

2023 North Downs Walk : Risk Assessment

Location	Hazard	Population affected	Consequence	Probability (1-3)	Severity (1-3)	Risk Rating (PxS)	Control measures	Probability after control	Severity after control	Risk Rating after control	Notes
Harrietsham											
Glebe Field	Car parking. Collision	Parking volunteers. Walkers.	Vehicle damage	2	1	2	Active monitoring and control by volunteer wardens wearing hi-vis.	1	1	1	Post disclaimer notice
			Personal injury	2	3	6		1	3	3	
Pre-event food storage and transport	Contamination. Deterioration	All	Illness	2	2	4	Perishable food to be stored in chillers. Transport time to be kept to a minimum. Food to be properly packaged.	1	2	2	Comply with food safety legislation
Kitchen. Food handling and preparation.	Contamination.	All	Illness	2	2	4	Containers and utensils to be kept clean. Kitchen staff handling food to be experienced. Kitchen leader to have appropriate certification.	1	2	2	Comply with food safety legislation
Hall generally	Medical emergency	All	Death, illness, injury	1	3	3	First aider on site. Call emergency services if necessary	1	2	2	
	Spread of respiratory disease.	All	Illness	2	2	4	Volunteers with positive Covid test (lateral flow) to stay away from event. Volunteers with respiratory disease symptoms (coughs, sneezes) must wear facemasks and not permitted to handle food.	1	2	2	
On Walking Routes											
Stiles	Broken, rotted, unstable	Walkers. Route marshals	Personal injury	1	2	2	None available to WoK	1	2	2	Inspect route by mid-May and advise KCC footpaths officer
Footpaths	Overgrown. Fly-tipped rubbish	Walkers. Route marshals	Minor personal injury (scratches, stings)	1	1	1	Cut back vegetation. Litter-pick	1	1	1	Advise KCC footpaths officer of large items and fly-tipping
Going, generally	Rough or slippery	Walkers. Route marshals	Personal injury	1	2	2	None available to WoK	1	2	2	Inspect route by mid-May and advise KCC footpaths officer
Road crossings at checkpoints	Collision with 3rd party vehicles	Walkers	Death. Personal Injury	2	3	6	Post clear notices "Beware Walkers" approx 50 meters either side of crossing.	1	3	3	
Road sections	Collision with 3rd party vehicles	Walkers. Route marshals	Death. Personal Injury	3	3	9	Post clear notices "Beware Walkers" approx 50 meters from each end of road sections and intermediate at road curves. Walkers and marshals advised not to use sound/visual media.	2	3	6	Route planning to avoid or minimise road sections.
Dangerous 3rd party animals e.g. bulls, dogs	Bites etc.	Walkers. Route marshals	Personal injury	1	2	2	None available to WoK	1	2	2	Inform farmers/landowners by mid-May.
Walkers' dogs	Attack on livestock or humans	Walkers. Route marshals. 3rd party livestock	Personal injury. Damage to livestock	2	2	4	General notice to walkers, "Dogs to be kept under control at all times". Post clear notices where livestock is expected on route, requiring dogs to be put on leash.	1	2	2	

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Route generally	Dehydration	Walkers. Route marshals	Illness	2	2	4	Water available at hall and all checkpoints to top up walker's water bottles. Limited stock of bottled water available for those without bottles.	1	1	1	
	Medical emergency	All	Death, illness, injury	1	3	3	Route marshals and checkpoint staff to have emergency contact number. Vehicle available to transport patient to first aider at hall. Route marshals and checkpoint staff to contact emergency services if necessary	1	2	2	
1-mile route	Standard issues with mobility aids	Disabled walkers and carers	Personal injury	1	2	2	Route planned on hard surfaces. Damaged areas to be clearly marked. Route to be marshalled	1	2	2	
Yew Tree Farm	2no. deep dene holes	Walkers. Route marshals	Personal injury	2	3	6	Fence and hi-vis tape around holes. Provide warning notice. Advise walkers to keep dogs on leash and guard children and vulnerable adults	1	3	3	
Generally											
Weather hazards	Sunstroke, sunburn, hypothermia etc.	All	Illness	2	2	4	Advise walkers of need for proper clothing, sunscreen etc.	1	1	1	
Wayfinding	Loss of direction	Walkers	Fatigue. Extended exposure to other risks	2	2	4	Maps available for download from website. Route marshals to place clear wayfinding markers. Route marshals to check route sections prior to closing checkpoints. Hall staff to correlate starters and finishers; all walkers to be accounted for before closing hall operation.	1	1	1	

Notes

No other hazard has been identified. The club believes that all hazards which have been identified have been adequately controlled

The club believes it has taken all reasonable steps to protect the safety of all participants, with particular reference to children and vulnerable adults.

The RIBI public liability policy covers this event. Details of all incidents must be advised to the walk committee chairman and safeguarding officer immediately.

Risk Ratings (probability x severity) classified as follows:

1	Trivial	No action
2	Tolerable	No action
3-4	Moderate	Control measures recommended
6	Substantial	Control measures required
9	Intolerable	Control measures essential

Walk committee chairman Chas Bedford
Safeguarding Officer Norman McGill