



Leicester Forest East

Parish Council

The Parish Hall, Kings Drive, Leicester Forest East, Leicester LE3
3JE

Tel: 0116 239 0039

Email: clerk@lfeparishcouncil.org.uk

www.lfepc.org.uk

Clerk to the Parish Council: Mrs H E Mann

Use of Whacker Plate Risk Assessment

Adopted by Council March 2024

This risk assessment covers any person using a whacker plate.

Hazard	Who might be harmed and How?	Existing Measures	What further action is necessary?	Action by who?	Action by when?	Done
Lone Working.	Volunteer using whacker plate	Volunteer to inform Clerk/Assistant Clerk or Premises officer face-to-face, in the Parish	Continued notification of Council staff.	Volunteer.	Ongoing.	Ongoing.

		office before starting any activity and to inform the same when they have completed their activity.				
Injury to body, especially feet/lower limbs	Volunteer – injuries to body/feet/legs.	<p>Only competent volunteers to be allowed to use the whacker plate. They must not be under the influence of alcohol or other substances.</p> <p>Volunteers to take extra care when using the whacker plate and ensure they know how to use it properly before use.</p>	Volunteers to ensure they are competent when using whacker plate.	Parish Council, Volunteer, Council staff.	Ongoing.	Ongoing.
Slips/Trips/Falls when on the Parks.	Volunteer – injury to limbs/head/body.	The parks are inspected weekly for safety. Any uneven/dangerous paths etc would be reported to the Clerk within a week, remedial action would then	Continued parks inspections.	Parish Council, Clerk, Premises officer and Play/Parks Inspector.	Ongoing.	Ongoing.

		be taken as necessary.				
Violence/Threatening Behaviour from members of the Public	Volunteer – physical/psychological harm.	<p>Volunteer to inform Clerk/Assistant Clerk or Premises officer face-to-face, in the Parish office before starting any works and to inform the same when they have completed their works.</p> <p>Any suspicious or threatening behaviour to be reported to the Police.</p>	Continued notification of Council staff.	Volunteer.	Ongoing.	Ongoing.
Manual Handling	Volunteer - Moving large objects such as whacker plate, reaching, bending or twisting. Stooping, top heavy bending (bending from the waist using the back), can lead to strained, pulled muscles, general backache.	<p>Volunteer to take great care when moving whacker plate to avoid injury.</p> <p>Volunteer to wear appropriate footwear that has suitable tread and ankle support, so that they are less</p>	Continued compliance of Volunteer.	Volunteer and Parish Council.	Ongoing.	Ongoing.

	Cuts and grazes from sharp objects, leading to infection.	likely to slip whilst carrying out the activity.				
Injury to ears or hands	Volunteer using whacker plate	Those using the whacker plate must wear personal protective equipment including ear defenders and thick gloves. Also, appropriate, sturdy footwear must be worn. Also, suitable clothing must be worn.	Continued compliance of Volunteer.	Volunteer and Parish Council.	Ongoing.	Ongoing.
Injury to member of the public	Member of the public	The area where the whacker plate is being used must be coned off (or similar) so that members of the public cannot be in contact with the whacker plate. Also, the whacker plate must be stored in a secure and safe location	Continued compliance of Volunteer.	Volunteer.	Ongoing.	Ongoing.

		when not in use so that a member of the public cannot access it.				
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