Example of a completed generic risk assessment – walks in normal countryside

Hazard	Risk	Persons at risk	Control measures	Comments/Actions	Residual risk rating	Tick if all in place
Falls, drowning	Injury, death	Participants staff	 Leader experienced in walking in terrain and leading groups. Route researched and pre-walked – significant hazards (cliffs, water hazards, quarries) avoided or carefully assessed. Weather forecast obtained and conditions monitored; route changed if necessary. 	Leader competence. Leader completes specific risk assessment for each walk as necessary. Ongoing assessment by leader at start and during activity.	Low	
Getting lost	Injury	Participants staff	 Leader has sufficient navigational skills. Group size as low as possible (group size of 10 maximum ideally) and well supervised. Head counts. 	Leader competence. Briefing of participants and staff re. supervision arrangements.	Low	
Animals	Injury, illness	Participants staff	 Brief group about dangers of infection from animal faeces (EColi) and preventative measures. Avoid contact/injury from large animals (cattle, horses). If footpath crosses a field containing these animals assess the situation and act appropriately; for example, cross quietly as a group or take other route. 	Brief group.	Low	
Injury, illness or emergency away from immediate help	Injury, death	Participants staff	 Leader First Aid trained. First Aid kit. Gain information about pre existing medical conditions and ensure medication carried. Leader has planned emergency procedures. Communications (mobile phones – be aware of no signal zones) arranged. 	Pre-planning of emergency procedures and communications.	Low	
Exposure to extreme weather – cold, wet, heat and sun	Injury, death	Participants staff	 Daily weather forecast obtained and considered; plans adapted if necessary. All participants have suitable footwear, clothing and equipment to match expected conditions. 	Participants given checklist – kit checked before departure.	Low	