

# Health & Safety Matters

April 2018

**WARWICK**  
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

## Portable Appliance Testing (PAT)



There is a University Code of Practice for Portable Electrical Appliance Inspection and Testing that outlines the responsibility for PAT testing within departments. Section 4.2 states that Departments are responsible for arranging PAT testing which can be carried out using the Estates approved contractor.

The Estates approved contractor for electrical testing is Circuit Electrical Testing Ltd, their contact details are:

Vicky Nolan, Sales & Marketing Director  
Circuit Electrical Testing Ltd  
Croft MYL West Parade  
Halifax  
HX1 2EQ

Telephone: 01422 413035  
Website: [www.circuitcompliance.com](http://www.circuitcompliance.com)

Full advice for departments about electrical testing, including the code of practice is available here:  
[http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/healthsafetywellbeing/guidance/electrical\\_safety](http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/healthsafetywellbeing/guidance/electrical_safety)

## New Kirby Corner Carpark Construction

Work is now taking place on Kirby Corner Car Park and is expected to be completed within a year. In the first phase of works from the end of March 2018, approximately 380 spaces will still be available in carpark 16, accessed via Gibbet Hill Road. Disabled bays and car share bays will be available in this area, as will the bicycle racks.

More information for staff who usually park next to University House can be found on the University Estates webpages.

<https://warwick.ac.uk/services/estates/developments/kccp>

## Ensuring Health and Safety During Strike Action

Health and safety responsibilities are not suspended during industrial action. Heads of Departments, managers and staff are asked include consideration of health and safety matters in preparations for periods of strike action, and to raise any concerns they might have with the Health and Safety Team (see the e-mail address below) prior to the strike action.

For further information and guidance, contact the University Health & Safety Department.  
Email: - [HealthSafetyHelpDesk@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:HealthSafetyHelpDesk@warwick.ac.uk)

## Health & Safety Policies

The Steering Committee approved 21 new topic specific health and safety policies plus an amendment to the Permit to Work Policy on Monday 5 March 2018. The policies have been uploaded on to the Health and Safety webpage stated below. Managers should be establishing relevance to their own areas of work, identifying if any changes are necessary and prioritising their implementation. Matters should be raised at local committees where substantive changes are necessary.

<https://warwick.ac.uk/services/healthsafetywellbeing/a-z/currentpolicies>

For further information and guidance, contact the University Health & Safety Department.

Email: -

[HealthSafetyHelpDesk@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:HealthSafetyHelpDesk@warwick.ac.uk)



## New Generic Genetically Modified Risk Assessment

### Changes to GM Risk Assessment

In order to reduce the burden on academic staff who manage projects involving genetic modification, a suite of generic risk assessments for common low-risk (i.e. Class 1) activities have been developed.

When conducting a risk assessment for a new or reviewed project, you will now be able to state which of these generic assessments are applicable to some or all of your work. You will no longer need to complete the parts of the Risk Assessment Template which relate to the assessment of risk and the required control measures. You will still have to describe your project, the specific GM organisms that you wish to use or generate, the people and places involved and complete the declarations prior to its submission via the normal process.

There are currently four generic documents with more under development. Find out more by going to:

[https://warwick.ac.uk/services/healthsafetywellbeing/guidance/biologicalsafety/generic\\_gm\\_risk\\_assessments/](https://warwick.ac.uk/services/healthsafetywellbeing/guidance/biologicalsafety/generic_gm_risk_assessments/)

## New Health and Safety Staff

A new Health and Safety Officer (HSO) joined the University in March 2018 to support the Chemistry Department: Colin Lambert.

For more information about this appointment see '[Meet the Team](#)' from the University Health & Safety homepage.

### Useful links

[Report all incidents and near misses](#)

[Health & Safety webpages](#)

[Need advice on health & safety](#)