South Georgia Asbestos Training

Level 3



How to Use This Training

- Work through the presentation in order.
- Read all the information on each slide before moving on.
- Use the forward and back buttons within PowerPoint to navigate between slides.
- Some slides contain key messages that you will be tested on in the awareness quiz.
- The training should take approximately **60 minutes** to complete.



- This training is intended for those who require access to whaling station complexes inside Prohibited Areas but who do not need access to buildings
- This includes those who are undertaking weed management, heritage recording and environmental monitoring



Aims

At the end of this module you should:

- Understand Access level 3 requirements
- Understand the hazards within Prohibited Areas
- Understand the importance of weather and environmental controls
- Correct use of PPE and RPE
- How to manage waste properly
- How to respond to asbestos and non asbestos emergencies within a Prohibited area
- Understand reporting requirements



What is Access level 3?

Access Level 3 applies to activities:

- Inside former whaling station complexes
- Where NO access to buildings is needs
- In areas where Asbestos Containing Materials (ACMs) may be present

At Access level 3 you may come across

- Asbestos debris
- Deteriorating and unstable structures
- Lagged (insulated) pipework and machinery
- Uneven ground / trip hazards

Not Included

❌ Entering buildings

❌ Deliberate disturbance of ACMs

❌ Handling damaged ACMs

❌ Sampling ACMs

❌ Removing ACMs



What do I need to work at Access level 3

To work at Access Level 3 you should:

- Complete:
  - South Georgia Asbestos Training Level 0 (Awareness)
  - South Georgia Asbestos Training Level 3

- Be familiar with the Access level 3 SOP
- Be familiar with Emergency Procedures
- Be named on a Regulated Activity Permit covering the planned work



Roles and responsibilities

Effective asbestos management relies on everyone understanding roles and responsibilities

Duty Holder - The GSGSSI nominated lead for asbestos management within the territory including responsibility for issuing permits, risk assessments and training

Government Officer – Supports operational coordination and may be involved in incident response and emergency situations

Line manager – Responsible for making sure RAPs are in place, staff have undertaken training and activities follow the relevant SOP

You – Responsible for following training and SOPs, working safely and reporting incidents



Why Access is to Prohibited Areas restricted?

Former whaling stations at Leith, Stromness, Husvik and Prince Olav contain:

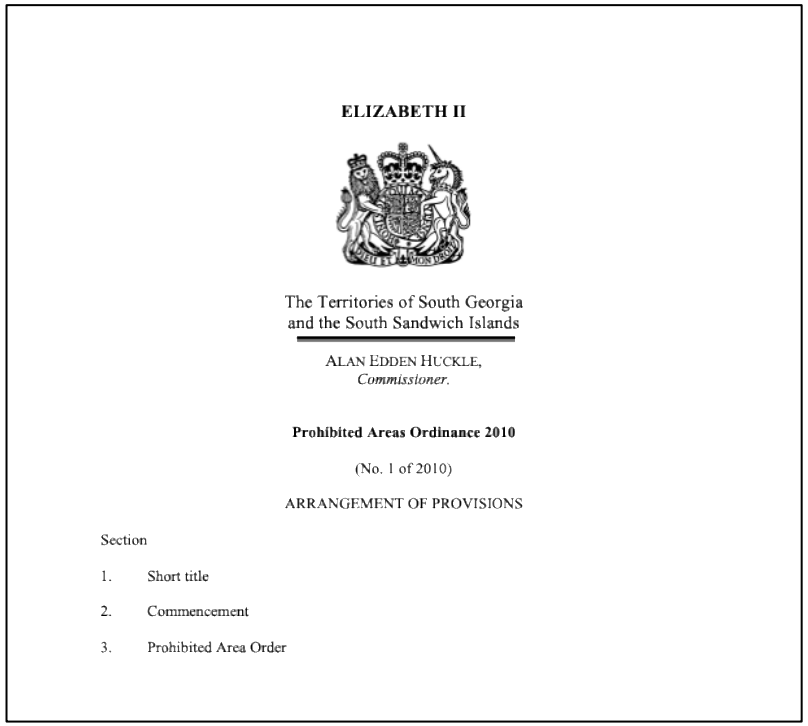
- Historic industrial infrastructure
- Asbestos and general debris fields
- Potential asbestos-containing materials
- Structural hazards



The whaling stations complex and the 200m areas around them are a **Prohibited Area**

Legal obligations

- Access Level 2 involves going inside the Prohibited Area and requires permission under the Prohibited Areas Order 2010
- This permission will be given as part of the Regulated Activity Permit (RAP)
- There will be conditions associated with the RAP including
  - Who can enter
  - Dates of entry
  - Locations
  - Training
  - Activities which can be undertaken
  - Reporting requirements



ELIZABETH II

The Territories of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands

ALAN EDDEN HUCKLE,
Commissioner.

Prohibited Areas Ordinance 2010

(No. 1 of 2010)

ARRANGEMENT OF PROVISIONS

Section

1. Short title
2. Commencement
3. Prohibited Area Order

Breaching permit conditions can result in a fine up to £50,000 or up to 12 months imprisonment

Station Hazards - Structural

Former whaling stations contain numerous buildings and structures that are partially collapsed, heavily deteriorated, or in poor condition.

❌ **Do not enter buildings or structures**



Be aware that structures may:

- Continue to deteriorate over time.
- Collapse without warning.
- Shed debris during high winds.
- Create hazards beyond the immediate footprint of the building

Understanding Elevated Risk Environments

Maintain Awareness

Be alert for:

- Leaning walls or structures.
- Fallen masonry, timber, or metalwork.
- Areas of recent collapse.
- Debris that may have originated from nearby buildings.



If You Observe Structural Instability

- Stop work.
- Withdraw to a safe distance.
- Record the location if safe to do so.
- Report the issue through the RAP process.

Station Hazards - Debris

Former whaling stations contain large amounts of debris, including:

- Timber
- Corrugated metal sheeting
- Pipe work
- Building materials and industrial waste

Debris can be found:

- Around buildings
- Along access routes
- Some distance from its original location due to strong winds



Hazards

⚠ Trip hazards

⚠ Sharp or jagged edges

⚠ Hidden voids and unstable ground

⚠ Potential asbestos-containing materials

Never

❌ Walk on piles of debris

❌ Move debris to create access

❌ Climb over collapsed materials

❌ Disturb unidentified materials



Station Hazards – Asbestos Containing Materials

Asbestos was widely used around the whaling stations and may be located:

- On buildings and structures
- Around former industrial process equipment
- Within collapsed structures
- On the ground as debris transported by weather or collapse
- On external pipe work and tanks



Hazards

⚠ Materials may not be immediately identifiable

⚠ May be hidden beneath debris and in soil

⚠ Damage or disturbance to materials can release fibres

Never

❌ Touch, move or inspect suspected ACMs

❌ Attempt to identify asbestos by handling it

❌ Collect samples (under a Level 3 Access permit)



Wind

Strong winds can increase the risk of structural collapse of buildings and flying debris. Entry to the Prohibited areas may only proceed where:

✅ **Average wind speed is less than 25 knots**

✅ **Maximum gust speed does not exceed 40 knots**

DO NOT estimate wind speed > use an anemometer



Wind cont.

Before Entering a Prohibited Area

- Wind conditions must be checked:
  - Using an **anemometer**
  - From a location **outside the Prohibited Area**
  - Before beginning the activity
- Record:
  - Average wind speed (over at least one minute)
  - Maximum gust speed

During the Activity

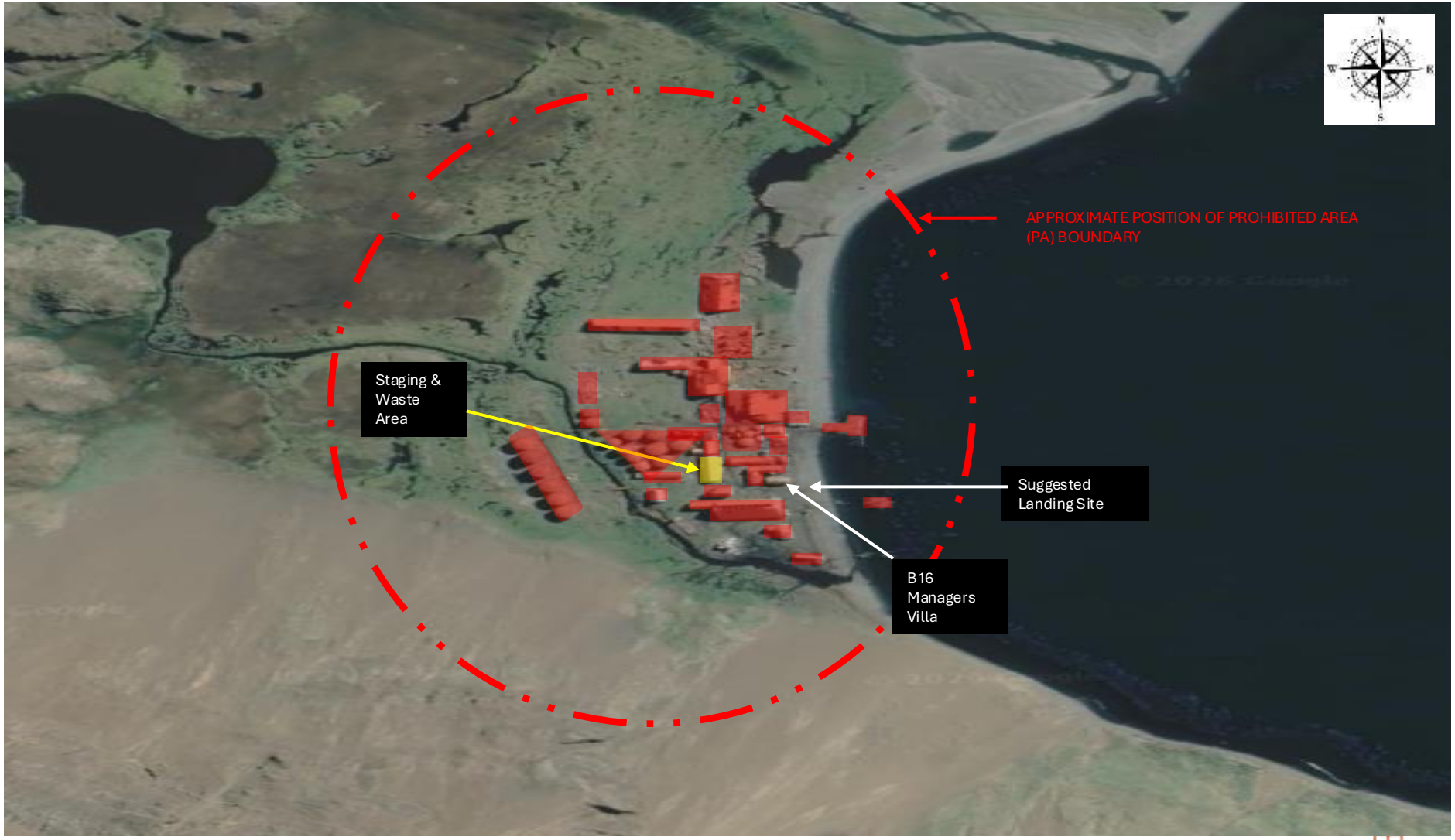
Reassess wind conditions:

- At least every 2 hours
- Whenever weather conditions appear to be changing



Access Level 3 Site Plans





Key

Red: **No Access**

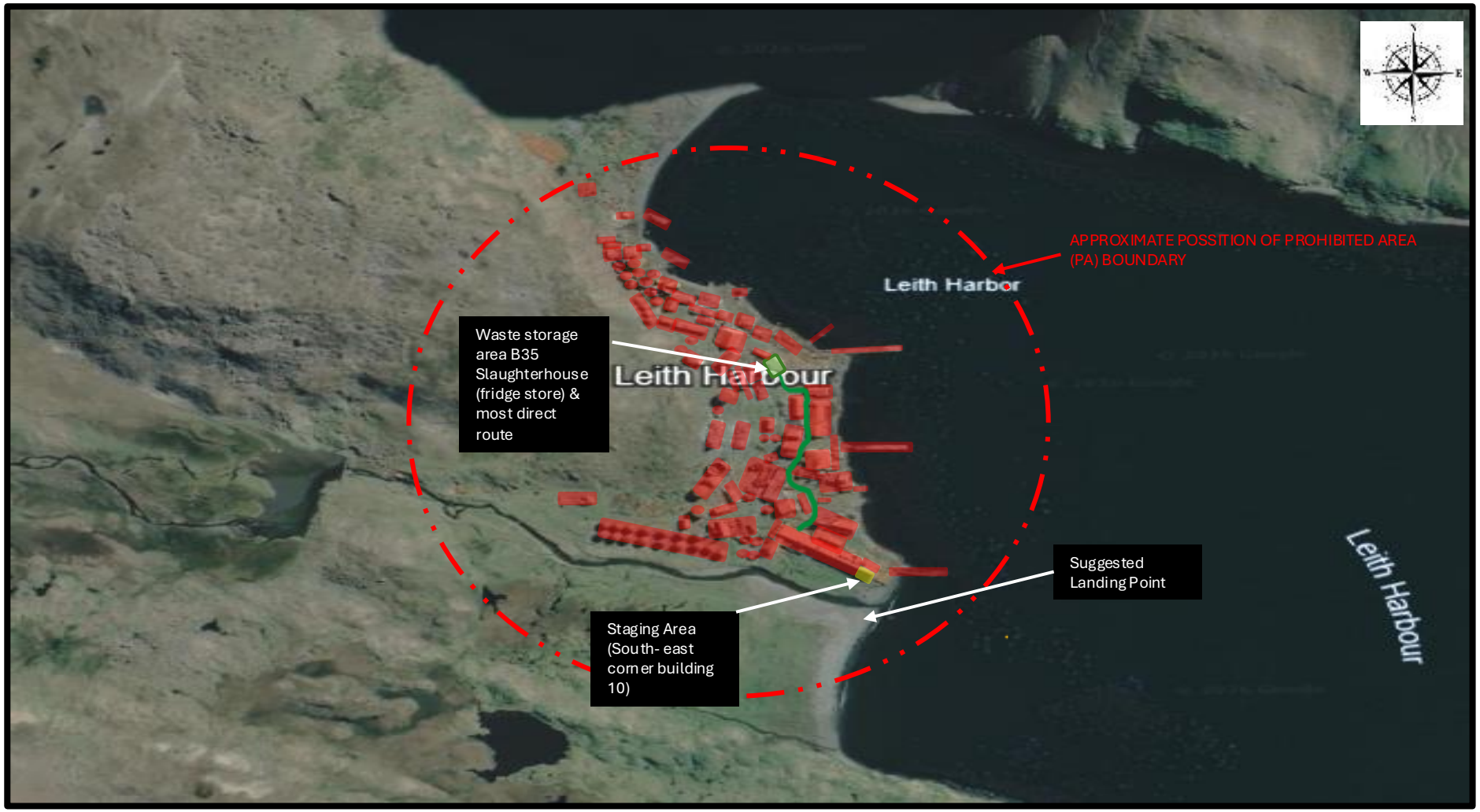
Red Dash: Approximate 200 Metre Exclusion Zone

Yellow: **Permitted / Approved Staging Area & Temporary Waste Store**

Stromness Harbour

Standard Operating Procedure: Access Level 3 Activities

Version / Status - V1



Key

Red: **No Access**

Red Dash: **Approximate 200 metre Exclusion Zone**

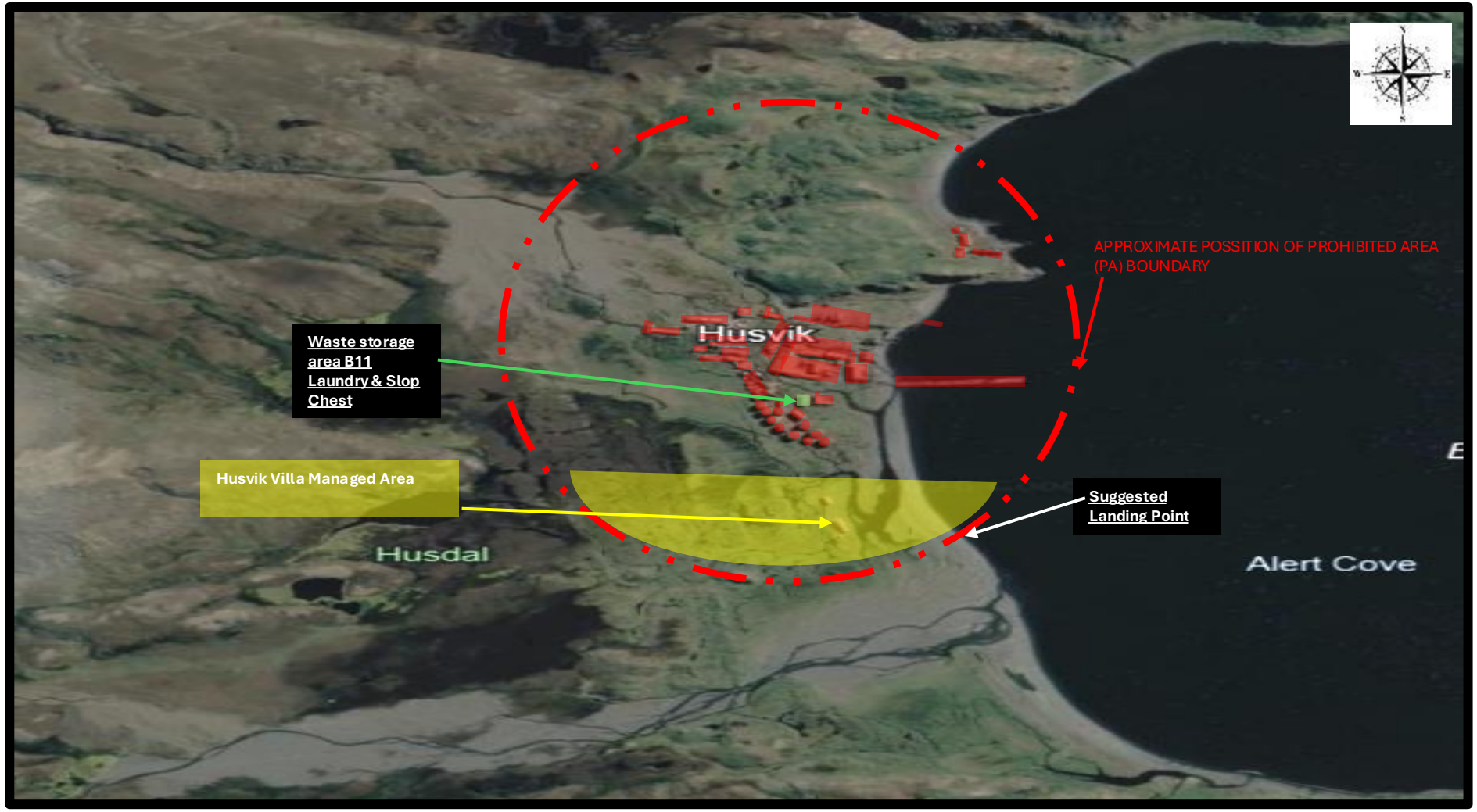
Yellow: **Permitted / Approved Staging Area (Level 3)**

Green: **Waste store & most direct route**

Leith

Standard Operating Procedure: Access Level 3 Activities

Version / Status - V1



Key

Red: **No Access**

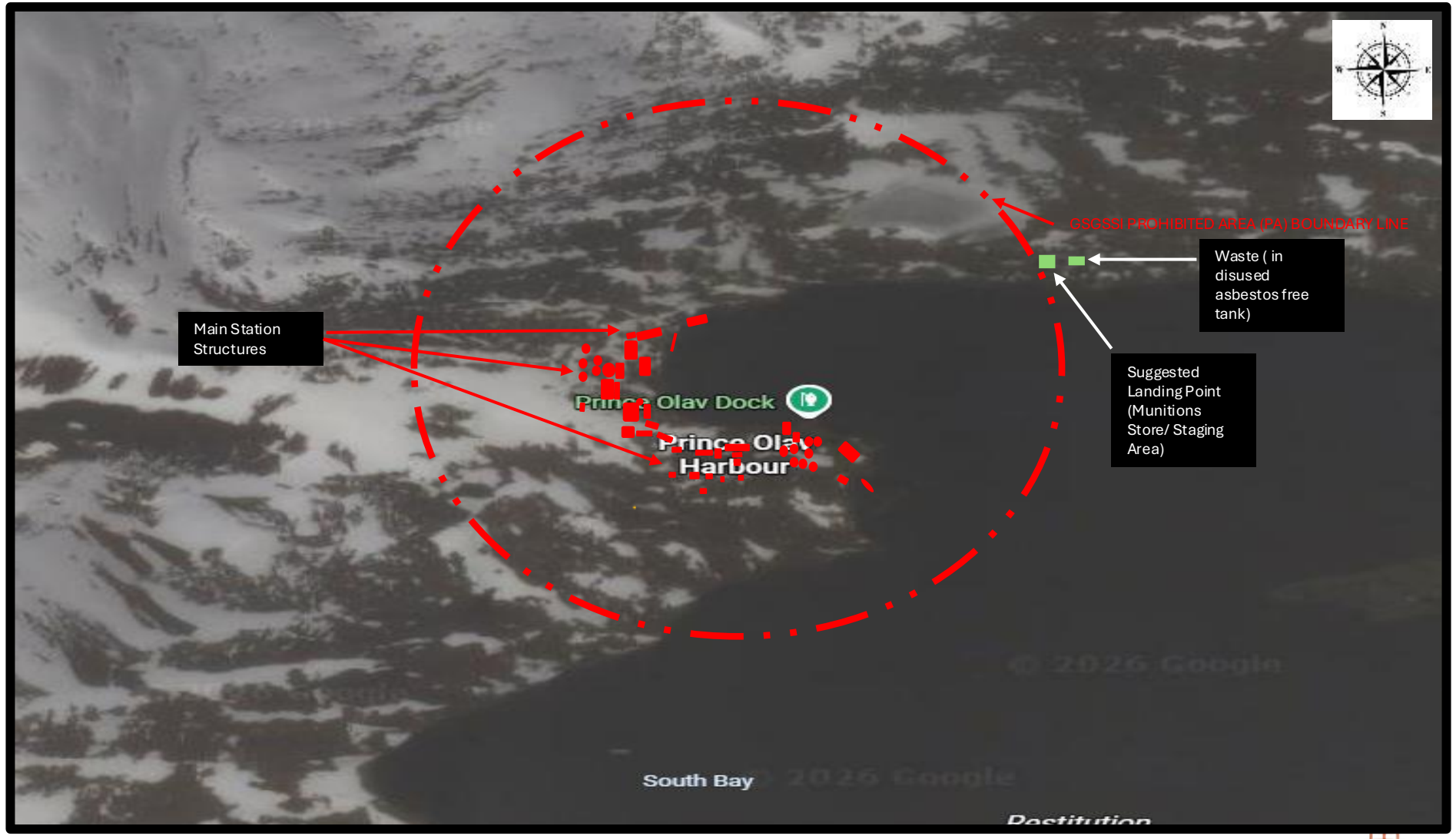
Red Dash: **Approximate 200 metre Exclusion Zone**

