### Assessing the risks

Consider the age and design of your pipework. Then look at the leak detection methods you currently use. You will need to decide whether these precautions are enough to detect leaks or if you need to do more. Table 3 shows one way you could go through this process. The control measures column gives some example precautions that could be taken there may well be alternatives. Also some measures are more appropriate to new sites or those being refurbished than older, existing sites, where the cost of them could be disproportionate to the risk. Remember that you must provide sufficient control measures to keep the risk to people’s safety as low as is reasonably practicable.

### Table 3: Controlling the Risks from Pipework

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity**  | **Risk**  | **Control Measures**  | **Findings/actions**  | **Target Date**  | **Suggested Review Date**  |
| Petrol/vapour in pipework  | Leak through pipe wall  | * Carry out a visual examination of accessible parts.
* Carry out regular inventory checking.
* Install a constant monitoring device.
* Install a leak prevention system.
* Install a leak detection system. • Install a check valve under the dispenser (for suction systems).
* Carry out periodic leak testing of any sections of pipework not covered by a leak prevention/detection system according to the age and type of pipework; eg vent pipes.
* Regularly maintain and test monitoring/leak detection systems. • Use non-corrodible or double skin pipework.
 |  |  |  |
| Leak from pipework fittings  |   | * Carry out a visual examination of accessible parts.
* Maintain, and where necessary replace, fittings, valves, pumps, connectors and other equipment. • Keep, on site, an up to date schematic diagram of tank to pump pipework layout.
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