

Bustardthorpe Allotment Association CIO: Risk Assessment - General



This Risk Assessment is for the public access areas of the site, i.e. the roads, tracks, car parking, verandah area, shop toilet, storage units, wood chip and manure bays, the George Russell Lupin garden, the trackside water butts, the Nature Reserve and the perimeter boundary.

All ploholders must abide by the Health & Safety rules as documented in the Tenancy Agreement.

Regular full H&S site checks to be undertaken by the H&S Officer, and presented at the Bi-monthly meetings of the Trustees for decision on actions required.

Where urgent action is needed contact the Secretary and/or refer to the list of Emergency Contacts.

	Risk identified	Potential seriousness of impact	Likelihood	Actions to reduce the risk
1.	Trips resulting from uneven ground, potholes and objects left in trackways or circulation areas. The results could be injury to limbs, head or torso.	H	L	Tenancy Agreement requires all ploholders not to leave objects/debris outside their plots. Regular inspections by Trustees to identify plots that need to be advised to remove. Track surfaces kept as even as possible with the filling of potholes with road planings.
2.	Vegetation or objects protruding on to the tracks. The results could be injury to eyes.	H	L	Tenancy Agreement requires all ploholders to manage their boundaries, pruning and removing any growth that overhangs site tracks and roads. Regular inspections by Trustees to identify plots that need to be advised to comply.
3.	Vehicles moving about site. The results could be serious injury or death.	H	M	5mph speed limit signage at site entrance and in Tenancy Agreement. Mirrors on blind corners.

	Risk identified	Potential seriousness of impact	Likelihood	Actions to reduce the risk
4.	Smoke inhalation from bonfires. The results could be breathing difficulties such as asthma attacks.	H for some people	M	Tenancy Agreement requires all ploholders to burn only woody material, not wet vegetation or weed waste and not to ignite if too windy. Trustees to reinforce this on an 'as needed' basis.
5.	Falling branches and trees. The results could be death or serious injury.	H	L	Periodic inspection of trees to remove dead branches. Five yearly inspection and report by City of York contracted professional tree surgeon. Trustees to implement recommendations.
6.	Glass chards, nails sticking out of pieces of wood. The results could be cuts and injury to feet/flesh.	M	M	Trustees to inspect circulation areas periodically.
7.	Working at heights	H	L	H&S Officer recommends no working at heights unless operative is fully trained.

*Reviewed by:
Jo Rogers, Site Secretary
Andrew Steele, Health & Safety Officer
13 February 2026*