

Risk Assessment

Scoring System

The following scoring system used in this assessment produces a risk score ranging from 1 to 36 where a score of 15-36 requires immediate action to reduce the risk or the activity to stop until the risk can be reduced to an acceptable level.

Risks identified are scored according to the severity of any injury or loss and the probability of the incident occurring.

The risks are graded based on the risk score and actions to control those risks prioritised on the basis of the score.

PROBABILITY	1 Negligible	2 Possible occurrence	3 Occasional occurrence	4 Frequent occurrence	5 Regular occurrence	6 Common occurrence
SEVERITY	1 Trivial injury	2 Minor injury	3 Major injury to one person or death of dog	4 Major injury to several persons	5 Death to one person	6 Multiple deaths

Risk Scores and Actions

1 to 4	VERY LOW RISK	No additional action required	5 to 7.	LOW RISK	Monitoring compliance and safety awareness required
8 to 14	MEDIUM RISK	Requires action to be introduced as soon as practical.	15 to 36	HIGH RISK	Immediate action to reduce risk or the activity must cease until the risk can be reduced

Clumber Walks

Walks Country Parks etc.		Date of assessment Revised 5/8/2017				Date of review 5/8/18			
Hazards	Activity	Who might be harmed	Probability	Severity	Risk rating	Controls	Probability	Severity	Risk rating
			Before Controls				Controls in place		
Poor Management of walk	Incidents due to lack of planning and poor control on walk,	Walkers and searchers	4	4/5	16 - 20	Leaders to be issued with "Leaders Pack", Guidance, Risk Assessment, Emergency contacts. Walkers to be provided with Participants Guidance and briefed. Back-marker & Marshalls to be appointed as per Leaders Guidance	2	4	8
Lack of familiarity with route	Incidents due to Unanticipated hazards	Walkers	4	3	12	Leaders to pre-walk route to assess suitability, identify hazards Warn participants of road crossings / stretches of road that the route follows, provide clear instructions in advance and use assistants if necessary Leader to carry maps and mobile phone in areas without reception to be aware of location of landlines	2	3	6
Hazards at Meeting point	Accidents e.g. struck by car	Walkers	3	3	9	Have a safe waiting location when people arrive. e.g. cafe Plan for arrival and departure parking e.g. official car park If large numbers due parking assistants to be provided and wear Hi-Vis jackets <i>NB: Dogs left in vehicles are the responsibility of their owners.</i>	2	3	6
Children on walk and dogs	Bites following contact Lack of control of dog	Walkers,	2	3	6	No child under the age of 16 years to take part in a walk unless a responsible adult accompanies them. The adult is responsible for the conduct of their children	2	3	6

Hazards	Activity	Who might be harmed	Probability	Severity	Risk rating	Controls	Probability	Severity	Risk rating
Fire at Visitor Centre	Burns, smoke inhalation	Walkers	2	4	8	Leaders familiarise themselves with fire evacuation procedures and communicate this information to delegates at the beginning of events. Occupiers responsible for evacuation from their building	1	4	4
Contact with Dogs	Bites, people knocked over	Walkers, public	3	3	9	Participants to bring friendly non-aggressive, socialised dogs. Dogs with a record of occasional aggression to be muzzled and attendance agreed in advance Dogs to be on lead in busy and designated areas	2	3	6
Loss of member during walk	Walker left behind	Walker	2	1	3	Have a back marker to prevent people straying or being left behind Confine walk to way marked or official paths if possible Ask participants to remain with the group during walk & notify Leader if leaving. Count participants "in and out"	1	1	1
Minor injury or serious illness	Injury as result of accident or ill health	Walker	3	3	9	Organiser to carry first aid kit Appointed First aider Any prescribed medication e.g. inhalers, epipens will remain the responsibility of owner	2	3	6