Yellow: **Managed Villa Area (Level 2)**

Green: **Temporary Waste Store**

Husvik

Standard Operating Procedure: Access Level 3 Activities



Prince Olav Harbour

Key

Red: **No Access**

Red Dash: **Approximate 200 metre Exclusion Zone**

Green: Staging & temporary waste area **(Level 3) – Munitions Store**

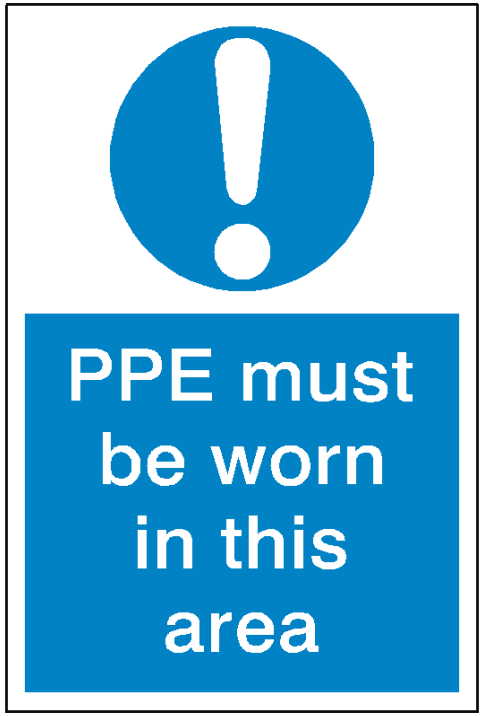
Standard Operating Procedure: Access Level 3 Activities

GSGSSI

Version / Status - V1

PPE and RPE

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) are mandatory at Access level 3.
- FFP3 respirators offer protection against low-level airborne asbestos fibre only—**they do not provide full protection in high-concentration environments.**



PPE does not replace safe working practices and is considered a last line of protection

The primary control remains:

Avoidance of disturbance

FFP3 Face Mask

- An **FFP3 mask** is a form of Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) designed to reduce the inhalation of airborne asbestos fibres and dust.



For the mask to be effective:

✅ Form an adiquate seal around the nose and mouth

✅ Be new, in good condition and checked prior to use

✅ The wearer should be **clean-shaven** where the mask contacts the skin.

Once fitted, perform a pre-use positive/negative pressure seal check to ensure an adequate seal prior to entering the work area

Where possible it is strongly recommended to have a formal face fit test

Mask breaks

Over time comfort and effectiveness of an FFP3 mask will reduce due to:

- Condensation inside the mask
- Fatigue from increased breathing resistance

- For a non-powered FFP3 mask it is recommended to take a mask break every 1-2h
- In hot conditions or if physically exerted they may be needed more often

Mask breaks should only be taken:

✅ In the designated staging area

✅ Away from ACMs and debris

❌ NEVER remove RPE in the work area



Donning (putting on)PPE

DONNING (PUTTING ON PPE)

Put PPE in the correct order BEFORE entering the asbestos work area.

1



PUT ON TYVEK SUIT

Step in and pull up. Ensure a comfortable fit.

2



PUT ON WELLIES

The Tyvek suit should go over the top of the wellies.

3



PUT ON MASK

Place mask over nose and mouth.
Ensure a good seal.
Adjust nose clip and straps for a snug fit.
Check the mask.
Cover the mask with both hands and exhale sharply. If air leaks, readjust.
Once happy with mask face seal, pull up hood OVER mask straps.

4



ZIP UP

Zip fully to the top under the chin.

5



PUT ON GLOVES (OPTIONAL)

Wear work gloves if required for the task.

PUT ON HARD HAT (OPTIONAL)

Place hard hat on over the hood.

6



READY TO WORK

You are now ready to enter the asbestos work area.
Avoid touching your face or adjusting PPE during work.

Doffing (taking off) PPE

DOFFING (TAKING OFF PPE)

Remove PPE in the correct order AFTER leaving the asbestos work area. All PPE must be removed OUTSIDE the staging area.

1



REMOVE GLOVES (IF WORN)

Pinch the outside of one glove at the wrist and peel off, turning it inside out.
Hold removed glove in gloved hand.
Slide fingers of ungloved hand under the wrist of the
peel off of the first glove.
Both gloves should now be inside out.

2



UNZIP SUIT

Unzip the suit fully, keeping the front flaps away from your body.

3



REMOVE SUIT

Pull the suit from your shoulders and arms, turning it inside out as you go.
Do not shake the suit.

4



STEP OUT

Step out of the suit without touching the outside.

Keep the inside of the suit out.

5



ROLL UP SUIT

Roll or fold the suit into a bundle with the outside contained.

6



REMOVE MASK

THE MASK MUST COME OFF LAST AND ONLY AFTER YOU ARE OUT OF THE WORK AREA.

Do not touch the front of the mask.

Remove by handling the straps only.

7



DISPOSE OF MASK

Place the mask carefully into the waste bag.

8



WASH HANDS

Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water as soon as possible.

Staging Areas

- Staging areas are designated buildings in the whaling stations which can be used for
  - Donning PPE
  - Mask breaks
  - Equipment storage

- Doffing should happen OUTSIDE the staging area to avoid contamination
- Staging areas are the only building you can enter under Access level 3

ADD STAGING AREA EXAMPLE PICTURE



Waste Management

WASTE DISPOSAL – DOUBLE BAGGING ASBESTOS WASTE

All asbestos waste must be double bagged and labelled.

1



1. PLACE WASTE IN INNER BAG (RED)

Place all used PPE (suit, gloves, mask, hard hat and other asbestos waste into a UN asbestos labelled red bag.

2



2. SEAL INNER BAG

Seal the red bag securely using a goose neck tie or strong tape.

3



3. PLACE IN OUTER BAG (CLEAR)

Place the sealed red bag into a UN asbestos labelled clear plastic bag.

