeting Clerks

Members: members of the Religious Society of Friends.

Premises Committee: all local Meetings with Meeting Houses are required to have a Premises Committee which takes responsibility for the building and its environs. Area Meeting Property Committee has model Terms of Reference for Premises Committees.

Users: many Meeting Houses are used by other organisations and it is important that Premises Committees ensure that each group has a responsible person, who has signed an agreement for using the premises. Area Meeting Property Committee has a model agreement.

Voluntary Worker: Voluntary workers are not paid a wage, because of an exemption under the National Minimum Wage 1998 (section 44). The exemption is designed to allow people who genuinely wish to work for a charity or voluntary organisation without profit to do so without fear of qualifying for the national minimum wage.

Voluntary workers are entitled to core employment rights including the right to:

- A minimum period of holiday (annual leave).
- Minimum length of rest breaks.
- Not work more than 48 hours on average per week or to opt out of this right if they choose.
- Protection against unlawful discrimination.

- Protection for 'whistleblowing' (reporting wrongdoing in the workplace)

The contract you have agreed with your voluntary worker may specify additional rights, in which case these will also apply to your particular arrangement.

Please note that the law does not allow for any middle ground between a 'voluntary worker' who does not receive a wage and an employee who must receive a wage at minimum wage levels or above. If you pay any wage, then it must be at least at Minimum Wage levels.

Volunteer: a volunteer undertakes work on a voluntary basis because they want to – there is no contract obliging them to do so. He or she does not have a contract of employment and is not paid for the work they want to do.

For the purposes of this policy, "volunteer" includes people appointed in line with CEAQM's Volunteer Policy as well as Members and Attenders.

Some wardens (see below) will be volunteers.

Most volunteers undertaking tasks at a Meeting House will be Members or Attenders of the Meeting. Some will be given specific responsibilities, for example, as members of Premises Committee or Children's Committee, but others may take on responsibilities on an ad hoc basis. Premises Committees need to be vigilant about informal volunteering where it may involve repairs or maintenance, as they must ensure that tasks are undertaken safely, both in relation to the volunteer's safety and in terms of maintaining a safe environment for others. The diffuse nature of responsibility in a Local Meeting means that in practice Premises Committee will need to ensure that all Members and Attenders are aware of health and safety, and in particular know where the first aid kit is and what the fire or emergency evacuation procedure is.

Warden: some wardens will be employees, others will be volunteers or voluntary workers (see above). In this document, the term "warden", has been used to identify all those with designated responsibility for premises. A variety of job titles are in use, including caretaker and meeting house manager.

Appendix 2: Local arrangement requirements

Under the terms of the policy, Local Meetings and Branches are responsible for establishing the necessary detailed provisions for health and safety at their particular premises. In order to do this they should ensure that the following matters are considered, and an annual record of review written, signed by all concerned and filed (this could be done as part of the Annual Property Questionnaire process):-

- Fire instructions, including activating alarms, evacuation and assembly details (should be displayed on a wall for all to see/use)
- Fire fighting equipment information and maintenance requirements
- Training and making the information known to users of the premises
- What to do in the event of gas leaks or plumbing failures
- First aid provision
- Disorderly incident procedures
- Overnight accommodation rules where applicable
- Safety and safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults
- Safety of staff, including
 - Safe handling of furniture and equipment, and correct lifting procedures
 - Opening and closing the buildings, and dealing with users and callers
 - Ensuring that Working at Height Regulation requirements are met, in particular working on ladders, in lofts and on roofs
 - Risk assessments for Lone Working carried out and implemented
- Control of cash and ensuring safe banking procedures are followed.
- Regular checks as required on emergency lighting, portable electric appliances, and fire alarms, fire extinguishers, first aid boxes, gas appliances, and fixed electrical appliances
- Risk assessments in line with Property Committee annual procedures.

Appendix 3: Lone Workers Policy

In this appendix “staff” refers to employees, voluntary workers and volunteers*.

1. POLICY STATEMENT

1.1 Central England Area Quaker Meeting (CEAQM) takes very seriously the health, safety and welfare of all its staff. It recognises that some staff* are required to work by themselves for significant periods of time without close or direct supervision in its Meeting Houses. The purpose of this policy is to enable CEAQM to meet its obligation to protect these staff so far as is reasonably practicable from the risks of lone working.

2. SCOPE

2.1 This policy applies to all staff including temporary staff. It forms an integral part of CEAQM’s Health and Safety Policy. The policy applies to all situations involving lone working arising in connection with the duties and activities of our staff.

