

Llanelli Festival of Walks - Risk Assessment form.

Walk Name _____

Circular/Linear _____ Walk number _____

Easy/Moderate/
Energetic _____ Walk leader _____

Walk length _____ Mobile number _____

Start Grid Ref _____ Back marker _____

Finish Grid Ref _____ Mobile number _____

OS Map number _____ Stiles Yes/No *

Date of survey _____ Dogs allowed Yes/No*

* Delete as appropriate

Walk description

Signed by walk leader: _____

Date: _____

Hazard description				
Hazard type	✓	Grid reference number		Comment
'A' Road				
'B' Road				
Minor road/ Country lane				
Rail crossing				
Water crossing				
Uneven ground				
Mud/Bog				
Steep ascent/ descent				
Low cloud/ Mist				
River/Canal side				
Cliff top/bottom				
Sea shore				

Place a tick against the hazards likely to be encountered on the walk. Continue on a separate sheet if not enough space to list all hazards. Include all other hazards not mentioned above.

Hazard type	Potential risk	Control	Procedure
‘A’ and ‘B’ Roads	Death or serious injury through contact with moving vehicles	<p>Road crossing. Controlled pedestrian crossing to be used if accessible or leader and back marker to develop arrangements for supervising crossing of road.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Road walking. Pavements to be used when available otherwise follow procedure.</p>	<p>Leader to halt group, issue warning of moving traffic and explain procedure. Leader and back marker to be stationed on opposite side of road watching for approaching vehicles from either side. When vehicle is spotted a warning shout of CAR to be given to halt road crossing. On all clear crossing to be resumed until group has safely crossed.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Group to walk in single file on right hand side of road, A warning shout of CAR to be given for vehicles approaching from front or rear.</p>
Minor road /Country Lane	Less risk of death or serious injury through contact with moving vehicles	Road walking. Pavements to be used when available otherwise follow procedure.	Group to walk in single file on right hand side of road, A warning shout of CAR to be given for vehicles approaching from front or rear.
Rail crossing	Death or serious injury through contact with moving vehicles	Cross railway by bridge or tunnel even if a long detour is required otherwise follow procedure.	<p>Leader to halt group, issue warning of moving traffic and explain procedure. Railway crossing only to be attempted on long straight stretch and never on bends. Group to stay well clear of railway track before and after crossing. Leader and back marker to be stationed on opposite side of railway watching for approaching train from either direction. When train is spotted a warning shout of TRAIN to be given to halt railway crossing. On all clear crossing to be resumed until group has safely crossed. Leader to have copy of train time table for area.</p>

Hazard type	Potential risk	Control	Procedure
Water crossing	Death by drowning or serious injury through slips, trips and falls into water. Risk greatly increased after heavy rainfall.	Cross by bridge or stepping stones when available.	Leader to note rainfall and effect of water levels in days leading to walk and if need be develop an alternative route avoiding the crossing stones in such circumstances. Leader to establish state of stepping stones prior to group crossing, noting slippery nature of surface, pitch of stones and distance between stones. Verbal warning to be made to group and crossing carried out one at a time, if necessary, with leader offering support and assistance at difficult points, e.g., offering stick/pole as handhold over difficult sections.
Uneven ground Steep ascend/descend	Falling, slipping breaking leg or twisting ankle.	Walks graded accordingly ensuring walkers of relevant experience and with proper equipment only participate.	Leader to halt group at start of ascent/descent or approach of uneven ground and issue verbal warning and advising care and use of walking poles. Support and assistance to be offered to less confident walkers.
Low cloud/ Mist	Taking wrong path, getting detached from main group	Walk leader will be familiar with route and have made the necessary weather checks beforehand.	Leader will cancel walk if adverse weather is forecast. Leader to verbally inform group before any high level walks of procedure if weather changes unexpectedly. Group to walk in tight formation, if detached the isolated member to remain in situ and not wander off, but should shout or blow whistle until found by leader or back marker.
River/Canal side	Drowning or falling into water. Tripping over fallen trees or other obstacles	Use canal tow path or riverside path.	Leader to issue verbal warning where tripping hazards are encountered on the day.

Hazard type	Potential risk	Control	Procedure
Cliff top/bottom	Danger of falling over cliff. Danger of falling objects from cliff	Walk on designated footpath on cliff top.	Leader to issue verbal warning of danger on cliff top and check for fallen objects at cliff base.
Sea shore	Being cut off by the incoming tide. Unsafe underfoot conditions.	Existing warning signs.	Leader to establish tide times and arrange walk such that walking is made at low water and not high water.

Insert any additional hazards not covered above. Continue on a separate sheet if not enough space to list all hazards.

Standard Controls in Operation.

Walk leader and back marker have surveyed the walk and noted potential hazards as on Page 2. They will also make sure that group members have the appropriate footwear and clothing for the walk to be taken. In the event of an emergency, the leader is equipped with a first aid kit, mobile telephone, whistle, map and compass.

Weather.

In the event of severe weather conditions, e.g. gales, extreme heavy rain, lightning storms or blizzards, the walk will be cancelled. Safety of the walking party will always be of the utmost importance.