

RISK ASSESSMENT

Place/Type of Activity: Village Volunteers - Hedge Trimming

Date of Activity: Generic

Reviewed: August 2020

Hazards	Risks	Persons at Risk	Existing Controls	Risk Rating L/M/H	Additional Controls Required
Use of hedge trimmer	Cuts Lacerations Eye injury	Volunteers	Only trained volunteers to use hedge trimmer. Equipment fitted with safety cut off switch. Gloves, ear defenders and visors provided and used by volunteers. Volunteers trained in correct use and storage of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Replacement PPE readily available. Safety checks made by trained volunteers before use. First aid facilities to be readily available to volunteers.	L	
Hedge Trimmer	Vibration Noise induced hearing loss	Volunteers	Anti-vibration mounts in good condition. Trimmer regularly serviced and maintained to reduce likelihood of vibrations. Anti-vibration gloves worn. Volunteers to wear ear defenders. Time period of actually using trimmer limited to 45 minutes prolonged use.	L	
Inadequate Maintenance	Equipment failure	Volunteers	Maintained in accordance with manufacturers' instructions. Maintenance carried out by suitably qualified/competent person. Maintenance records retained.	L	

			Pre-use safety checks done by trained volunteer.		
Falling branches/debris	Injury	Volunteers	Protective equipment used by volunteers. Safety barriers erected around work area. Warning signs erected. Road closure obtained if necessary for road and personnel safety purposes.	L	
Working at height	Falls Cuts Puncture wounds Head injury Broken bones Electrocution	Volunteers	Ladder always to be footed by another Volunteer or ladder securing device used. Ladders routinely safety inspected for damage. Records retained Defective ladders removed. Barriers erected around work area Barrier equipment readily available. Volunteers use hard hats. If power cables nearby, electricity supplier contacted before starting work to make work area safe. Only specifically trained volunteers carry out tree work.	L	
Manual Handling	Musculo-skeletal injury	Volunteers	Manual handling assessment to be carried out on site. Restricted time using trimmer. Volunteers trained in manual handling techniques. Avoiding use of trimmer above waist height. Ensuring stable work area to avoid slips and tilting. Light-weight equipment used where possible.	L	
Traffic Control	Vehicle collision with volunteers and/or	Volunteers	Pictorial road signs displayed advising approaching traffic to 'slow down' and that people are working ahead. Volunteers wearing high visibility jackets	L	

	equipment		used to direct traffic. Volunteers directing traffic trained in proper traffic control procedures. Work only carried out during daylight hours. All volunteers wear high visibility vests. Road closure obtained if necessary for road and personnel safety purposes		
Environment ➤ Uneven surface ➤ Poor light ➤ Extreme weather ➤ Confined work area	Slips Trips Falls Other injury	Volunteers	Volunteers to visually inspect work areas to minimise slip and trip hazards, removing any hazards as appropriate. If uneven surface deemed particularly hazardous, work to be re-arranged pending suitable remedial work to surface. Additional lighting to be available if needed. Work suspended in extreme weather conditions. Constricted work areas avoided. If not possible, referred back to group to re-asses task.	L	

Name of Risk Assessor/s: 1. Clerk and 2. Council (signed by the chair)

Signature of Risk Assessor/s 1.....2.....

Date: