

Risk assessment form SS116

Name of assessor	Rob Smart	Date	Sept 2023
		Review date	Sept 2024
Name of persons who assisted.	N/A	Department	Clean Neighbourhoods
Task	Volunteer litter picking	People who may be harmed	Operators, members of the public, contractors

Hazard	Evaluate the risk	Risk control measures already in place.	Rating (with controls in place)			Additional controls required and whom are they assigned to.	By when?	Completed – date and sign
			L	C	R			
Lack of information and awareness	Slips trips Falls. Cuts	Prior to the litter-pick taking place, all volunteers should be given a Briefing and Safety Talk, covering any risks and general information about correct use of the equipment, any particular issues to be aware of regarding the site, meeting points etc. Event Organiser to take a note of attendees prior to litter-pick taking place.	2	3	6	.	annually	N/A

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			L	C	R			
Aggression/ abuse from members of the public	Verbal mental abuse. Possible cuts bruises from any altercations.	We do not recommend that you approach members of the public to challenge inappropriate behaviour such as dog fouling littering or any ASB related behaviour. Ignore this behaviour and report it if necessary either to your local authority or police if a confrontation occurs. Walk away if possible to reduce the risk of further confrontation. • Do not trespass onto private property whilst litter picking.	2	3	6		annually	N/A

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Extreme Weather	<p>Sunstroke, sunburn, dehydration and heat exhaustion due to hot weather</p> <p>Also frost bite chills hyperthermia if working in cold weather.</p> <p>Volunteers risk discomfort from cold weather, wind and rain.</p>	<p>We recommend that all clean-up hosts to be First Aid trained. You should ensure access to a First Aid kit if you are hosting a public clean-up</p> <p>Volunteers advised to dress appropriately for weather conditions. Gloves to be worn on all occasions.</p> <p>Advise volunteers to take regular breaks and seek shade if necessary.</p> <p>Volunteers advised to wear sun hats and sun cream, re-apply as needed.</p> <p>Volunteers to have access to water and advised to drink plenty.</p> <p>Volunteers instructed to wear warm and waterproof clothing, thick socks and sturdy boots</p> <p>Volunteers instructed to avoid areas where debris could come loose, i.e. trees, poorly maintained structures in high winds</p> <p>If lightning occurs, workers and volunteers are instructed to cease using litter pickers and stop the event</p> <p>Volunteers instructed to warm up and stretch prior to event during cold weather and to pay particular attention not to overexert themselves in order to avoid back injury.</p>	1	3	3		annually	N/A

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<p>Vehicles on roads and in car parks</p>	<p>Impact injuries Cuts Bruises Possible death.</p>	<p>We recommend that all clean-up hosts to be First Aid trained. You should ensure access to a First Aid kit if you are hosting a public clean-up</p> <p>Volunteers advised to dress appropriately for weather conditions. Gloves to be worn on all occasions.</p> <p>Advise volunteers to take regular breaks and seek shade if necessary.</p> <p>Volunteers advised to wear sun hats and sun cream, re-apply as needed.</p> <p>Volunteers to have access to water and advised to drink plenty.</p> <p>Volunteers instructed to wear warm and waterproof clothing, thick socks and sturdy boots</p> <p>Volunteers instructed to avoid areas where debris could come loose, i.e. trees, poorly maintained structures in high winds</p> <p>If lightning occurs, workers and volunteers are instructed to cease using litter pickers and stop the event</p> <p>Volunteers instructed to warm up and stretch prior to event during cold weather and to pay particular attention not to overexert themselves in order to avoid back injury.</p> <p>Children to remain under supervision and in sight of a responsible adult at all times, preferably by a parent or guardian.</p> <p>We recommend that children avoid litter picking along side of roads.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>5</p>		<p>annually</p>	<p>N/A</p>
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		<p>We recommend that no volunteers pick litter from the road and remain on pavements and paths at all times.</p> <p>Prior to event, the organiser to advise volunteers on areas where vehicles maybe present and give a brief regarding speed limits, being aware of surroundings and to keep focused when crossing roads.</p> <p>Do not use mobile phones or use headphones whilst litter picking, keep focused on your surroundings and stay vigilant.</p> <p>Be aware of any vehicle, potentially trying to park, maintain vigilance, give warning to others of approaching vehicles</p> <p>Absolutely no litter-picks to take place near railway lines or railway crossings.</p> <p>Hi-vis clothing to be worn at all times.</p>						
Electric fences	Electrocution, shock	<p>Always assume electric fences are live.</p> <p>Warn volunteers not to touch electric fences.</p> <p>Telephone 999 if necessary</p>	1	3	3		Annually	N/A