4



4. SEAL OUTER BAG

Seal the outer clear bag securely using a goose neck tie or strong tape. Do not over fill bags.

5



5. LABEL THE BAG

Write the RAP Permit Number clearly on the outside of the outer clear bag with a permanent marker.

ALWAYS WRITE THE RAP PERMIT NUMBER ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE OUTER BAG

Format: RAP/2026/001

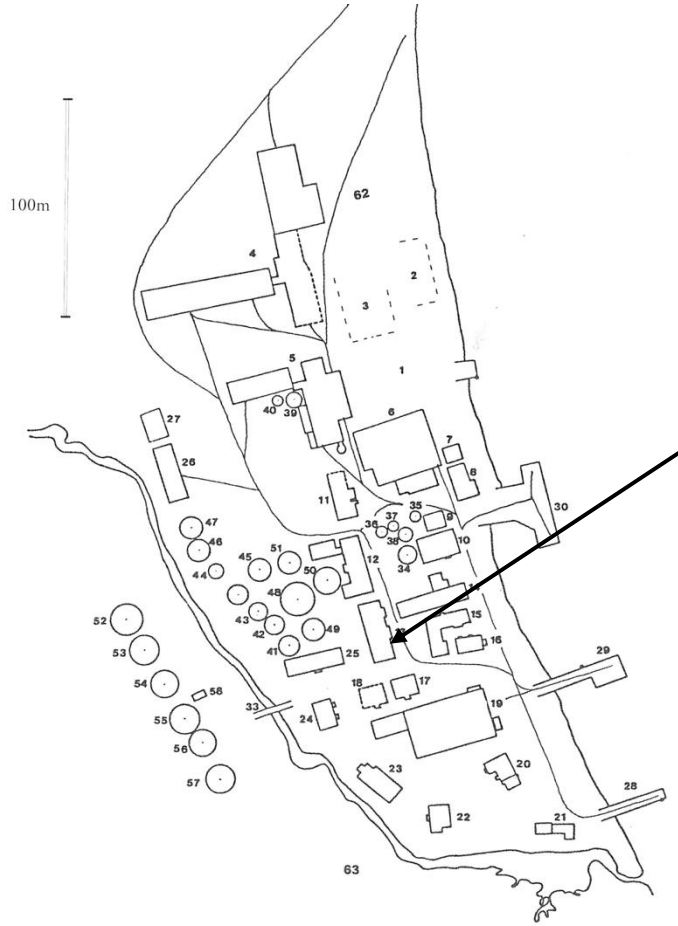
Store waste in a designated area until removed from site in accordance with your RAP.

⚠ Never reuse PPE. Dispose of waste correctly. Follow your RAP and site procedures at all times.

- Waste should be placed in the designated waste storage area as identified on the site map
- You must report the number of bags of waste generated as part of the RAP reporting
- Correct labelling and storage of waste is vital for
  - Traceability
  - Audit
  - Disposal



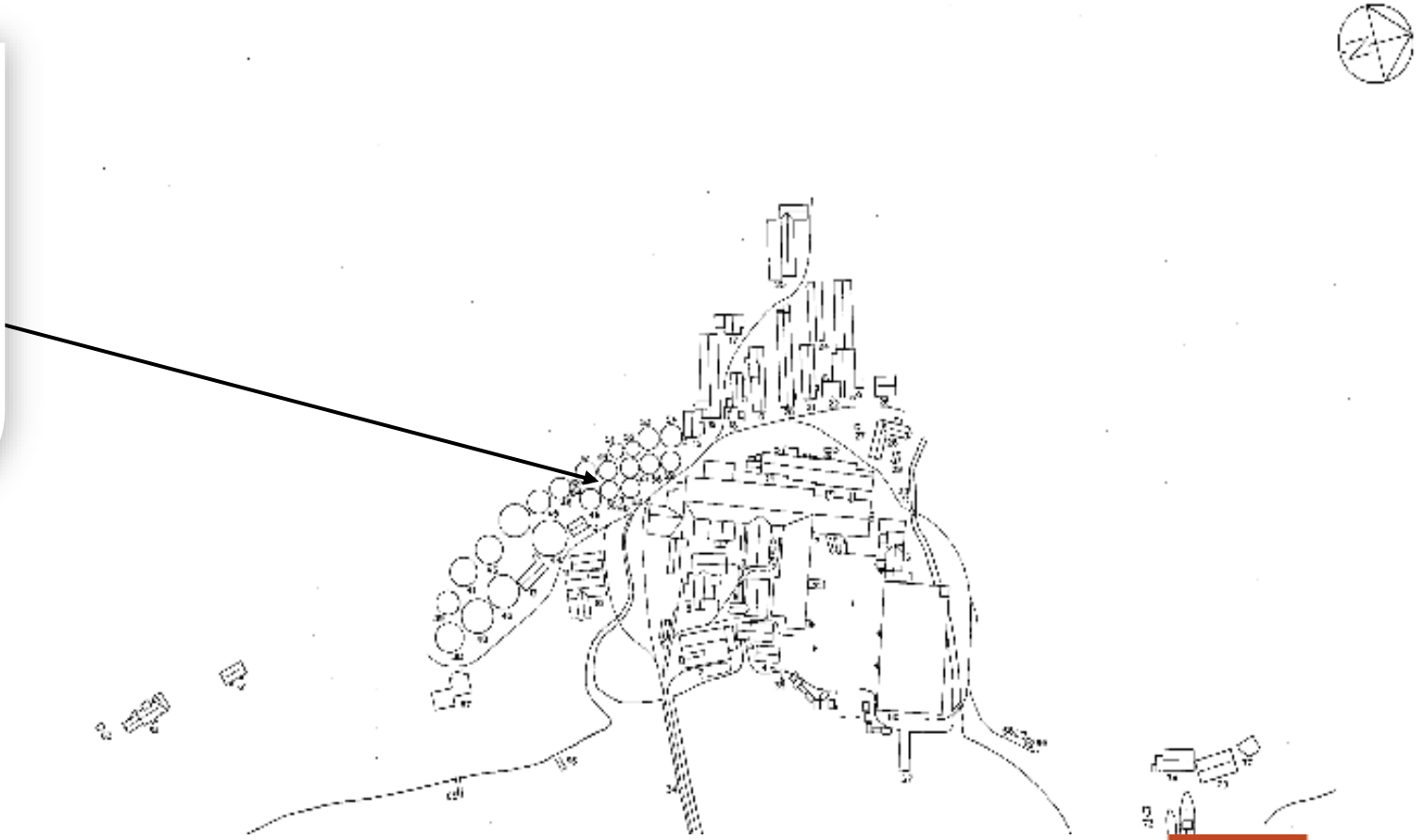
Stromness waste store - building 13 kitchen mess, kitchen sub floor larder



