## Risk assessment - Firework night with bonfire

Name of	1st Anytown Scout Group – firework night with	Date of risk	24 April 2023	Name of person	A Leader
activity, event,	bonfire	assessment		doing this risk	
and location				assessment	
		Date of next	24 Oct 2024 (ahead of next	ussessinent	
		review	firework event)		
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What could go wrong? Who is at		What are you going to do about it?	Review & revise	
What hazard have you identified?	risk?	How are the risks already controlled?	What has changed that needs to be thought about and	
What are the risks from it?		What extra controls are needed?	controlled?	
		How will they be communicated to young people and adults and remain inclusive to all		
		needs?		
A hazard is something that may cause	For example: young	Controls are ways of making the activity safer by removing or reducing the risk.	Keep <b>checking</b> throughout the activity in case you need to change	
harm or damage.	people,	For example, you may use a different piece of equipment or you might change the way you do the	what you're doing or even <b>stop</b> the activity.	
The risk is the harm that may occur from	adult volunteers,	activity.	This is a great place to add comments which will be used as part	
the hazard.	visitors		of the review.	

#### Brief description of the activity

- A controlled firework display from the field next to the HQ for members
- A managed bonfire, outside of the garden area used by spectators
- Food prepared and distributed within the HQ garden area
- Safety and marshalling managed by members of the Leader / Executive committee team

#### **GENERAL**

Useful tips on running a safe event at <a href="https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/staying-safe-and-safeguarding/safety/event-safety-and-planning-planning-safe-activities/firework-safety/">https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/staying-safe-and-safeguarding/safety/event-safety-and-planning-planning-safe-activities/firework-safety/</a>

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Access / egress – risk of	All present	Access gates to be closed and leader positioned near entrance to stop	
uninvited guests attending,		anyone who is not permitted to be present from entering.	
overcrowding			
Rough ground / uneven	All present	Leaders to check the ground prior to the event (during daylight hours)	
floor surface - Slips / trips /		and identify any high risk spots and consider barriers.	
falls		All to bring torches	
		Flood lights / torches to be turned on when group moving before / after	
		fireworks	
Confusion of responsibility -	All present	Break down areas of tasks and appoint individuals to specific roles – all	Leader in charge to confirm roles.
essential safety tasks not		reporting back to the agreed leader in charge for oversight.	
completed			



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General obstructions	Young people	Set up to be completed by selected crew prior to majority of participants	Team of leaders meeting 2 hours before event
(equipment and other	and leaders	arriving at event.	opens to put food tables and firework stands
items) – risk of injuries to		Leaders should oversee setting up any equipment used for the activity	in place
participants or leaders		and moving to where it is needed, especially on uneven ground	
setting up, moving, or		outdoors.	
removing items.		No one should carry larger or awkward items on their own	
		Manual handling advice available via poster displayed	
BONFIRE			
Rough wood and timber –	Bonfire leader	Bonfire leader and crew appointed	Bonfire to be set up 2 hours before event –
risk of splinters or blisters	& any helpers	Take care when handling, cutting or snapping wood.	ensuring safe ground and clear of vulnerable
from handling. Injuries from	(leaders)	Participants provided with strong gloves	wildlife.
nails or staples in hands.		Care must be taken when standing on wood and strong foot wear to be	
Injuries to feet from standing		worn. Wood pile not to be climbed on.	
on nails embedded in wood			
in the wood pile			
Axe and saw – risk of injury	Bonfire leader	Competent person to be responsible for cutting / splitting of wood	
to bonfire leader and non-		Pre-cut a supply of wood prior to the event	
participants or observers.		Create a safe cutting area.	
		Bonfire area at least 10m from visitors and cordonned off.	
Fire – risk of burns from	Bonfire leader	Build fire in area safely away from participants – cordonned off (but	
mistakes or misuse.		visible for enjoyment)	
		Wind direction to be considered and allowed for. Size of fire to reflect	
		location, fires should not be allowed to get too big forthe situation –	
		think about space, surrounding objects like fences and buildings,	
		number of people, time it will need to be safely extinguished.	
		Extremely experienced leader setting up and managing the bonfire.	
		Fire lit using kindling and proprietory fire lighters.	
		No use of accelerants on the fire (any substance or mixture that	
		accelerates or speeds the development and escalation of fire) – such as	
		petrol, lighter fuel and other spirits.	
		No additional items added, such as rubbish.	
		Avoid loose clothing around fires – watch out for open coats, sleeves	
		and scarves. Tuck them in and keep coats, hoodies fastened. Tie back	
		loose hair. Do not reach over fires or flames.	
		Appropirate first aid kit available and designated first aider.	

You can find more information in the Safety Checklist for Leaders and at scouts.org.uk/safety



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		Fire buckets filled and available, running water available via outside tap.	
Smoke - inhalation leading to breathing difficulties or eye injury	All present	Bonfire kept a good distance from the crowd and size of fire managed so it is not too big – it is there for effect.	
FIREWORKS		•	
Exploding fireworks	Firework	The firework firing area is a minimum of 35m from the spectator area,	Notes for operator:
Burns	leader Crowd	with additional control off to ensure spectators do not come closer.  (Following the recommendations from <u>HSE Red Firework Guide</u> )  Category 4 fireworks are not to be used as a qualified operator is	At 31/10 – expected winds of 6mph (gusting at 8) Direction from WNW – taking any fall out
Misfire		present to do so. Drop zone of over 75m behind. Weather checked on the day and immediately before launching for wind diection and speed. Instructions on positioning and lighting fireworks should be read and understood in good light, well beforehand. A written plan will be in place for the order and timings of the display. Those lighting fireworks will have appropriate personal protection from burns. This could include: 'Rigger' standard gloves, eye protection. There will be adequate lighting. Head torches for those at the firework lighting point and for safety marshals. Firework leader using electronic ignition system to reduce proximity to fireworks. Lighter will be shadowed by assistant, watching for dangers around firer and in contact with fire extinguishers – CO2 and Water/Foam Only fireworks which are part of the display are allowed at the evnet.	away from the HQ.
		Spectators and participants not to bring their own fireworks or sparklers.	
<b>Behaviour</b> – risk of overexcitement	All present	Young people accompanied (mostly) by parents but Marshals (Leaders) within the garden area to monitor the spectators.	
<b>Food</b> Food poisoning	All present	Food provided, cooked and distributed by team from Executive Committee and parents. Food Lead qualified in food safety.	Low risk foods only being used. Sausages being cooked at home and brought up.



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What other Hazards arising do you need to consider?

Never be afraid to stop an activity if it is becoming unsafe!

This Risk Assessment does not cover activities (eg: games, free time, open fires, outings, contingency plans), which will each require their own. You may also need to consider any specific individual needs.

Check Activities A-Z to see if any need Permits or qualifications to run them.

There are **Example risk assessments** to use as a starting point

Don't forget, as part of your programme planning, you should have contingency activities in reserve just in case you can't do what was planned or you need to stop half way through. Make sure this is shared with those involved, so everyone knows how to respond. You should have risk assessed contingency activities prior to them taking place and communicated key information to those involved as with all activities.

