ANGEL COMMUNITY CANAL BOAT TRUST

Risk Assessment:	Use of Diespeker Wharf and Moorings
Effective Date:	October 2026
Health and Safety Manager:	Lindsey Hood, Project Manager and Skipper
Relevant Legislation:	Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
Related Policy / Document:	ACCT Health and Safety Policy ACCT Risk Assessments and Control Measures – *Angel II* and *Long Tom*

1. Scope and assumptions

This assessment covers use of Diespeker Wharf and in particular the use of the wharf for accessing the office/store and the narrowboats moored there, specifically *Angel II of Islington* and *Long Tom*.

The wharf surface is of a historic nature and is generally cobbled and the canal side is of stonework, probably installed contemporaneously with the construction of the canal, and is irregular and in places broken. A garden has been created adjacent to it and vegetation regularly grows so as potentially to impede movement along the wharf side. Lighting at night is limited and generally from local street lighting and security lights.

References to workers in this risk assessment include volunteers.

2. Risk rating guide

High: do not start until the risk has been reduced.
Medium: additional controls and supervision are required.
Low: risk is controlled to an acceptable level provided controls remain in place. Ratings below are indicative and must be confirmed by the person responsible for the work.

3. Hazards, risks and control measures

Hazard	Who might be harmed / possible harm	Control measures	Residual risk
Unsafe access and egress across wharf and to office	Workers; slips, trips or falls	Keep access routes clear and transfer tools/materials/loads separately. Need to observe closely because of nature of surface. At night if route not clear, use torch/hand-held light. Remove vegetation growing across or into route. Regularly inspect & maintain the access and egress routes in a safe condition or report need to maintain/repair immediately it is spotted.	Low if controls maintained
Unsafe access and egress to/from boats	Workers; slips, trips or falls	Keep access routes clear and transfer tools/materials/loads separately. Keep materials away from edges. Need to observe closely because of nature of surface and position of fixed mooring points and mooring lines. Use appropriate footwear. At night if route not clear, use torch/hand-held light. Remove vegetation growing across or into route. Regularly inspect & maintain the access and egress routes in a safe condition or report need to maintain/repair immediately it is spotted.	Low if controls maintained
Fall into canal / drowning	Workers; injury, cold-water shock or drowning.	Ensure boats are moored securely to the side of the wharf to minimize the gap between the wharf and the boat. If accessing the wharf from a boat in order to moor it, ensure buoyancy aid is worn. Move with care along wharf side, keeping a lookout at all times for irregularities. Ensure vegetation is cut back so as not to impede access. If working on wharf edge where a boat is not moored securely alongside, wear buoyancy aid.	Low if controls maintained
Trips and obstructions	Workers; trips and falls.	Keep access routes and working areas tidy. Manage ropes, hoses, cables, tools and other equipment so they do not create trip hazards.	Low if controls maintained
Risk of injury to visitors	Slips, trips or falls	The Wharf is gated and is private property and visitors of ACCT should not generally be present. Visitors invited onto the Wharf should be strictly restricted to those whose presence is necessary for the business of ACCT. Passengers on the boats will not be invited onto the Wharf. Any visitors invited onto the Wharf by ACCT (or anyone on ACCT's behalf) must be warned of the risk of slips, trips and falls on the uneven surfaces and to take great care.	

4. Review and authorisation

Assessment completed by	Giles Eyre
Date	22 October 2026
Review date	October 2028