



Basingstoke
and Deane

RISK ASSESSMENT	Fire – burning brash
LOCATION	Basingstoke Parks

Assessment of hazards associated with burning brash on site in an open bonfire. To be used in conjunction with a site risk assessment

HAZARD	POTENTIAL HARM	PERSON(S) AT RISK	PRECAUTIONS & CONTROL MEASURES	LIKELIHOOD OF OCCURRENCE	HAZARD SEVERITY	RISK FACTOR	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE
Fire – Heat	Burns Heat exhaustion	Supervisor Participant Public	Only nominated fire marshals to load brash on to fire; Ensure a 2m exclusion zone around fire that only fire marshals enter; Fire marshals to wear fire resistant gauntlet gloves; One fire marshal to be at the fire at all times; Signage on site to warn members of the public; Fire marshals to keep a distance from the flames in between loading the fire; Keep the bonfire at a small and manageable size; Fire marshals to take regular breaks away from the heat if required; Water on site to treat potential burns.	1	4	4	Supervisor Participant
Fire - Spread	Uncontrolled burn Damage to property Threat to life Threat to wildlife Explosion	Supervisor Participant Public Wildlife	Fire site selected in open space, away from overhanging trees, overhead services and buildings; One fire marshal to remain at the fire at all times; Two fire beaters on site; 60 litres of water close to the fire; Phone Fire Service to inform of start and finish burn times; Do not burn on dry ground or in hot or windy weather; Extinguish fire fully before leaving site.	1	5	5	Supervisor

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Fire – Smoke	Smoke inhalation	Supervisor Participant Public	Fire marshals and volunteers to work outside of the path of the smoke; Fire marshals to take regular breaks if damp arisings cause a lot of smoke; No fires in windy conditions.	1	5	5	Supervisor Participant
Unattended site post-bonfire	Reigniting and spread of fire	Public Wildlife	Fire to be left to die down an hour before leaving site; 60 litres of water applied to fire to fully extinguish it and dampen any remaining fuel; Fire Service phoned to say the fire has been extinguished.	1	5	5	Supervisor
Weather	Spread of fire	Supervisor Participant Public Wildlife	Fires on site only allowed during autumn and winter when the ground is damp and/or saturated; No fires on warm, dry days or if there are strong wind speeds/gusts.	1	5	5	Supervisor
Uneven terrain	Slips trips and falls	Supervisor Participant	Discuss the terrain during the safety talk, especially in relation to walking close to the fire site; Participants to wear sensible, sturdy footwear; Ensure the exclusion zone around the fire site is free of stumps and debris.	2	3	6	Supervisor Participant
Arisings	Slips, trips, falls Bruising Puncture wounds	Supervisor Participant	Select a designated area for arisings to be dragged ready for processing/loading on to the fire; Encourage participants to process arisings before moving them to the fire site; Gauntlet gloves and pitchforks to be used when handling thorny arisings, especially blackthorn.	2	3	6	Supervisor Participant
Manual handling	Musculo-skeletal disorders	Supervisor Participant	Explain basic manual handling during safety talk (avoid heavy loads/twisting/straining); Use the right tool for the right job; Avoid twisting when loading the fire with a pitch fork; Move small amounts of arisings on to the fire at a time; Take regular breaks during the session; Don't over-exert – work within your means.	2	3	6	Supervisor Participant

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Glass	Puncture wounds Eye injury	Supervisor Participant Public	Ensure there is no glass in or around the fire site – clear area of all bottles and litter before lighting; Do not add glass bottles to the fire in case of shattering.	1	4	4	Supervisor Participant
Hand tools	Muscle strain Head injury Puncture wounds Bruising Crushing	Supervisor Participant	Inspect tools before and after each use, maintain in good condition; Provide users with tool use and safety information; Use correct tool for the job; Ensure firm and stable stance and wear sturdy footwear; Wear gloves unless using a swinging tool; Do not use when handles are wet; Maintain safe working distances.	2	3	6	Supervisor Participant
Overhead services	Damage to services Electrocution Spread of fire	Supervisor Participant Public	Identify all overhead lines that may affect planned work; Do not burn underneath any overhead lines or close to associated infrastructure.	1	5	5	Supervisor

RISK ASSESSMENT FOR:	ASSESSMENT UNDERTAKEN BY:	LAST UPDATED ON:
Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council Civic Offices, London Road, Basingstoke, RG21 4AH	NAME: Charlie Cutt SIGNED: CC DATE: 28/04/20	DATE: DATE: DATE:

RISK MATRIX				Hazard Severity				
				1	2	3	4	5
				Low	Slight	Moderate	High	Severe
Doing this activity every day:				Minor injury not requiring First Aid	Moderate injury resulting in First Aid	Injury or disease resulting in >7 days off work	Death or major injury to one individual	Multiple death
Likelihood of occurrence	1	Unlikely	Injury may occur less than once in a lifetime	1	2	3	4	5
	2	Possible	Injury may occur less than once a year	2	4	6	8	10
	3	Occasional	Injury may occur two-three times per year	3	6	9	12	15
	4	Likely	Injury will occur more than three times per year	4	8	12	16	20
	5	Very likely	Injury is probably going to occur	5	10	15	20	25

	If control measures are followed as described, risk factor is low enough to continue
	Hazard carries a moderate level of risk. Attempt to eliminate or isolate hazard; if this can't be done, decide whether task is essential and who is competent to ensure it is carried out safely. Additional control measures may be necessary
	Hazard is very high risk. Unless it can be isolated/eliminated, do not carry out task. Find alternative solution.