3. DEFINITION OF A LONE WORKER

3.1 CEAQM defines lone workers as:

‘Staff whose working activities involve situations where they are without any kind of close or direct supervision. Employees whose activities involve a large percentage of their working time operating in situations without the benefit of interaction with other workers. Lone work is not the chance occurrence of finding oneself on one’s own, for example, when somebody arrives first in the office or leaves last, or where an individual has to go unaccompanied to another part of the workplace. Lone work is specifically intended to be unaccompanied work, or work without immediate access to another person for assistance.’

4. POLICY AIMS

4:1 This policy aims to:

- increase staff awareness of safety issues relating to lone working;
- make sure that the risk of working alone is assessed in a systematic and ongoing way, and that safe systems and methods of work are put in place to reduce the risk so far as is reasonably practicable;
- make sure that appropriate training is available to staff in all areas, that equips them to recognise risk and provides practical advice on safety when working alone;
- make sure that appropriate support is available to staff who have to work alone;
- encourage full reporting and recording of all adverse incidents relating to lone working; and
- reduce the number of incidents and injuries to staff related to lone working.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1 Lone working environments present a unique health and safety problem. Although there is no specific legal guidance on working alone, under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, and the Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992, we must organise and control the health and safety of lone workers.

5.2 Trustees are responsible for:

- making sure that there are arrangements for identifying, evaluating and managing risk associated with lone working;
- providing resources for putting the policy into practice; and
- making sure that all staff are aware of the policy;
- making sure that risk assessments are carried out and reviewed regularly;
- putting procedures and safe systems of work into practice which are designed to eliminate or reduce the risks associated with working alone;
- making sure that staff groups and individuals identified as being at risk are given appropriate information, instruction and training, including training at induction, updates and refresher training as necessary;
- making sure that appropriate support is given to staff involved in any incident; and
- managing the effectiveness of preventative measures through an effective system of reporting, investigating and recording incidents.

5.2 All staff are responsible for:

- taking reasonable care of themselves and other people who may be affected by their actions
- cooperating by following rules and procedures designed for safe working;
- reporting all incidents that may affect the health and safety of themselves or others and asking for guidance as appropriate;
- taking part in training designed to meet the requirements of the policy; and
- reporting any dangers they identify or any concerns they might have in respect of working alone.

6. ASSESSING THE RISK

6.1. Lone workers should not face any more risks than other staff within the organisation. Setting up safe working arrangements for lone workers is no different to organising the safety of other staff, so we must all follow the general principles of risk assessment. If a risk assessment shows that it is not possible for the work to be done safely by a lone worker, other arrangements must be put in place. Risk assessment should take account of both normal work and foreseeable emergencies such as fire, illness and accidents. The risk assessment process is summarised below, separated into five distinct stages and action points to support effective assessment of the risks involved in lone working.

	Process	Action point
1	Identifying lone workers	Establish and identify lone workers for each work area.
2	Identifying associated hazards	Isolate the range of dangers associated with whole areas of work and/or work processes. Review a generic risk assessment to make sure you have included these issues.
3	Assessing the degree of risk for generic or individual situations	Review the generic risk assessments and complete individual or local risk assessments if necessary. Then prioritise the level of associated risk.

4	Putting control measures in place, and developing safe systems of work	Assess how effective the existing control measures are and update them if appropriate. Develop local procedures or action plans if necessary.
5	Evaluating and review	Evaluate and record how effective the control measures are. Review when the assessments or controls are no longer required.

6.2 Risk assessments must be carried out in all areas of work where working alone poses an actual or potential risk to staff. The risk assessment will involve identifying all potential dangers and the risks associated with specific work tasks or activities. It should identify who will be affected and how, and the control measures which are needed to get rid of or reduce the risk to the lowest level reasonably possible. Risk assessment should be carried out by competent people and should be recorded and shared with relevant others. Factors to consider when carrying out the risk assessment include the following:

- Does the workplace present a special risk to the lone worker?
- Can the risks of the job be adequately controlled by one person?
- Is the person medically fit and suitable to work alone?
- What training is needed to make sure the staff member is competent in safety matters?
- Have staff received the training which is necessary to allow them to work alone?
- How will the person be supervised?
- Is there a risk of violence?
- Are people of a particular gender especially at risk if they work alone?
- Are new or inexperienced staff especially at risk if they work alone?
- Are younger workers especially at risk if they work alone?
- What happens if a person becomes ill, has an accident, or if there is an emergency?
- Are there systems in place for contacting and tracing those who work alone?

6.3 Details of the risk assessment should be recorded and should include:

- the extent and nature of the risks;
- factors that contribute to the risk including job content and specific tasks and activities; and
- the safe systems of work to be followed to eliminate or reduce the risk.
- Information from the risk assessment should be passed to staff. Where specific tasks have been found to be inappropriate for lone workers (e.g. working on ladders or roofs) this should be recorded in writing and signed by the employee in acknowledgement. Risk assessments should be reviewed and updated each year (or sooner should circumstances change).

7. MANAGING RISK

7.1 The risk which lone workers face should be reduced to the lowest level that is reasonably practicable. Issues to consider in developing safe systems of work include:

- joint working with others for high-risk activities;
- improvements to security arrangements in buildings;
- security lighting in parking areas;
- using checking-in and monitoring systems; and
- using personal protective equipment or mobile phones and personal alarms.

Note: CEAQM has a recommended Lone Worker Alarm system; details are available from the Area Meeting Administrator, 0121 236 2644.

7.2 Arrangements for managing risk should include:

- guidance for lone workers on assessing risk;
- details of when to stop and get advice; and
- the procedures to be followed in the event of an incident or emergency. All staff must be familiar with these procedures.

8. STAFF TRAINING

8.1 CEAQM will provide training where required to allow lone working. The training will be based on the needs identified through local risk assessment.

9. REPORTING & RECORDING

9.1 Staff should report all incidents (including near misses) to their line manager at the earliest opportunity. These should be reported on an incident form and the line manager should investigate all reports. In order to monitor the implementation and effectiveness of this policy any incident reports should be reviewed regularly.

10. MONITORING & REVIEWING

10.1 Trustees will monitor and review this policy to make sure that it is achieving the aims of the policy. The review processes will include:

- collecting and monitoring all reported incidents;
- every year, reviewing this area of the AM Risk Management Policy;
- and every year, reviewing progress in reducing risk and incidents and, if necessary, making recommendations for improvement for the forthcoming year.

Appendix 4: Lone Worker Risk Assessment (including volunteers)

Description of task involving lone working:-	People exposed to the risk
	High, Medium, Low or Nil Risk
Do staff work alone?	
Do staff work outside normal working hours?	
Do staff meet with people in isolated places?	
Is there sufficient security provision?	
Is there good access to the premises?	
Is there first aid available if staff need it?	
Do staff activities involve working in confined spaces?	
Do the activities involve handling dangerous substances?	
Any other risks? (give details)	
Existing control measures	Yes / No / NA (if yes inc. details)
Do you provide joint working where dangerous substances or confined working are involved?	
Is CCTV available?	
Do you use entrance security systems such as swipe cards or digilocks?	
Is there security lighting in place?	
Have you made panic buttons (linked to monitoring) available?	
Do you use reporting/checking in systems?	
Do you carry out regular supervision or colleague checks?	
Do you use two way radios or other communication systems?	
Do staff have information and training on basic personal safety?	
Are staff trained in strategies for preventing and managing violence?	
Do staff have access to forms to report incidents, and are they aware of the need for these precautions?	

Other measures? Give details)		
Are these procedures adequate?	Y/N	Action required:-
Assessor:	Date:	

Appendix 5: Risk assessments for events and trips

Central England Area Quaker Meeting Risk Assessment Form for Events or other activities

Contact person			
Site		Date and time	
Type of event		No of participants	

Hazards involved	Safety measures in place	Comments

Appendix 6.

Meeting House General Risk Assessment

Risk assessment for _____ Area Meeting/ Local Meeting

Completed/reviewed by _____ Date _____

Next review due _____

The contents of this template are included as typical risks and actions at a typical meeting house, it can be adapted as required for other venues or premises. Each line should be reviewed and edited to make it relevant to the particular building. Any missing significant risks and actions should be added where appropriate.

No.	What is the risk?	What can go wrong, how, who might be affected?	What are you already doing?	What further action is necessary?	Action by whom?	Action by when?	Date done
1	Slips, trips and falls	Staff, Friends and other building users might trip over pot holes, loose floor coverings, poorly lit steps, trailing extension leads or slip on spilt liquids.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly check that floor coverings are fixed securely Have a door mat at the entrances to reduce rainwater being carried into the building Check car park for uneven ground/ potholes periodically Ensure mop is available for spills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mark step edging with white paint in poorly lit areas Provide handrails to steps if concerned. Tape extension leads to the floor when being used. 			
2	Work at height E.g. changing light bulbs, clearing gutters, cleaning windows	Staff or Friends might fall from ladders or step ladders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always have two people when working at height Always 'foot' ladders and place on firm ground Check ladders are in good condition before using them 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If concerned pay a professional to do the job. 			
3	Kettles	Staff, Friends and other building users could suffer scalds from spills from kettles filled with hot water.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place kettles on solid surface and place tea pots etc. next to them for filling to avoid carrying full hot kettles Don't overfill kettles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Think about a wall mounted water boiler in place of a kettle 			
4	Lifting and carrying i.e. Manual handling	Staff and Friends may damage their back lifting heavy or awkward objects and boxes etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Store stuff in easy to access places, not on high shelves Use two people to lift stacking tables. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider online training for warden Put up info sheet on notice board 			

