

RISK MANAGEMENT

HAZARD	RISK	CONTROL MEASURE TO REDUCE RISK	RESIDUAL RISK
Travel to and from the start eg. risk of traffic accident	L	Walkers are responsible for their own safety when travelling to and from a walk. Drivers and passengers should be covered by the car owner's insurance.	L
Traffic when walking on or crossing roads	M	Leaders should where possible avoid busy roads, especially where there is no footpath. Where this is not possible the leader should normally require walking in single file on the right, as per the guidance in the programme and on the website. On busy roads the leader and back marker are advised to wear high visibility clothing. On all roads members should call out when a vehicle approaches.	L
Difficult, slippery or steep terrain – risk of falling	M	When planning a walk, leaders should try to avoid particular hazards and advise members of known hazards at the start. Walkers should wear suitable footwear and use walking poles if needed.	L
Difficult crossings, especially of stiles, streams etc.	M	When planning a walk leaders should try to avoid particular hazards and advise members of difficult stiles and other known hazards at the start.	L

Adverse weather conditions - cold/heat exposure	M	Walkers should ensure they wear clothing appropriate for the potential conditions and if necessary bring spare clothing. See recommended kit for all walkers. In very cold weather they may need to consider carrying survival bags or blankets. The leader should bear in mind conditions and if necessary alter or curtail the walk if they become too bad.	L
Dehydration/loss of energy	M	Walkers should ensure they bring sufficient water or other drinks, and food.	L
Animals	M	Groups should stay together and try to avoid walking close to animals or between animals and their young (especially cattle). The leader may wish to deviate from the planned route if animals are seen as a particular threat. Dogs are not permitted on walks.	L
Lack of fitness/health	M	Walkers should ensure they are fit and healthy enough for the standard of walk. Leaders should ensure that the length and difficulty of the walk fits the club grading and warn at the start or indicate in the programme if the walk may be unexpectedly difficult. The leader may refuse to take someone he/she believes is not fit enough.	L
Getting lost	L	The leader should walk out the route in advance and carry the	L

Getting lost		appropriate OS map, compass and mobile phone. Sufficient time should be allowed for walks in winter to ensure they can be completed before nightfall even if the group does get lost.	
Lack of group control	L	<p>Walkers should adhere to leaders' instructions and advice, especially in hazardous situations.</p> <p>A back marker should be appointed for groups of 10 or more. The leader should stop from time to time to allow stragglers to catch up especially where the route changes. The fitter walkers of the group should not go ahead of the leader and force the pace.</p> <p>Where walkers wish to leave the group before the end of the walk they should ensure the leader is informed. If they wish to leave because they cannot keep up or are having problems the leader should check that they know the way back to the start and may suggest someone accompanies them. Anyone who chooses to leave the walk before the end ceases to be the leader's responsibility.</p>	L
Accident/ injury/ ill health	M	<p>Leaders are advised to carry a basic first aid pack.</p> <p>All walkers should carry the Emergency Procedures Pack comprising:</p>	L

<p>Accident/ injury/ ill health</p>		<p>An Emergency Procedures Card – describing what to do in emergency. A First Aid card. A completed Personal Details and Emergency Contacts Card to include any relevant health conditions. An Incident Details Card – to record key information before calling emergency services. Walkers susceptible to particular risks (eg, diabetics and those susceptible to insect bites and stings) may need to bring their own medicines etc.</p>	
<p>Damage to third parties' property and livestock</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>Walkers should take care not to damage property. Gates should be left as found. When walking through fields with crops, either stick to the footpath or walk in single file as indicated by the leader.</p>	<p>L</p>