

Keep Wales Tidy Risk Assessment – Path maintenance including the use of cutting and chopping hand tools

Name: _____ Assessment Number: _____

Date: _____

Location & Grid Ref: (<http://www.gridreferencefinder.com/>) Nearest A&E- Postcode & ☎: (<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/>)

Mobile Coverage: Yes / No

Further Assessments Required:	✓	Persons Involved or Affected by the Task:	✓
Fire		KWT employees	✓
Control of Substances Hazardous to Health		Employees- other organisations	
Young people & children		Volunteers	✓
Nursing/Expectant Mothers		Members of the Public	✓
People with disabilities		Contractors	

Hazards Identified	Severity (S)	Control Measures Currently in Place	Likelihood (L)	Score (S x L)	Rating
Road traffic and path users, including off-road motor vehicles	5	Participants to wear hi-vis jackets and be alert for traffic in car park and when crossing roads. Direct pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders away from work area, using warning signs/cordon off work areas as necessary.	2	10	Medium
Delays in getting immediate assistance from First Aider and/or emergency services if required.	5	Officer to check for mobile phone coverage at location, have mobile telephone and be constantly alert for problems. Officer to note nearest road access point and be able to give directions. Volunteers to work within sight of others and must inform KWT officer if they leave early.	2	10	Medium
Slip, trip or fall on uneven or slippery ground or where ground-covering plants conceal hazards.	3	Officer to walk site prior to beginning activity to assess conditions. Officer to warn participants about hazardous areas. Participants to wear suitable footwear with good grip and be alert	3	9	Medium
Injury from tools- cuts, trips, blows and injuries from broken tools	4	Office to outline safe use of tools during safety briefing. Tools should be stored safely on site when not in use. Officer to remove broken or damaged tools to stop them being used again. All tools should be checked prior to use to ensure they are suitable or safe, including tools belonging to individual volunteers brought along on the day. Maintain safe working distances between participants working with tools. Workers to wear hi-vis vests.	2	8	Medium
Lifting: risk of injury due to inappropriate lifting procedure/excessive weight or resistance	4	Heavy lifting only to be undertaken by suitable participants and following approved Manual Handling techniques. All volunteers to follow safe working instructions and to work in groups of appropriate size and location for adequate supervision by leader(s).	2	8	Medium

Injuries from vegetation- scratches, cuts, puncture wounds, reactions to stings and plant toxins	3	Officer to walk site prior to work, identifying hazards. Remove or mark plant hazards where necessary. Participants to wear protective clothing, hats with peak and eye protection as needed . Brief participants to identify Giant Hogweed and other harmful plants. Get swift medical attention for blackthorn injuries.	2	6	Medium
Dehydration, exhaustion OR hypothermia	3	Volunteers to wear suitable clothing for the season, including hats if needed Participants not to work for long periods without a rest and a drink. KWT officer to carry heat blanket, drinking water, first aid kit & mobile phone.	2	6	Medium
Bacteria and dirt could lead to illness and infection eg Weil's disease	3	Protective gloves for all volunteers and anti bacterial gel provided. Warn volunteers to avoid contact with eyes and mouth. Cover cuts and grazes with waterproof dressings. Wash hands with soap and hot water at end of task. Be aware of Weil's disease and seek medical help if needed.	2	6	Medium
Delays in getting immediate assistance from First Aider and/or emergency services if required.	5	Officer to check for mobile phone coverage at location, have mobile telephone and be constantly alert for problems. Officer to note nearest road access point and be able to give directions. Volunteers to work within sight of others and must inform KWT officer if they leave early.	1	5	Medium
Illness from pre-existing medical condition	5	Officer to ask participants about medical conditions at start and check that people have inhalers/ medication where needed. Officer carries mobile phone.	1	5	Medium
Adverse weather conditions	4	Activity should be cancelled if conditions will impact on safety. The KWT officer should identify nearby shelter in case weather conditions change suddenly. Terminate activity if required.	1	4	Low
Fencing/Contamination of ground	2	Beware of barbed wire/ electric fencing, hazardous materials on/hidden in ground	2	4	Low
Injury to non participants	4	Cordon off work areas to minimise contact with horses, dog walkers, fishermen etc. Remember that not all children and animals will be excluded in this way.	1	4	Low
Animals and plant - bites, stings, attacks	3	Any participant who reacts adversely to should carry appropriate medication. Wasps or ants nests hidden in the ground could be hazardous if accidentally disturbed. All volunteers avoid contact with animals. Liaise with landowners to minimise contact with livestock. Avoid practical work in breeding habitat during nesting season. KWT officer to warn participants about giant hogweed, nettles, brambles if present.	1	3	Low
Hazards to Keep Wales Tidy identified					
Theft or loss of equipment and tools		Tools and equipment to be returned to a safe location when no longer in use			

Severity (Worst Case Scenario)				
5	4	3	2	1
Fatality	Severe Injury	Lost Time Injury	Minor Injury	No Injury

Likelihood (Given Precautions in Place)				
5	4	3	2	1
Certain	Very Likely	Likely	Unlikely	Remote

Risk Rating Table				
Very High	High	Medium	Low	Very Low
20-25	15-19	5-14	3-4	1-2

Action Required (Including Temporary Action and Control Measures)	Action Review Date	Action Completed (Name and Date)

Further Actions which may Require Longer Term Consideration	Action Review Date	Action Completed (Name and Date)

If any Issues are Outstanding from the Action Review Date Please Detail the Reasons

Assessment Review Date:

New Risk Assessment Required?

Yes / No

Completed by:

Signature:

Event counter-signed:

Signature: