Hierarchy of control guide

This is a risk control measures hierarchy to help you chose the right controls. Controls at the top are more effective at controlling risk than those towards the bottom.

In deciding on the best risk control options there are various things you need to consider:

* How many people need to be protected? It’s better to have a control that offers protection to everyone than on that rely on people to use their own protection
* How reliant is the effectiveness of the risk control on human behaviour? It’s preferable to use risk controls that function without the need for human intervention, apart from maintenance
* How often will the risk controls need to be tested, maintained or replaced? Such activities rely on people to do them and have the possibility to fail, limiting the effectiveness
* How much does the control cost? Consider installation cost and maintenance over the period for which it will be used.
* How much is the risk control going to reduce the risk by? You must reduce the risk so far as reasonably practicable and this means the cost in terms of time, effort, money and inconvenience associated with the risk control and benefits of risk reduction.