|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **LITTER PICKING RISK ASSESSMENT – Insert name of group here** | |
| **Assessors Names:** | **Assessment Date:** |
| **Area:** | **People at Risk**: |

| **Risk** | **Action** | **Action by** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Volunteers not knowing safety procedures or who first aiders are | 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, etc |  |
| Organisers not knowing if everyone is safely accounted for | Volunteers complete a sign-in sheet which is checked to ensure everyone has returned after the litter pick |  |
| Lack of safeguarding of vulnerable adults and children | Check if any of your volunteers are children or vulnerable adults. If so, ensure adequate safeguarding measures are in place |  |
| Conflict with members of the public | Brief volunteers on how to avoid any confrontation – in particular to avoid litter picking around occupied tents and to be aware of cyclists |  |
| Discomfort from either excessively hot or cold weather | Check the weather conditions prior to the event and inform volunteers if there is a need to cancel the event due to bad weather  Organiser to shorten event duration if conditions require conditions  Organiser to suspend the event if the weather becomes extreme |  |
| Injury generally | All volunteers to use litter pickers and gloves.  First aider on site with access to First Aid kit  Organisers to have mobile phones in case of emergency  Organisers have identified local walk-in centres and accident & emergency departments for minor injuries |  |
| Injury through contact with moving vehicles | Advise volunteers on areas where vehicles maybe present including cycle routes  Warn volunteers to be aware of surroundings at all times and not to pick litter on roads  Hi-vis to be worn at all times |  |
| Injury or back pain from handling heavy loads | Check beforehand whether any volunteers have pre-existing injuries or health conditions  Safety briefing to include:   * Volunteers advised to be aware of their own limitations and not over-fill bags * Volunteers with pre-existing injuries are not to lift bags or heavy items * If too heavy to handle, leave the object in place and report it to the organiser to arrange removal by the council |  |
| Volunteers risk coming into contact with toxic or hazardous material | Walk around the area to reveal any hazardous materials prior to the event  Safety briefing to include:   * Leaving fly-tipped items for council to collect * Volunteers not to handle suspicious looking containers or items |  |
| Injury / infection from sharps / drug related items | Walk around the area prior to the event to check for evidence of syringes  Require volunteers finding syringes not to touch them but notify the event organiser |  |
| Slips, trips and falls | Advise volunteers:   * To wear supportive, slip resistant footwear and no flip flops * To take extra care on overgrown areas and slopes * To take extra care when carrying heavy bags |  |
| Cuts & eye pokes from vegetation | Advise volunteers to be aware of low hanging branches, exposed tree and shrub roots and brambles and nettles |  |
| Injury from water, drowning and water-based diseases | Advise volunteers to be careful when picking litter close to the riverbank and not to enter the water |  |
| Injury from irritant and dangerous plants, e.g. Giant Hogweed | Be alert for dangerous plants during the litter pick |  |
| Disease carried by animal ticks & bites/scratches, stings from animals | Advise volunteers to:   * Avoid contact with animals and faeces * Avoid moving through vegetation if wearing shorts or short sleeved shirts |  |
| COVID-19 | Advise volunteers to:   * Wear a facemask * To keep at least two meters apart * To avoid physical contact with each other * To regularly sanitise their hands |  |