

Flat Roof Pre-access Hazard Identification Report

01.042 PHYSICS

Date undertaken 25th October 2021

Prepared for

University of Warwick,
Coventry,
CV4 7AL

Prepared by

Jane Cummings

On behalf of University of Warwick Estates

Executive Summary

Building 01.042 Physics, Central Campus

Key Hazards

CAUTION Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) panels exist on the plant room roof. Please review the RAAC risk assessment before accessing the roof: 01.042 Physics Plant Room space risk assessment Jun 26.pdf

- Slips, trips and falls around the site: The roof is slabbed and the surface of the slabs may become slippery during wet or icy weather, especially if moss or weeds are allowed to build up, of which there was some evidence (see photos). There are two roof levels. The main, lower roof has a lot of plant including AHUs, chillers, fume cupboard stacks so there are a lot of trip hazards in the form of cable trays, trailing cables, ducts, pipework, ventilation outlets as well as uneven slabs and changes in levels. The edge barrier supports provide an additional trip hazard.

- Slips, trips and falls around the site: the plant room is frequently used by departmental and Estates staff and there are sometimes tools and materials on the floor. On this visit, an old pump set had been left on the roof directly outside the plant room door (see photo).

- High winds and gusts: Your permit may be cancelled if winds are forecast to be above the UoW action level at the time of the permit, but you must always adequately risk assess weather hazards for your own purposes.

- Falls from height: Both roofs are fully edge protected however work on some plant requires operatives to work right against the edge protection so consideration should be given to the potential for falls from height in terms of materials and tools, especially in high winds. CCTV cameras are installed on the outside of the edge protection so work on these would require additional fall prevention measures.

- Falls from height: Access to the upper roof is via a fixed, hooped, metal access ladder. Adequate consideration must be given for transporting tools, equipment and materials onto the roof while maintaining three points of contact on the ladder.

- Bump hazards: There is a lot of plant on the north-westerly end of the roof, so care must be taken when navigating between it, under pipes and ductwork etc.

- Unknown hazards from departmental equipment: There are various antennae and telecommunications equipment on the upper roof and one to the rear of the main roof. Advice should be sought from the Building Manager before planning work near this equipment.

- Falls through fragile roof materials: There are some roof lights to the left of the walkway leading to the MAS Building roof. These hazards should be detailed on the MAS Building Roof Hazard Survey.

- Unauthorised access: At the time of the survey the door to the plant room in MAS Building was unlocked therefore allowing unauthorised access into the plant room. **Permit holders must only access areas stipulated on their permit.**

- Unauthorised access: At the time of the survey the door from the plant room to the roof was unlockable with just an S1 key, so unknown, unauthorised access may occur.

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VERSION	DATE	DESCRIPTION	CREATED BY	REVIEWED BY
1.0	05/11/2021	First Issue	JC	
2.0	23/11/2026	RAAC caution added	MW	

1. BRIEF

This report is provided as a record of our inspection of access routes and identification of hazards in accessing and being on the flat roof sections of the Physics Building, Building Number 01.042. Site specific risk assessments for access to the work area and the work to be undertaken are the responsibility of those undertaking the work. This report is not a risk assessment; it is intended to provide a helpful guide to identify known hazards associated with accessing and attendance on the roof. The list of hazards is not exhaustive and is not a substitute for anyone undertaking their own risk assessment. Contractors are expected to comply with current Health and Safety Legislation and to have met all other requirements of the University in working on Campus (read and signed the Code of Conduct for Contractors, watched the University Code of Conduct video, received a local induction etc.) under separate cover.

2. DATE OF INSPECTION

25th October 2021

3. ACCESS

3.1 A roof access permit will need to be requested with suitable RAMS at least 72 hours before it is required for any planned work. If approved, the permit is issued to the permit requester via email, usually the day before it is required. If a roof access card is required, the Permit Office issues instructions to the permit requester to say how this should be collected. Contractors should sign in on site as agreed with their Contract Supervisor. For this roof you will require; a roof access permit and a Salto roof access card to open the plant room door and the roof door.

3.2 When you reach Physics, you will need to approach from the south-westerly side and access the building via the loading bay through the double doors marked ‘Goods Inward’ (see photos). There is no reception to sign in at this building.

3.3 Go straight ahead through the next set of doors where you proceed up the stairs on your left to the fifth floor (or a goods lift is available on the right if you need it). Once at the top of the stairs turn right and you will see a door marked ‘No unauthorised access’ (see photo). Use the Salto card to open this door and proceed up the stairs into the main plant room (note this is a working plant room where other staff may be carrying out work). Turn right and walk to the end of the plant room where you will find a white double door on the left with a Salto lock. The roof door is opened with the Salto access card. There is a metal step down onto the roof, which is mainly slabbed.

