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

| **Risk** | **Action** | **Action by** |
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| 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 weatherOrganiser to shorten event duration if conditions require conditionsOrganiser 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 kitOrganisers to have mobile phones in case of emergencyOrganisers 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 routesWarn volunteers to be aware of surroundings at all times and not to pick litter on roadsHi-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 conditionsSafety 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
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| Volunteers risk coming into contact with toxic or hazardous material | Walk around the area to reveal any hazardous materials prior to the eventSafety briefing to include:* Leaving fly-tipped items for council to collect
* Volunteers not to handle suspicious looking containers or items
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| 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
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| 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
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| 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
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