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Collection of litter	<p>Needle stick injuries.</p> <p>Disease from contact with infected dog waste.</p> <p>Asbestosis.</p> <p>Burns/skin diseases from Hazardous waste.</p> <p>Intoxication from Toxic waste.</p> <p>Manual handling injuries to back.</p>	<p>Volunteers instructed not to over-fill bags or try to carry heavy items.</p> <p>Volunteers advised to be aware of their own limitations by the event host during the briefing and not lift heavy items found during the clean up</p> <p>Volunteers with pre-existing injuries are not to lift bags or heavy items</p> <p>We recommend that no more than one bag at a time to be carried.</p> <p>The host to brief volunteers about safe manual handling procedures and safe lifting practices.</p> <p>Volunteers advised on safe manual handling practices.</p> <p>If too heavy to handle, leave the object in place and report it to the organiser to arrange removal by the council.</p> <p>Volunteers instructed to never to approach suspicious looking containers with or without hazard warning badges.</p> <p>Any suspicious drums, materials or containers with contents not identifiable to be left untouched report this immediately to HBBC council to arrange collection.</p> <p>If there is an accumulation of waste which would obviously have been fly-tipped deliberately on site, then this should be left alone report these immediately to HBBC.</p> <p>It is possible that asbestos could be found amongst smaller accumulations of litter that may not appear to be fly tipping. Volunteers instructed not to touch</p>	2	3	6		Ann ually	N/A
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		<p>or disturb this type of waste and report immediately to HBBC.</p> <p>Volunteers finding syringes should not touch them, but immediately notify the event organiser. All work must then cease in this particular area and report to HBBC immediately.</p> <p>Any accidental piercing by syringe should be immediately treated at a medical practice or A&E</p> <p>All volunteers to use litter pickers and gloves at all times whilst picking.</p> <p>Volunteers instructed never to put sharp objects in bags.</p> <p>Broken glass to be collected in glass bucket and disposed of safely at end of the event.</p>						
Uneven ground	Slips trips and falls.	<p>Volunteers advised to wear supportive, slip resistant footwear and no flip flops.</p> <p>Volunteers advised to take extra care on overgrown areas, rocky areas, wet/muddy areas</p> <p>Volunteers instructed to take extra care when carrying heavy bags.</p> <p>If in doubt, don't carry on if an area looks slippery or dangerous</p>	2	2	4		Annually	N/A

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Irritant and dangerous plants and Tree Shrubs.	Injury from irritant and dangerous plants, e.g. Giant Hogweed.	<p>Gloves must be worn at all times during the litter pick.</p> <p>We recommend that a first aider is available.</p> <p>Do not touch any potentially irritant and dangerous plants.</p> <p>Report irritant and dangerous plants to HBBC.</p>	3	3	9		Annually	N/A
Proximity to water, contact with water	Potential for bacterial infection - Leptospirosis (Weil's disease)	<p>First aider on site with access to First Aid kit</p> <p>Have clean water available to wash hands. Or hand anti bacteria Wipes.</p> <p>All volunteers to wash hands after activities.</p> <p>All volunteers to wear waterproof gloves.</p> <p>All wounds to be disinfected and dressed promptly.</p> <p>All volunteers to wear sturdy footwear.</p>	2	3	6		Annually	N/A
Dog fouling / faeces	Toxocara canis	<p>We recommend that you do not use litter-pickers to remove dog waste.</p> <p>Always wear gloves and use a plastic spade when removing dog faeces.</p> <p>If touched, thoroughly wash your hands and any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor.</p>	2	2	4		Annually	N/A

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Risk Rating Calculator

Likelihood that hazardous event will occur		Consequence of hazardous event	
1	very unlikely	1	insignificant – no injury
2	unlikely	2	Insignificant or minor – minor injuries needing first aid
3	fairly likely	3	moderate – up to three days' absence
4	likely	4	major – more than seven days' absence
5	very likely	5	catastrophic – death

	5	5	10	15	20	25
	4	4	8	12	16	20
	3	3	6	9	12	15
	2	2	4	6	8	10
	1	1	2	3	4	5
Consequence		1	2	3	4	5
		Likelihood				

Action Level Table

Risk Rating	Action
20-25	Stop – stop activity and take immediate action
15-16	Urgent action – take immediate action and stop activity if necessary, maintain existing controls rigorously
8-12	Action – improve within specified timescale
3-6	Monitor – look to improve at next review or if there is a significant change
1-2	No action – no further action but ensure controls are maintained and reviewed

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