



ADRC Group Walk Hazard Appraisal

Please use this ADRC Group Walk Hazard Appraisal to assist you in identifying possible hazards or risks on every ADRC group walk that you lead, and the measures that you can take to minimise/eliminate those hazards and risks. It is recommended that copies should be kept for one year following the date of your walk.

This document is to be read in conjunction with the current version of the ADRC "Guidelines for Members Taking Part in Club Walks". **Neither of the documents are to be considered as definitive** - and both are subject to change. All ADRC walks are to follow the Countryside Code (England and Wales) at all times.

Date of Walk	Walk Leader(s)	Walk Location	Reconnoitre Date	Hazard Appraisal Assessment Date

Category	Walk Hazard	Hazard Mitigation/Guidelines	Other Walk Specific Control Measure
Walk and Walkers	Walker Injuries and Medical Incidents	Undertake a recce to establish walk routes and suitability, including escape routes, if a walker has to abandon. Be aware of seasonal dusk and darkness times.	
	Lost Walker	To avoid a walker becoming separated from main group, appoint a backmarker. Regularly check the group numbers, against those at walk start.	
	Walker Fatigue	Regularly and discreetly check the group for dehydration, exhaustion etc of walk participants. If required, slow the pace of the walk and add in more rest and hydration stops.	
	Road Accident	Limit the road/lane walking to a minimum. Avoid busy roads where possible. Advise the group when walking on roads/lanes of the need to walk in single file on one side of the road.	
When crossing any road/lane carefully choose a suitable crossing point. Do not cross en-masse.			
Weather	Severe Weather Impact	If severe conditions are expected, cancel the walk in good time. Alternatively, adjust the walk and pace to match the conditions.	
Farmland	Farm/Livestock Incidents	When passing through farms take extra care around vehicles, machinery and livestock. In the case of livestock, if possible, divert the route. If this is not possible, cross the area in small/quiet/calm groups and keep to field edges. Appoint a 'gate guard' to ensure no animals get through and close gates or leave as found.	

Terrain	Personal Accidents	Be aware of potential trips and falls and change the route as necessary. Zigzag up/down steep sections of the walk, reassure nervous walkers. If such hazards cannot be avoided, advise of these issues in the circular, at the pre-walk briefing and again during the walk.	
	Falling into Water	Check wide/deep river crossing e.g. stepping stones and/or fast-moving streams, in times of high rainfall. Choose a suitable safe crossing point. If none are available, change the route to avoid. Bridges come before any other river crossing. If walking near the coast, be aware of local tide times.	
	Walker hit by Trees	In woodland check general condition of trees/fallen trees during the recce. If considered dangerous, or impassable, change the route to avoid.	
	Bridge and Stile Collapse	Check the condition of bridges and stiles during the recce and note those in a poor condition. Change the route if required. Mention in pre-walk briefing and give/arrange assistance during the walk.	
	Walker hit by Train	Check railway line crossings for suitability. If considered dangerous or impassable change the route to avoid.	
	Personal Injuries	Before the walk and on the recce be aware of potential seasonal restrictions. Restrictions could be; fire, water, shooting, blasting.	
Other			

Walk Specific Escape Routes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.