Risk Matrix

Three Towers Hike 2025

ID	Acitivity Component	Significant Hazards	Person or object at risk	s	L	R	Planned Control Measures
H1	Hikers Inexperience Hik		Hikers	2	4	8	Checkpoints will radio in to base the arrival times of hikers. Hike control will monitor these times and, if necessary, dispatch a search team. Maps detailing the entire course are maintained at Hike control for the duration of the event.
							The hike mandates that all participants have a basic understanding of map reading and navigation. The organizers recommend that all youth participants practice or prepare for the event under the wing of their adult leadership team. A minimum team standard is set within the rules for the event to ensure an appropriate level of safety. This includes team composition and age requirements. Teams that clearly have no aptitude for map reading will be retired or disqualified. For Scout and Explorer section events, the assessment of a team's ability may be made at check-in or at any checkpoint on the route.
							The primary participants with the least experience are identified as younger Scouts. Therefore, a restriction will be placed on the number of 10- year old Scouts in any one Scout team (max. 1)
H2	Hikers	Remote Incident	Hikers	2	4	4	A medical team and Search & Rescue asset is available throughout the event. Emergency Communications is provided for by the qualified amateur radio staff & SAR.
Н3	Hikers	Very slow walkers	Hikers	1	4	4	Cut off times will be enforced on certain checkpoints. A team of sweepers will be on call to walk in the last teams to the next checkpoint. The schedule shown previously in this document identifies procedures for the sweep and for searching for late hikers
H4	Hikers	Crossing A34	Hikers	2	1	2	Crossing the A34 should only be by authorised crossing either by underpass or bridge - applies to all hikers but specifically the Explorer + route which requires crossing to reach checkpoint at East Hendred
Н5	Hikers	Low light and traffic	Hikers	2	2	4	All hikers are required to wear hi-vis or reflective clothing when walking on the public highway or are walking any part of the hike after sundown (after 1930BST). This can be jacket or vest, or other reflective devices providing adequate visibility. It must be visible from the rear, particularly if a waterproof or a rucksack is worn.
							All hikers are required to carry and use a forward- pointing torch on public highways after sundown. The torch must be at least as bright as a typical front light on a bicycle.  The schedule shown previously in this document identifies public highways likely to used as part of the route or as a crossing.
							Risk substantially reduced with omission of Classic hike and change to start time of Explorer + hike - comments ref A34 omitted
Н6	Hikers	Rivers /Rail	Hikers	3	3	9	The Thames will only be crossed by one of the two assigned bridges.
							No part of the route follows any rail line. The
							crossing points are by bridges and are all of
							considerable structure.
		Separation from					Affairs and a state of the same and a state of the sam
H7	Hikers	group	Hikers	2	1	H7	Minimum walking size is three persons at all times.
				l			When teams have retirements, the remaining

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l	1		] [	l	ĺ	l	members MUST only continue by joining up with
							other hikers. The details of the new grouping must
							be communicated back to base control for
							confirmation of suitability.
B1	Everyone	Fire or other	Everyone	3	1	3	For every building that is used by the hike
В2	Everyone	Trip hazards	Everyone	2	2	4	All staff working in a building are responsible for maintaining clear gangways in and out of the building and ensuring no cabling is exposed as a trip hazard
R1	Radio Comms	Falling antenna	Radio Comms				No longer hazard - no mast now used for new location
R2	Radio Comms	Electric Shock	Radio Comms	3	1	3	Only equipment which is adequately fused and with safe and sound cabling will be used. Where the law certain requirements these will be observed
R3	Radio Comms	Operating while driving	Radio Comms	2	2	4	Although the law permits radio amateurs to use 2- way radio equipment while driving, on all minibuses the driver and radio operator MUST be separated so that the driver is not required to operate the radio while driving.
F1	All	Allergic reactions		2	1	2	All hikers and staff are required to notify the organizers of any allergies – Note: although reasonable care on appropriate handling of the
							food will be carried out within the kitchen and preparation are as the hike organizers cannot guarantee cross-contamination of foods except for where required by law.
F2	Catering staff	Cuts and bums		2	1	2	Kitchen staff will have access to first aid staff that are based at each kitchen venue.
F3	Catering staff	Food hygiene		2	2	4	Food preparation areas will be kept clean at all times. Food requiring refrigeration will be kept at required temperatures. Raw meats and cooked meats will be kept apart with raw meats stored on the lowest shelf. Cooked foods required to be kept hot will be kept at minimum 65°
							Chilled food required to be reheated will not be reheated more than once. Only
							the appointed catering manager and kitchen staff will be permitted in the kitchen area during food preparation. Suitable tools and cleansing materials must be available including hand-washing facilities.
							In extreme conditions, the organisers reserve the right to shorten the route or to
ΕΊ	All	Inclement weather	Hikers	2	2	4	abandon the event. Checkpoint marshals and kit-checkers will ensure every hiker has adequate clothing and protection. Hot drinks are provided at some of the checkpoints. In the event of warm weather, sufficient water will be provided for hikers and staff to top-up their own drinks bottles. Cold drinks are always available at checkpoints.
							as noted on route card Should it be necessary to curtail the event and divert or recall hikers, then stop points established at which hikers can be collected
M1	Minibus and passengers	Driving Experience	Drivers & passengers	2	1	2	Drivers must be suitably qualified, licensed and insured to drive the minibus. MIDAS qualification is recommended for minibus drivers.
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C1	All	Trespass	All	2	1	2	Each checkpoint location will be clearly identified using six-figure national grid reference plus What3Words, Access approval will be sought from each landowner where this is required

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	C2	Hikers	Shoots near Warren Farm	Hikers		2 2		There is a potential for 'Shoots@ o be taken place -the current date is outside of the shooting season - (note if hike date falls within the shooting season this will be assessed then
Ī	C3	All	Car Parking	All	2	2	4	Car Parking at Compton - to mitigate risk on arrival and departure parents / supporters are instructed to park at the Downs School - this will be signposted on
ſ								the day

Version 1	February 2024	Format created & reviewed	
Version 2	March 2025	Reviewed	Grammar / spelling corrections