Hazards	Activity	Who might be harmed	Probability	Severity	Risk rating	Controls	Probability	Severity	Risk rating
Traffic accident Incident involving car	Car: range from near miss to death	Walker or dog	2	5	10	<p>Attempt to avoid busy roads</p> <p>Supervise road/car park crossings by groups</p> <p>Maintain clear sight lines at all road crossings</p> <p>If a road has, a pavement or path dog walkers should use it.</p> <p>If there is, no pavement small groups of walkers should keep to the right side of the road facing on-coming traffic. When approaching a sharp right-hand bend the Leader may decide that, it is safer to cross to the left-hand side of the road and cross back after the bend.</p> <p>Larger groups (8+) and should walk on the left side of the road with a Marshall, wearing high-vis at the front and rear as a lookout.</p>	1	5	5
Traffic accident Incident involving bike or horses	Bike: Range from near miss to serious injury	Walker or dog	4	3	12	Try to avoid combined pedestrian/cycle/horse routes. If unavoidable have "spotters" to warn party of bikes	2	3	6

Hazards	Activity	Who might be harmed	Probability	Severity	Risk rating	Controls	Probability	Severity	Risk rating
Traffic accident/ Incident involving bikes/horses on mixed use unsegregated paths not separated into tracks	Cyclists/Horses Range from near miss to serious injury on "higher" risk mixed use unsegregated paths (min width 2m)	Walker, rider or dog/horse	4	3	12	Use Marshals as "spotters" to warn party of approaching bikes and horses particularly those travelling at gallop/speed with due allowance for mixed use of the track from behind the walkers Dog Walkers warned not to obstruct path and be aware that riders may not be able to control their horse if it reacts to the presence of dogs or people on the path.	2	3	6
Traffic accident/ Incident involving bikes/horses on mixed use segregated tracks without physical barrier	Cyclists/Horses Range from near miss to serious injury mixed use segregated (by line not barrier) paths (min width 2m for cyclists and 1.5m for pedestrians)	Walker, rider or dog/horse	3	3	9	Dog Walkers warned not to obstruct horse/cycle track and be aware that riders may not be able to control their horse if it reacts to the presence of dogs or people on the non-walkers path. Use Marshals as "spotters" to warn party of approaching bikes and horses particularly those travelling at gallop/speed and ensure dogs or leads are not across horse/cycle track	2	3	6
Traffic accident/ Incident involving bikes/horses on designated footpaths or on braided, divided segregated paths	Limited risk of contact with horse/cyclist provided they comply with regulations if not Range from near miss to serious injury	Walker, rider or dog/horse	1	3	3	Use Marshals as "spotters" to warn party of approaching cyclists and horses riders breaking the rules particularly those travelling at gallop/speed and ensure dogs or leads are not across horse/cycle track	1	3	3

Hazards	Activity	Who might be harmed	Probability	Severity	Risk rating	Controls	Probability	Severity	Risk rating
Slips, trips and falls on uneven ground, steps, etc.	Bruises, sprains, fractures, cuts.	Walkers	3	6	9	<p>Any load carried should be small enough to allow ground where walking to be seen.</p> <p>Walking routes checked in advance and trip hazards indicated or highlighted where removal is not possible.</p> <p>Attendees will be advised in pre-event communications to wear suitable footwear.</p> <p>Participants are advised that these risks exist and that it is not possible or desirable to remove the inherent risk from natural areas</p>	2	3	6
Exposure to heat/ cold at outdoor events.	Sunburn, heatstroke, dehydration, colds	Walkers Dogs	3	2	6	<p>Check weather forecast in advance</p> <p>Walkers to be asked to ensure that they appropriately dressed for the elements e.g. warm waterproof clothing in cold/ wet weather; lightweight materials, sunhat and sunscreen in hot/ sunny weather.</p> <p>Walkers to take regular breaks and drink plenty of fluids during longer walks.</p> <p>Rivers or lake normally included for dogs, otherwise water to be carried</p>	1	2	2
Health of walkers	Post Walk Illness	Walkers Dogs	3	2	6	<p>Inform participants to check for ticks and current dogs diseases in area</p> <p>Be aware of participants with health problems and check if they have their medication</p>	2	2	6
Allergies and Allergic reactions.	Pain and swelling, potential allergic reaction	Walkers	3	3	9	<p>Participants to be asked during enrolment if they have any allergies to plants and insect bites at the start of the event.</p> <p>Leaders will have a mobile phone in case an ambulance is required.</p>	2	3	6

