

This standard Risk Assessment form should be available to group members.

u3a in Kennet. Dog Walking Group Risk Assessment

This checklist is to help in the planning for a dog walking session. Where you identify a particular risk, you should note the actions you will take to reduce the risk. It's important to carry out a risk assessment before the session takes place and you can add to this during or after the session.

Hazard	Control Measures
<p>Risks to the well-being and safety of the public, participants and their dogs.</p> <p>Risk Participants of a mature age in an organised group crossing countryside and public roads with dogs.</p>	<p>Group Leader's Responsibilities</p> <p>In the previous few weeks before a walk, the route should be walked by the Leader, (Ideally with another person) and all possible hazards such as stiles, uneven ground, hills, overgrown foliage, cows, flooding, the likely time, distance and opportunities for rest breaks noted. The group should be informed in adequate time before the day to enable appropriate preparations including footwear etc. The Walk Leader should complete a weather check beforehand for its suitability for the walk, any adverse weather conditions be considered and the group informed before the walk.</p> <p>On the day of the walk a register of the participants should be completed at the commencement of the walk and then checked off at its completion. An appropriate First Aid kit and at least one mobile phone should be carried and be available. The vanguard and back marker(s) should be appointed. When crossing roads, appropriate safety lookouts should be positioned. Hi- Vis clothing would add to safety.</p> <p>Should an accident occur, the accompanying u3a In Kennet Accident Report Form should be completed and sent to chair@u3ainkennet.org.uk. a.s.a.p.'</p>
Risk Level	The Participants' Responsibilities
<p>Low</p>	<p>Each participant is responsible for their own safety and their dog, and be aware of the safety of others. Each participant must possess their emergency contact details to be available in case of an accident e.g. on a card or mobile phone and feel well enough to undertake the walk at a speed appropriate to the group. Participants should carry drinking water, wear suitable clothing and footwear but wear no loose jewellery.</p>