

Live Here Love Here Pre-Event Health & Safety Talk Guide



It is important that the following content is covered in your safety talk to all participants before your event:

- **Duration of the event** – let participants know what time the activity will end.
- **Reconvening point** – participants must let you/group leader know if they need to leave early.
- **Site-specific risk assessment** – What factors identified in your site-specific risk assessment should participants beware of or avoid.
- **Identify the area that will be covered and the direction of work** – outlining these will help you to easily oversee the participants. Making off limit areas clear at the beginning of the event will make the event run smoother and safer.
- **PPE and equipment**– Does everyone have the required equipment, e.g. litter picker, gloves, hi-vis, any other safety gear?
- **Clothing** - Are all participants appropriately dressed?
- **Are children present**- Parents/supervisors of children aware are always liable for the safety of children.
- **Dangerous objects** - If dangerous pieces of objects are spotted during a litter pick, make sure all participants know the correct procedure to follow.
- **Emergency** - In the event of an accident make sure all participants know the correct procedure and have all the relevant emergency contact details. Do enough people have charged mobile phones?
- **Identify the first aider(s)** – if possible, first aiders should wear hi-vis or something to stand out, so they are easily recognised by participants.
- **Weather and tide times** – you must check the weather forecast and tide times (if relevant) in advance. Let participants know that if the weather changes dramatically, they should reconvene at the designated point.

Participants should not:

- Lift any litter with their bare hands.
- Overreach for litter- they may fall or injure themselves.
- Handle unidentified drums, cans or canisters of chemicals, poisons or insecticides. If any of these are found the local council should be contacted to safely dispose of them.
- Handle dead/sick animals (dead animals are reported to the DAERA helpline 0300 200 7840).
- Handle syringes (can be collected with the use of a sharps container, long tweezers and heavy-duty gloves).

- Move any heavy objects (can be collected at the end of the litter pick or contact your local council to remove them).



For rural/roadside events, all participants must:

- Wear hi-vis.
- Work towards oncoming traffic.
- Use caution when crossing roads.
- Not split up from the rest of the group.

Additional notes for the group leader:

- Check head count throughout the event and make sure no-one is left behind
- Ensure risk assessment is complete, updated and to hand.
- Ensure a first aid kit is available.
- Ensure equipment is returned at the end of event