Graffiti Removal Risk Assessment Template

Event:
Date/Time:
Location:
Date of Assessment:
Event Organisers and/or Risk Assessors:

Managing risks to volunteers

Health and safety legislation requires the identification of significant risks that volunteers may face as part of an organised activity, and the implementation of effective control measures to protect them from harm – as far as reasonably practicable.

Graffiti removal is an activity that has the potential to place volunteers in high-risk situations. Where there is a higher risk, the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) requires the process of risk assessment to identify these risks and protect people from real harm.

The HSE expects volunteers to be provided with information, instruction and training to ensure that they carry out activities safely. This includes an induction and information on hazards to which volunteers may be exposed.

Volunteers should be provided with tools and equipment (including Personal Protective Equipment – PPE) and be trained to use them safely.

The process of risk assessment

This document is a generic risk assessment that has been provided to identify hazards and risks that people may face when carrying out graffiti removal activities.

You may use this as a starting point, but you will need to add to it as necessary; for example, there may be additional, specific hazards in relation to the site being cleared, or in relation to a person or person(s) carrying out the activity.

For each hazard listed in the tables below, identify the potential risks to health and safety, the people at risk and identify the Initial Risk Rating by multiplying the *Likelihood* by the *Severity*. Measures to manage the risks should be implemented, which must reduce the risk to an acceptable level. **HIGH AND VERY HIGH-RISK ACTIVITIES MUST NOT BE UNDERTAKEN**.

Everyone involved in an activity should be given a copy of the risk assessment prior to it taking place. You may wish to record volunteers' names and signatures; to confirm that they have understood the hazards identified and accept the proposed mitigation measures.

Example								
Risks to health and safety	**People at risk**	**Initial Risk**			**Measures to manage the risks effectively**	**Residual Risk**		
		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating
What is the hazard / object / item that could potentially cause a danger or result in harm to person(s)?	*Who/which groups could be harmed by the hazard:* *S:Staff* *P: Participants*	*The likelihood that this hazard will happen* *e.g. 3*	*Damage done to the person(s) or building or both if the hazard occurs.* *e.g. 2*	*The Probability and Severity multiplied together to get the overall risk factor.* *3 x 2 = 6*	*Steps in place to reduce the risks from the hazard.*	*The residual likelihood that this hazard will happen* *e.g.,2*	*Severity is the same as initial risk* *e.g., 2*	*Residual risk rating* *2 x 2 = 4*

Rating	Likelihood	Rating	Severity	Initial Risk/Residual Risk
1	Remote possibility/negligible	1	Minor injury e.g. bruise/abrasion	Likelihood x Severity =
2	Possible: might happen	2	Injury requiring medical attention	
3	Possible: feasible	3	Over 3-day injury: temporary	
4	Highly probable	4	Serious injury: long-term sickness	
5	Will invariably happen – almost certain	5	Death or permanent disability	

		Severity				
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
Likelihood	1	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium
	2	Low	Medium	Medium	High	High
	3	Medium	Medium	High	High	Very high
	4	Medium	High	High	Very high	Very high
	5	Medium	High	Very high	Very high	Very high

HAZARD IDENTIFIED:								
Risks to health and safety	**People at risk**	**Initial Risk**			**Measures to manage the risks effectively**	**Residual Risk**		
		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating
Contact with cleaning chemicals – skin irritation, eye injury or allergic reactions	Participants	4	4	16	Follow manufacturer's instructions. Wear protective gloves and eye protection provided. Do not mix chemicals. Wash hands after use.	2	2	4
HAZARD IDENTIFIED:								
Risks to health and safety	**People at risk**	**Initial Risk**			**Measures to manage the risks effectively**	**Residual Risk**		
		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating
Chemical splashes during application onto graffiti – skin irritation, eye injury or allergic reactions	Participants	3	3	9	Safety glasses or goggles to be worn at all times, when using the graffiti removal kit. Avoid spraying above head height. Use products in accordance with instructions provided.	1	3	3
HAZARD IDENTIFIED:								
Risks to health and safety	**People at risk**	**Initial Risk**			**Measures to manage the risks effectively**	**Residual Risk**		
		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating
Manual handling of equipment, water containers or cleaning supplies – could cause strains and sprains	Participants	3	2	6	Avoid lifting excessive weights. If lifting is required, use correct lifting techniques so to avoid injury. Seek assistance for lifting or moving heavy objects and items.	2	2	4
HAZARD IDENTIFIED:								
Risks to health and safety	**People at risk**	**Initial Risk**			**Measures to manage the risks effectively**	**Residual Risk**		
		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating

Slips, trips and falls – could cause cuts, bruises or fractures	Participants or members of the public or other third-parties	3	3	9	Keep equipment tidy and organised at all times. Do not leave bags, buckets or hoses obstructing footpaths. Clean up any spillages immediately.	2	3	6
HAZARD IDENTIFIED:								
Risks to health and safety	**People at risk**	**Initial Risk**			**Measures to manage the risks effectively**	**Residual Risk**		
		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating
Working adjacent to roads or car parks	Participants	3	4	12	Remain aware of any moving vehicles at all times. Wear high-visibility clothing where appropriate. Do not work in live carriageways.	2	4	8
HAZARD IDENTIFIED:								
Risks to health and safety	**People at risk**	**Initial Risk**			**Measures to manage the risks effectively**	**Residual Risk**		
		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating
Public aggression or confrontation	Participants	2	2	4	Do not engage in any arguments or confrontation with members of the public or other third-parties. Leave the area if challenged and report any concerns to the Council.	1	2	2
HAZARD IDENTIFIED:								
Risks to health and safety	**People at risk**	**Initial Risk**			**Measures to manage the risks effectively**	**Residual Risk**		
		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating
Contact with sharp objects or contaminated materials	Participants	3	3	9	Wear protective gloves at all times when using the graffiti removal kit. Do not handle any needles, syringes, blades or hazardous materials that may be found whilst carrying out graffiti removal activities.	1	3	3

					Report any hazardous or potentially hazardous objects to the Council.			

HAZARD IDENTIFIED:								
Risks to health and safety	**People at risk**	**Initial Risk**			**Measures to manage the risks effectively**	**Residual Risk**		
		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating
Use of scrapers, brushes or cleaning tools causing cuts or abrasions	Participants	3	2	6	Use equipment as intended. Inspect equipment before use. Wear protective gloves at all times when using the graffiti removal kit.	1	2	2

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Risks to health and safety	**People at risk**	**Initial Risk**			**Measures to manage the risks effectively**	**Residual Risk**		
		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating
Working at height	Participants	2	5	10	Volunteers must not use ladders, platforms, or access equipment. Graffiti above normal reach height must be reported to the Council for safe removal.	1	5	5

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		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating
Exposure to hazardous substances or unknown graffiti materials	Participants	2	4	8	Do not remove any substances that are suspected to be hazardous. Avoid generating any dust particles. Stop any work and contact the Council if concerned.	1	4	4

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Risks to health and safety	**People at risk**	**Initial Risk**			**Measures to manage the risks effectively**	**Residual Risk**		
		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating
Adverse weather conditions	Participants	3	2	6	Dress appropriately for the graffiti removal activities.	1	2	2

					Stop work during severe weather, including icy conditions, high winds or thunderstorms.			
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Risks to health and safety	**People at risk**	**Initial Risk**			**Measures to manage the risks effectively**	**Residual Risk**		
		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating		Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating
Lone working	Participants	3	3	9	Inform someone of the location and expected duration on site whilst carrying out graffiti removal activities. Carry a charged mobile phone at all times. Wear the necessary PPE whilst carrying out any graffiti removal activities.	2	3	6

Name	Signature