WALK LEADER RISK ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

u3a Name:	**Date:**
Name of person completing risk assessment checklist:	
Interest Group:	
Description of Activity:	

This checklist is to help walk leaders in the planning for a walk. This isn't an exhaustive list, so think carefully about any specific risks you may encounter. It is likely that you will need to add to this risk assessment checklist. This form can (and should) be altered to suit specific walk requirements. You may wish to ask dog owners to read the BMC guide to reducing risk when encountering cattle: https://www.thebmc.co.uk/Taking-care-around-cows

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 walk takes place, and you can always add to this during the walk.

	Checklist	Yes	No	N/A	If no, what actions will you take to mitigate this risk?
Recce	Have you researched the route you will be taking to identify any hazards and/or obstacles? ?				
	Have you given members an overview of the walk and the identified hazards/obstacles e.g. the number of stiles, likely boggy areas etc?				
	Do members know the length and difficulty of the walk?				
Traffic	Are there suitable crossing places on the road?				
	Are your attendees aware they must				

	maintain single file on road sections?				
Animals	Have you notified members of any routes through fields with livestock in?				
	Are dogs kept on leads in relevant areas (such as around livestock, in urban areas)?				
	Are members aware of the increased risk of attack by cattle when walking with dogs?				
	Is there any danger of ticks or bites/stings?				
Safety	Do you have the correct equipment needed for the walk (e.g., map, compass, whistle)?				
	Have you taken an attendance register?				
	Do you have emergency contacts for all attendees?				
	Do you have a charged phone with emergency contact details stored on it?				
	Does someone know when you are expected back?				
	Have members been reminded to wear appropriate footwear?				
	Do you have a back marker to stay in sight and communication with group?				
	Is there any danger you will lose visibility or mobile phone signal?				
	Have members attendees brought refreshments (such as water) for the walk?				
	Is there a first aid kit?				

Weather	Have you checked in advance the weather forecast for the day of the walk?				
	Is there any danger of extreme temperatures, heavy rainfall, high wind or otherwise severe weather?				
	Have walkers brought suitable clothes and footwear, and appropriate items (such as waterproofs) for the weather?				

Other identified risks:	What will you do to mitigate these risks?