

Congregational risk assessment for outdoor activities

As part of the church's responsibility to take steps to ensure the safety of all those engaged in activities during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, prior to resuming general outdoor meetings/activities, it is recommended that a generic risk assessment is drawn up for outdoor meetings/activities that might be run by the congregation or its organisations. This would include all of the appropriate health and safety measures and mitigations that generally needs to be place. A copy of this generic risk assessment should be made available for completion to organisation leaders and others who might be running outdoor meetings or activities so that they can use it to detail specific arrangements for the programme to be delivered. Please note that a new specific risk assessment is not necessary for every time the same organisation holds the same type of outdoor meeting/activity. All risk assessments should be accessible for inspection if requested.

Two templates are offered below offering a straightforward process of undertaking this task for outdoor activities. One is blank for your congregation to use for outdoor activities it is planning, the other an example as to the kind of detail required.

Template

Congregation	
Activity or event	
Brief description of programme	
Communication with those involved and preparations in advance	
Arrangements for social distancing	
Area to be used	
Maximum number under current regulations	
Other areas being used	
Mitigations put in place	

Signed _____

Date _____

Example

Congregation	<i>add name</i>
Activity or event	<i>e.g. Congregational fun afternoon</i>
Brief description of programme	<i>e.g. The event will run from 2-3:30pm on Saturday 17 July 2021 with a programme involving...</i>
Communication with those involved and preparations in advance	<i>e.g. all attending will be informed in advance of health and safety protocols in place and individual responsibilities in following these protocols and all relevant current general public health advice. Stewards will be in place at the entry point to ensure numbers remain within restrictions for social distancing.</i>
Arrangements for social distancing	
Area to be used	<i>e.g. Church car park and grounds</i>
Maximum number under current regulations	<i>e.g. 120</i>
Other areas being used	<i>e.g. Toilets in the church hall</i>
Mitigations put in place	
<i>e.g. Hand sanitiser available Social distancing measures Face coverings where necessary as per current regulations Protocols for regular cleaning of toilets</i>	

Signed _____

Date _____