3.4 The vertical fixed ladder to the upper roof is to the right.

4. PARKING

Parking is very limited on campus. The nearest car parks are 9 and 10 (CP204) which are payable. Specialist contractor parking may be pre-booked with your University Contact/Project Manager if you are eligible.

5. WELFARE

5.1. The welfare facilities in Physics are available for your use. There are WCs on all floors.

5.2. There are various shops & coffee shops nearby the site for food and drink.

5.3. There must be at least one first aider on site at all times which should be organised by the Competent Person. Lone working on roofs is prohibited.

5.4. There must be an adequate first aid kit provided by the Competent Person.

5.5. Waste must be collected and disposed of appropriately by the Competent Person. If the Competent Person is an external contractor, they should remove any waste from the site and dispose of it according to their company policy. University employees should remove any waste or redundant equipment from the roof area and dispose of it according to University policy and guidance.

6. SEASONAL INFORMATION

6.1. The site is in its best condition from May to September when it is typically mostly dry.

6.2. It must be taken into consideration by the Competent Person that in wet or freezing conditions throughout the year the ground and roofs may present an additional risk of slips, trips, and falls.

6.3. In the autumn and winter months, it will be dark at the extremes of the working day and low light conditions may occur throughout the day. The Competent Person will need to assess if temporary lighting may be required.

6.4. Operatives should wear appropriate clothing for the weather conditions and in spring, summer and early autumn, operatives should ensure to protect against UV skin damage.

7. GENERAL HAZARDS

7.1 Slips, trips and falls around the site: The roof is slabbed, however the surface may become slippery during wet or icy weather, especially if moss or weeds are allowed to build up.

7.2 High winds and gusts; your permit may be cancelled if winds are forecast to be above the UoW action level at the time of the permit, but you must always adequately risk assess weather hazards for your own purposes.

8. OVERHEAD CABLES

8.1. There are no overhead cables on this site.

9. SITE SPECIFIC HAZARDS

CAUTION Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) panels exist on the plant room roof. Please review the RAAC risk assessment before accessing the roof: 01.042 Physics Plant Room space risk assessment Jun 26.pdf

9.1. Slips, trips and falls around the site: The roof is slabbed and the surface of the slabs may become slippery during wet or icy weather, especially if moss or weeds are allowed to build up, of which there was some evidence (see photos). There are two roof levels. The main, lower roof has a lot of plant including AHUs, chillers, fume cupboard stacks so there are a lot of trip hazards in the form of cable trays, trailing cables, ducts, pipework, ventilation outlets as well as uneven slabs and changes in levels. The edge barrier supports provide an additional trip hazard.

9.2. Slips, trips and falls around the site: the plant room is frequently used by departmental and Estates staff and there are sometimes tools and materials on the floor. On this visit, an old pump set had been left on the roof directly outside the plant room door (see photo).

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9.6. Bump hazards: There is a lot of plant on the north-westerly end of the roof, so care must be taken when navigating between it, under pipes and ductwork etc.

9.7. Unknown hazards from departmental equipment: There are various antennae and telecommunications equipment on the upper roof and one to the rear of the main roof. Advice should be sought from the Building Manager before planning work near this equipment.

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10 APPENDIX A: SITE PICTURES



‘Goods Inward’ entrance into Physics



Plant room door on 5th floor



Access ladder to upper roof and departmental antenna



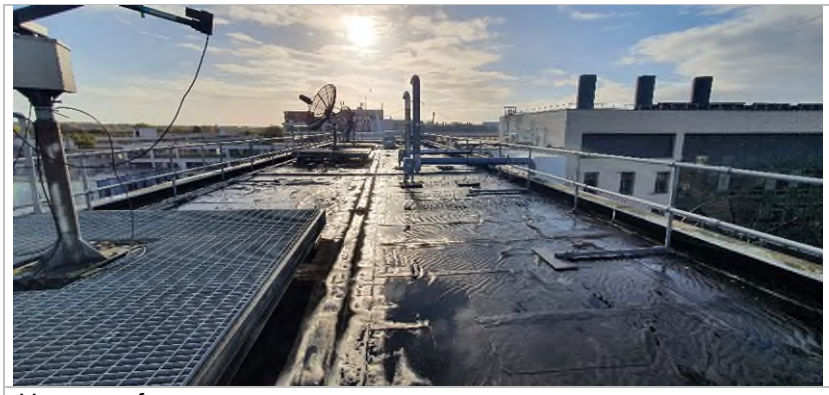
Discarded pump set



MASB roof lights



Steps onto MASB roof, ladder to upper roof and weeds on Physics roof



Upper roof



Main roof; plant and trip hazards

11 CAMPUS ORIENTATION