Hazards	Activity	Who might be harmed	Probability	Severity	Risk rating	Controls	Probability	Severity	Risk rating
Hazards on route, e.g. cliff edges, rivers,	Falls etc resulting in an injury.	Walkers Dogs	3	3	9	Routes involve public footpaths of clearly marked paths in Country Parks, National Trust or low risk areas to avoid busy roads or cycle paths/bridleways. Where the route cannot avoid more hazardous areas, delegates will be warned at the beginning of the walk and asked to remain alert to potential dangers.	2	3	6
Dog health	Illness, collapse	Dogs	3	3	9	All members to notify the organiser if their dogs are 'ill' (i.e. with kennel cough) or suffer from an illness than may affect their ability to complete the walk. Dogs with infectious disease must not participate Bitches in season are not to be brought on the walk.	2	3	6
	Young or elderly dogs being unable to complete route without risk to health	Dogs	3	3	9	Puppies and young dogs only to complete distances within KC guidelines. "Escape" point(s) on route for dogs and owners to leave the walk after informing organisers	1	3	3
Control of dogs	Dogs chasing livestock, frightening people	Dogs Livestock	3	3	9	Dogs to be on lead near livestock & in areas of high human and dog density Responsibility for the control of dogs rests with the owner/handler	1	3	9
	Members of the public being panicked or feeling vulnerable due to uncontrolled dogs	Public	3	1	3	Create a culture and understanding with the dog walkers that members of the public can feel threaten by their animals and work with them towards better control of their dogs See controls above	2	1	2

Hazards	Activity	Who might be harmed	Probability	Severity	Risk rating	Controls	Probability	Severity	Risk rating
	Aggressive behaviour of dog on walk towards other animals	Dogs Owners	3	2	6	Proper introduction to dogs present by their keepers should be undertaken at the start of the dog walk. Dogs initially on leads	2	2	4
Dog (owned by member of the public) biting or harming a member of the group or one of their dogs	Mixing with public with of risk from dogs owned by other visitors to the park feeling threatened and being aggressive when faced with a line of Clumbers approaching	People and dogs	3	4	12	<p>Walkers advised of risk from dogs owned by other visitors to the park feeling threatened by group of Clumbers</p> <p>Dog owner's in-group requested to keep dogs under control at all times.</p> <p>Group leader to ask owners to put dogs on lead in vicinity of designated picnic and play areas, etc or when approaching other dogs that show "warning" body language.</p> <p>Group to walk spread along the path so that other dogs are approached by a line of Clumbers in ones or twos rather than a single pack</p> <p>If a dog fight occurs only those members of the group who are competent to do so to carry out a dynamic risk assessment and attempt to separate them if safe to do so</p>	2	4	8

Hazards	Activity	Who might be harmed	Probability	Severity	Risk rating	Controls	Probability	Severity	Risk rating
Ill or injured dogs	Infection Illness	Dogs	2	2	4	If a dog appears to be injured or unwell, the leader must assess the problem and discuss suitable action with the handler. If the dog has what appears to be an infectious illness the handler it must be asked to remove it and consult a vet. The owners of dogs that have been in contact with the animal must be informed	1	2	2
Animal mess	Contamination, infection	People	3	1	3	Use waste bags dispose of mess in dog bins or "stick and flick" if permitted;	3	1	3
Animal Carcasses	Infection, scratching, cutting, trauma	Dogs, people	2	1	2	Domestic or farm animal carcasses may be present along the walks. Care should be taken to avoid contact with any carcass by walkers or dogs	2	1	2
Cows and other livestock	Trampling, crushing, biting, goring	Dogs, People	3	4	12	Walks will be selected to avoid fields containing cattle. Owners are responsible for controlling their dogs near livestock	1	4	4
Lone working.	Risk to personal safety	People in group	3	2	6	Leader responsible for seeing group to keeps together.	1	2	2

August 2017 v5