5	Exposure to hazardous substances e.g. cleaning products	Staff and Friends could have skin problems, eye damage and vapour could cause breathing problems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Store harmful products safely • Mops, brushes and gloves to be used for cleaning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearly label harmful products • Look at replacing harmful products with less powerful alternatives 			
6	Use of equipment	Staff, Friends and other building users could be injured by using garden strimmer and kitchen equipment improperly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure instructions and warning labels are in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage people to ask how to use equipment if they are unfamiliar with it 			
7	Food poisoning	Friends and other building users could suffer food poisoning if poor food hygiene occurs, especially cross contamination from raw meat.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be familiar with basic kitchen practice and place notices on the wall • Have separate chopping boards for raw meat, fresh fruit, salad and veg, cooked food. • Ensure food is properly stored in the fridge. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Periodically check fridge to ensure storage instructions are being followed • Run simple briefing exercise for people using the kitchen • Ban cooking raw meat in the kitchen 			
8	Vehicle movement in car park	Staff, Friends and other building users could be hit by manoeuvring cars and vans.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider putting up 5mph signs • Put up external light 			

9	Fire – see also separate more detailed fire risk assessment and fire management plan.	Staff, Friends and other building users, might be caught in a fire and unable to escape. Damage to the building and contents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire risk assessment done • Management plan done • Extinguishers and blanket in place and checked • Emergency lighting and smoke alarms in place and tested. • Warden to remain vigilant for burnable materials left in unsuitable places. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review management plan and carry out incomplete actions. 			
10	Electricity	Staff, Friends and other building users could be electrocuted by faulty equipment. Electrical wiring could degrade leading to shocks or fire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAT testing done 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrange for electrical system check (5 yearly) 			
11	Gas equipment	Staff, Friends and other building users could suffer from carbon monoxide poisoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gas checks and servicing of boiler and wall heaters done annually 				
12	Legionella	Shower is infrequently used thus water can remain in the system for weeks allowing legionella bacteria to potentially grow and infect a shower user.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Run shower hot for five minutes each week. 				
13	Asbestos	Staff, Friends and other building users have very low risk but maintenance tradesmen may be at risk if they disturb asbestos in the building.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out asbestos survey and act on findings. • Have briefing for any tradesmen employed. 			

14	Personal security fears from being alone in the building	Staff, Friends or other building users may be concerned about their personal security if they are in the building alone at night.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lock front door when in the building alone. • Advise people to have a mobile phone with them • Ensure someone knows where you are 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install movement sensitive external security lighting around building. 			
15	Display screen equipment	Computer users get eye strain or back aches from over use and poor posture.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure computer set and desk are comfortable for users 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install window blind to cut out glare 			
16	Building decay	Friends have to manage large repair works due to inadequate routine maintenance or inspection and repair work being delayed such that it is a large task requiring much time, effort and money instead of it having been a modest, easily managed, cheaper task.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk round the building and garden with open eyes periodically. • Carry out annual check of the building – see BYM Property advice sheet 5, ‘Check list and annual report of premises safety’ and act on findings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake full Quinquennial inspection every five years and plan work arising from report. 			
17	Blocked gutters	Friends have to deal with damp entering the building due to overflowing gutters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear gutters of leaves and debris late autumn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear gutters of leaves and debris a second time in the year! 			
18	Blocked drains	Friends and other building users are unable to use toilets and have to deal with a flood.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lift drain chamber covers once a year and check they are free running 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission CCTV survey of drains 			

Employment Policies and Procedures are available at <http://centralenglandquakers.org.uk/employment/> and on Office 365.

Property Committee documents are available via the Principal Officer or Committee's Clerk, please contact the Area Office Administrator on 0121 236 2644.

Health and Safety at Work Policy	Prepared by Gill Coffin
Approved by CEAQM	13 May 2012
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Revised policy approved by CEAQM Trustees	Date: 14:04:2014, 31:10:2023
Definition of volunteer updated by Gill Coffin	30:09:2014
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