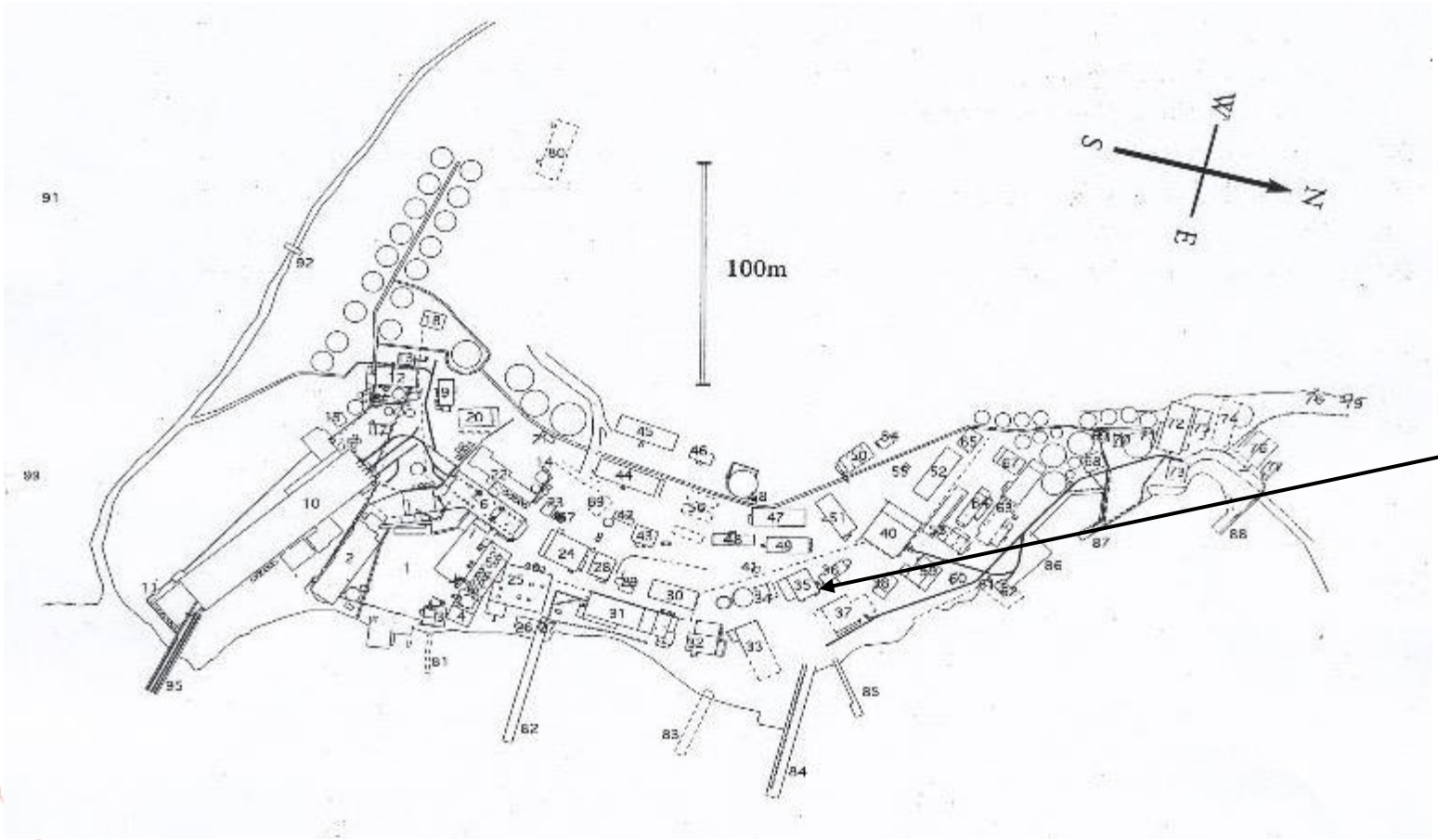


Husvik Waste Store - Building 11 Laundry & Slop Chest



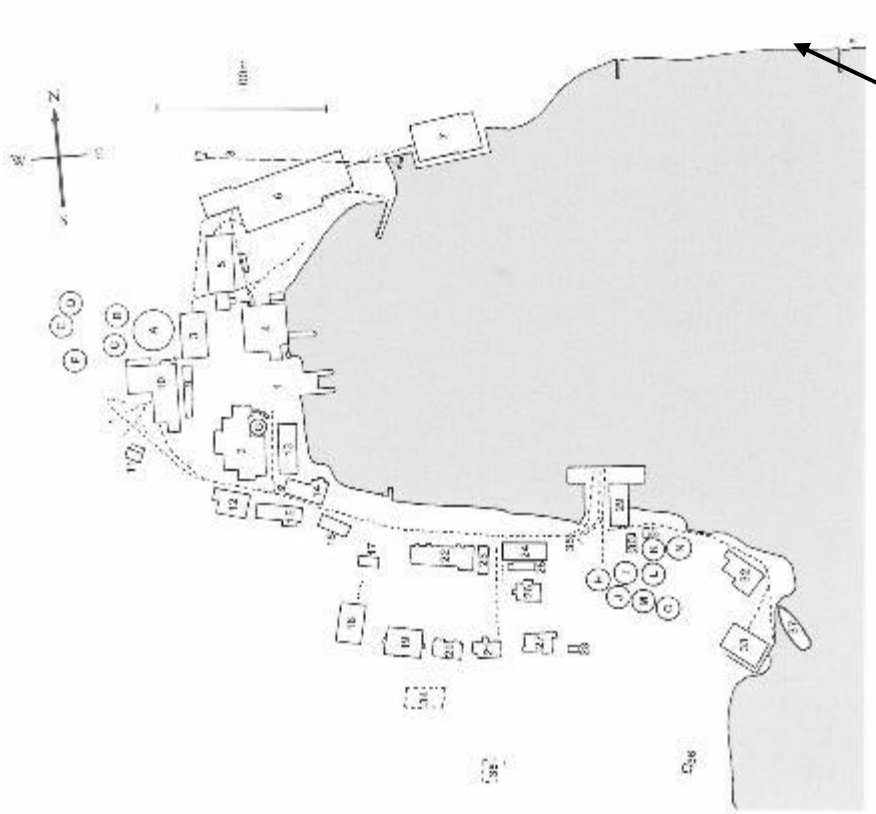


Leith Waste store – Building 35 Slaughter-House - freezer store





Prince Olav waste store – Tank opposite Munitions Store





Shore barrel and emergency equipment

All work work in a Prohibited Area requires access to a shore barrel containing:

- Emergency shelter
- Sleeping bags
- Food (minimum 48h)
- Flask
- Torch
- Spare communications (radio, iridium) first aid kit



This should be OUTSIDE the Prohibited Area so it can be accessed in an emergency

Reporting requirements

On completion of any level 3 activity you MUST report via the RAP system the following information:

- Personnel names
- Entry and exit times
- Waste Generated
- Hazards encountered including suspected ACMs route obstructions, and changes in site conditions
- Incidents and near misses



Emergency Procedures – Asbestos related Incidents

Stop

- Stop work immediatly
- Do not continue activity
- Do not attempt to inspect, sample, move, clean up, or otherwise investigate the material

Withdraw

Move away from the immediate area by the safest available route
Avoid causing further disturbance.
Follow decontamination proceedures if needed

Record

Where it is safe to do so: take GPS possition and photographs
Personnel must not re-enter or approach the area solely to obtain photographs or location information.

Report

Report the incident immediately to the Duty Holder or nominated deputy
Provide: location, nature of incident, names of people involbed, photographs and GPS possitions



Practical example 1

You are working near to a building and hear a crashing sound. When you turn around you see the structure has partially collapsed and there seems to be a cloud of debris near where you are working



✅ Move to a safe location

✅ Remove obvious debris from PPE, wet dust using locally available water then remove coverall

❌ Do not Remove RPE

❌ Proceed to staging area but do not enter

✅ Undertake further decontamination with wet wipes/water

✅ Place PPE in waste bag and wash hands

✅ Remove mask last

✅ Label and store waste

✅ Leave Prohibited Area

✅ Notify support vessel and inform Duty Holder

Practical example 2

You are working in the station and the strap of your face mask gets caught on a pipe and breaks

✅ Stop work and withdraw from the immediate work area

✅ Move to the designated staging area

✅ Replace the damaged mask if a spare is available

✅ Report the RPE failiour through the RAP process



❌ Continue working with a damaged mask

