| **HAZARD - include any which apply** | **PROBABILITY Delete as appropriate** | **TYPICAL OUTCOME IF NOT CONTROLLED** | **SAFETY MEASURES - include any which apply** |
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| Traffic - cars, lorries, farm vehicles, etc.  Some drivers driving too fast for the location, looking at the scenery and not at the road, and/or not expecting to encounter groups of people.  Both fast- and slow-moving traffic can present a hazard in car parks where your Groups assembles and on any roads the Group will visit. | High  Medium  Low  Very low | Possible vehicle-pedestrian conflict. | Safety briefing to group members to take care.  Identified location of a useable, functional telephone to call for help if required (insert location). |
| Dodgy paths.  Common hazards include:   * Steep gradients * Uneven paths with exposed rocks and/or tree roots * Paths, boardwalks and wooden bridges, which are slippery in places, especially after rain (in some cases wire mesh, which has been fitted to prevent slipping, can be loose in places) * Loose stones and gravel | High  Medium  Low  Very low | Slips and falls.  Potential for muscle tears and possible breaks. | Safety briefing to group members to take care, reiterated on approaching more hazardous sections.  First aid kit on hand. |
| Low branches of trees and shrubs.  These can present a hazard where they have been broken off to leave sharp points, particularly where they overhang pathways. | High  Medium  Low  Very low | Potential stabbing injuries, particularly to the face and neck. | Safety briefing to group members to stay on paths and to take care if they have to leave the path for any reason.  First aid kit on hand. |
| Gates.  Old gates in a state of disrepair, especially heavy field gates, can present a minor hazard to the unwary. | High  Medium  Low  Very low | Potential for finger entrapment and minor abrasions. | Safety briefing to group members to take care.  First aid kit on hand. |
| Stiles.  Poorly maintained stiles, particularly those with loose footings, missing steps, or worn impact areas can be a hazard for group members with mobility or balance issues. | High  Medium  Low  Very low | Slips and falls. Potential for muscle tears and possible breaks. | Safety briefing to group members to take care, reiterated on entry to the boardwalk.  First aider and first aid kit on hand. |
| Barbed wire. | High  Medium  Low  Very low | Lacerations to the hands and arms with potential for deeper tissue damage. | Safety briefing to group members to take care.  First aid kit on hand. |
| Sharp drops and changes in level, especially those with crumbling edges.  Banking and bridges without a parapet can be a particular hazard. | High  Medium  Low  Very low | Slips and falls.  Impact injuries and abrasions.  Potential fractures. | Safety briefing to group members to take care, reiterated on approaching identified hazards.  First aid kit on hand. |
| Standing water.  Lakes, ponds, reservoirs, flashes, flooded pits, boggy ground and even puddles may contain leptospirosis (Weil’s Disease). | High  Medium  Low  Very low | Potential contamination.  Risk of drowning, especially if combined with a fall resulting in a blow to the head or other debilitating injury. | Safety briefing to group members to avoid touching any standing water, and to avoid contact with the mouth, nose or eyes.  Carry cleansing wipes. |
| Running water.  Even shallow water can present a hazard | High  Medium  Low  Very low | Risk of drowning, especially if combined with a fall resulting in a blow to the head or other debilitating injury. | Safety briefing to group members to take care and keep away from the edge of rivers and other streams with degraded banks.  First aid kit on hand. |
| Loose and falling masonry from dilapidated or poorly maintained drystone walls, abandoned buildings, etc. | High  Medium  Low  Very low | Impact injuries and abrasions. | Safety briefing to group members to take care, reiterated on encountering older, poorly maintained drystone walls.  First aid kit on hand. |
| Hazardous plants.  Brambles, thistles, gorse, nettles, and bracken can be an issue for any group members sensitised to thorny, prickly or stinging plants.  Giant Hogweed is a serious concern for all group members. | High  Medium  Low  Very low | Irritating and possibly painful skin rashes and possible allergic reaction.  Contact with Giant Hogweed can sensitise the skin to sunlight causing extensive and painful lesions lasting for many years after initial contact | Safety briefing to group members to take care, reiterated on approaching identified hazards.  Check to see if anyone attending the meeting has a history of anaphylactic shock and, if so, that they have an epi-pen or similar with them.  First aid kit on hand.  Areas supporting Giant Hogweed will be avoided. |
| Hazardous invertebrates - bees, wasps, horseflies and other stinging or biting insects; ticks; and Noble False Widow spider.  If these have not been recorded in the area the group intends to visit it is worth noting that in the assessment. | High  Medium  Low  Very low | Allergy and risk of anaphylactic shock.  Ticks can carry Lyme Disease. | Safety briefing to group members to take care and encouraged to tuck their trousers into their socks or boots where practical.  Check to see if anyone attending the meeting has a history of allergic reaction/anaphylactic shock and, if so, that they have taken relevant preventative medication (such as anti-histamines) or have prescription medication with them (eg epi-pen or similar).  First aid kit on hand. |
| Dogs.  Dogs may be an issue if the group is visiting a popular dog-walking area where dogs can sometimes be encountered off the lead. Dogs should be under control but some dog owners can be inattentive.  The chances of being bitten by a dog are extremely low but a boisterous animal may alarm some group members or take others by surprise causing them to lose balance and fall.  A few dog owners don’t pick up after their dog and dog droppings can transmit infections such as E-coli and toxicara. | High  Medium  Low  Very low | Slips and falls.  Impact injuries and abrasions.  Potential fractures.  Rarely toxicariasis can cause eye disease and respiratory problems. | Safety briefing to group members to take care.  Check to see if anyone attending the meeting is likely to be unnerved around dogs.  First aid kit on hand. |
| Horses.  Horses are generally very calm but a boisterous animal may alarm some group members or take others by surprise causing them to lose balance and fall.  In places where horses are mounted riders may be encouraged to canter. | High  Medium  Low  Very low | Slips and falls.  Impact injuries and abrasions.  Potential fractures.  Some horses may bite when alarmed. | Safety briefing to group members to take care.  Check to see if anyone attending the meeting is likely to be unnerved around horses.  First aid kit on hand. |
| Cattle and other farm animals.  Potential for animal-pedestrian conflict.  Sheep droppings can transmit infections, such as E coli and cryptosporidiosis. | High  Medium  Low  Very low | Potential for crushing injuries or minor injury arising from mild panic.  The chances of being bitten by farm animals is low. | Safety briefing to group members to take care.  Check to see if anyone attending the meeting is likely to be unnerved around cattle or other farm animals eg geese.  First aid kit on hand. |
| Inclement weather. | High  Medium  Low  Very low | Slips and falls.  Potential for muscle tears and possible breaks. | Attendees will be advised prior to the meeting to take special care in travelling to the location if bad weather is forecast.  In the case of extreme weather conditions meetings will be called off and attendees advised not to attend. |
| Isolation.  An isolated site is one which is some distance from the nearest settlement, and which has restricted vehicle access and poor or non-existent mobile phone reception. | High  Medium  Low  Very low | Emergency services could take some time to arrive. | Get advice from an authority with a detailed knowledge of the area, and the infrastructure in place to deal with any emergencies, and put in place any recommended safety measures.  Register details of the group’s planned activity with an appropriate authority.  Compass and hard-copy map available at all times.  Water and first aid kit on hand. |
| Other site-specific hazards.  For example, proximity to a golf course. | High  Medium  Low  Very low | Potential for golf ball strikes causing bruising and other minor injuries. | Safety briefing to group members to take care, repeated where a path crosses a fairway.  First aider and first aid kit on hand. |