

Group walks – risk assessment,

Use this risk assessment to help you understand the risks and any steps you need to take to stay safe before leading a group walk. Please complete a copy for every walk and keep this for two years after the date of the walk.

Walk Leader		Date of walk	
Ramblers group / scheme name	RYEDALE WALKING GROUP	Date of risk assessment	
		Date of recce	

Possible hazards	Who might be harmed and how?	Ways to control the risk	Action taken? (click on the box to tick)
Bad weather (including extreme temperatures)	Walkers – risk of illness and injury, risk of the group being stranded	Check the weather forecast and postpone/cancel if necessary. Advise walkers to bring suitable clothing and items for the conditions.	
		Make a note of 'escape routes' on the recce.	
Busy roads	Walkers – risk of vehicle collisions	Avoid routes along busy roads and/or check for suitable crossing places on the recce.	
Steep, slippery or muddy sections.	Walkers – risk of trips/slips	Check for muddy/slippy sections on the recce and adapt the route if necessary. Advise walkers to bring suitable footwear for the conditions.	
Livestock	Walkers – risk of injury	Cross fields with livestock calmly and quietly, keeping the group together. Be prepared to divert around livestock if necessary.	

	Risk of property damage if livestock escape	Follow the Countryside Code (England & Wales) and Access Code (Scotland). Leave gates and property as you find them.	
Cliffs or sheer drops	Walkers – risk of falls	Check paths are suitable for a group to use safely and make changes if necessary.	
		Follow any local warnings or signs, and advise walkers to keep away from the edge.	
<i>Please add:</i> <i>general description,</i> Location <i>Length of walk,</i> Ascent in feet, <i>Grid ref of start</i> Time of Start			
More info:			