❌ Attempt to hold the mask in place by hand

❌ Remove the mask and continue working without RPE

❌ Re-enter the work area until adequate respiratory protection has been restored

Practical example 3

You are bagging up your used PPE at the end of the day and the bag becomes torn



✅ Avoid causing further disturbance to the contents of the bag

✅ Put on PPE and RPE and place the torn bag in a new bag

✅ Report as an asbestos incident through the RAP process

❌ Ignore the tear and continue filling the bag

❌ Attempt to clean up contamination from the ground

❌ Empty the bag to transfer the contents

Emergency Procedures – Weather and Medical

Stop	•Activities must cease immediatly
Aid	•For time critical medical incidents, offer immediate first aid as required
Withdraw	Personnel must withdraw to the nearest safe location outside the Prohibitied Area. The support vessel must be contacted as soon as practicable
Evacuate	•Where possible return to the support vessel •If return to the support vessel is not possible establish an emergency camp OUTSIDE the Prohibited area using the equipment in the shore barrel*
Report	•Report the incident to the Government Officers and the Duty Holder



Practical example - 4

You are working in Stromness Prohibited Area and a member of the team gets bitten by a fur seal



✅ Stop the activity.

✅ Give first aid

⚠ If the casualty is not criticaly injured and it is safe to do so, doff PPE and bag waste as per the SOP

✅ Withdraw to the nearest safe location outside the Prohibited Area

✅ Contact the support vessel to arrange medical evacuation

Practical example - 5

You have been station complex one hour when wind conditions begin to deteriorate. A repeat check shows:

Average wind speed = **28 knots**

Maximum gust = **42 knots**



✅ Stop the activity.

✅ Inform the rest of the group.

✅ Withdraw using the approved route.

✅ Contact the support vessel if required.

❌ Do not re-enter until wind drops to safe speed.

Practical example - 6

You are working in the station and a member of your party falls and badly hurts their arm. The wind is too strong for boating support to come and collect you



✅ Stop the activity.

✅ Give first aid

⚠ If the casualty is not criticaly injured and it is safe to do so, doff PPE and bag waste as per the SOP

✅ Withdraw to the nearest safe location outside the Prohibited Area

✅ Use the equipment from the emergency barel to keep the casualty and the rest of the party warm and safe

✅ Evacuate when conditions allow

❌ Do not attempt to enter buildings for shelter

Quiz

When you are ready click here to go to the quiz

Good luck!

