**Million Mile Clean**

**Risk Assessment**

For use at all Million Mile Clean events by volunteer clean organisers.  
(NB: A First Aid Kit should always be available at events as well as the facility to connect the emergency services if needed)

**Location name:**

**Event date:**

**Event timings:**

**Clean leader’s name and contact details:**

Please note – cleans will need to be cancelled if they fall in the location and time period of an Amber or Red Met Office issued weather warning. If this applies for your clean, please contact us ASAP. If there is a Yellow Met Office in place, a clean can still go ahead if a dynamic risk assessment has been carried out shortly before the event and the conditions have been determined to be safe.

Hazards highlighted in Green need to be assessed regardless of the location of your clean.

Hazards highlighted in Blue are only applicable to cleans that are taking place near a body of water.

The method for determining risk, whist numerical is dependent upon the event leader undertaking the assessment.

* Values of LESS THAN 20 = LOW RISK
* Values of 21 – 37 = MEDIUM RISK The hazard should be monitored and the event reviewed and revised on the day where necessary.
* Values of 38 – 100 = HIGH RISK The EVENT SHOULD NOT GO AHEAD until the risk has been fully remediated.
* Values OVER 42 = Must be subject to a full review and the EVENT SHOULD NOT GO AHEAD until the risk has been fully remediated and a member of SAS staff has been consulted.

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| **Hazard** | **Likelihood (0 – 10)** | **Severity (0 – 10)** | **Overall risk (Low, Med, High)** | **Who could be harmed?** | **Remedial action required?** | **Is risk adequately controlled?** | **Review and revision** |
| Slips, trips and falls | 4 | 3 | 12 = Low | All involved | Verbal safety briefing should be conducted prior to the event starting. Volunteers should be advised not to climb on or walk across surfaces that could be slippery and to wear appropriate footwear. | Yes | Event Leaders should determine the risk at their site and advise if any areas are to be avoided, considering weather and terrain. |
| Injury from props | 3 | 5 | 15 = Low | All involved | Clean lead will deliver a verbal safety briefing to anyone handling props. Dedicated personnel assigned to handling the prop.  Correct procedure followed when handling prop and weather conditions checked prior to set up.  A First Aid Kit should be held on site. | Yes | Constant monitoring of prop. Safety briefing provided for handlers so they understand risks.  A risk assessment will also be done separately for larger props. |
| Hypothermia | 4 | 8 | 32 = Med | All involved | Verbal adaptive safety briefing conducted prior to event starting, taking weather condition into account and advising on preventative measures. | Yes | In event of unseasonably cold conditions SAS will advise on dress code and time spent volunteering outdoors.    Cleans will be shortened or cancelled where necessary. |
| Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults | 3 | 7 | 21 = Med | All children and vulnerable adults participating | All vulnerable adults and participants under 18 years must be accompanied by a responsible adult.    All event leaders are required to declare to SAS that they do not have any previous convictions or cautions restricting them from working with young people or vulnerable adults and as such there is no reason why they should not lead a volunteer event, prior to the event taking place. | Yes | Event Leaders should undertake a dynamic risk assessment based on the number and age of volunteers to ensure that there is an appropriate ratio of adults to children and vulnerable adults. |
| Sunburn | 6 | 3 | 24 = Med | All involved | All volunteers should be advised to wear sun cream and to cover exposed areas of skin.    A First Aid Kit should be held on site. | Yes | In event of unseasonably hot conditions SAS will advise on dress code and time spent volunteering. |
| Dehydration | 3 | 7 | 21 = Med | All involved | Event speaker will complete an on the day dynamic risk assessment and deliver a verbal adaptive safety briefing conducted prior to event starting, taking weather conditions into account and advising on preventative measures e.g., stay hydrated and apply sun cream.  A First Aid Kit should be held on site. | Yes | In event of unseasonably hot conditions SAS will advise on dress code and time spent in direct sun compared to in shaded areas. |
| Volunteers coming into contact with hazardous materials | 5 | 7 | 35 = =Med | All involved | All volunteers must wear gloves at all times during the clean.    Volunteers should be instructed to not pick up any hazardous materials and to instead notify the event leader.    At least one sharps box should be held on site.  If you find anything suspicious contact the local authorities. | Yes | To ensure the safety of all involved if there is any doubt with regards to handling any items found, they should not be handled and any relevant authorities should be contacted. |
| Wildlife | 2 | 5 | 10 = Low | All involved | Initial safety briefing should include advising volunteers not to disturb or interact with wildlife.  Events by the coast are not arranged for times / areas where seals are pupping / present.  A First Aid Kit should be held on site. | Yes | In case of unexpected numbers of fauna (e.g. many rats or pigeons) a dynamic risk assessment should be carried out and the Clean Leader should either reduce the area of the event, change the location or brief the risk to participants. |
| Heatstroke or sunstroke | 4 | 8 | 32 = Med | All involved | Verbal adaptive safety briefing conducted prior to event starting, taking weather condition into account and advising on preventative measures.    A First Aid Kit should be held on site.  Event leads will ensure that there is access to drinking water in hot weather + remind attendees to bring reusable water bottles with them. | Yes | In event of unseasonably hot conditions SAS will advise on dress code and time spent volunteering.    Events will be shortened or cancelled where necessary. |
| Pollution | 2 | 8 | 16 = Med | All involved | All volunteers MUST wear gloves and wash their hands thoroughly after the event.    Volunteers under 12 years-old and vulnerable adults must be accompanied and monitored by a responsible adult at all times.    Clean organisers should provide a supply of hand sanitiser available for all attendees to use.  All volunteers should be advised to seek medical advice if they become ill in the weeks following the event and to ensure they inform medical staff that they took part in a clean involving collecting polluting materials. | Yes | Review in case of particularly high levels of sewage related debris. |
| Weather | 1 | 10 | 10 = Low | All involved | Ensure all are adequately clothed to deal with current conditions.  Weather forecast checked by organiser in advance. If the Met office issues an Amber or Red weather warning or if conditions are considered averse, the clean is cancelled.  If weather changes badly during the clean seek shelter or end the clean early. | Yes | Briefing of participants prior to the event starting. Check the weather conditions beforehand and cancel the clean if the Met Office issues an Amber or Red weather warning or conditions are adverse. |
| Additional unexpected illness | 4 | 5 | 10 = Low | All involved | Initial safety briefing should cover actions to be taken in this eventuality. First aid kits should be present at every clean.  Emergency services contact details held with event organiser to ensure there is a rapid response to any injuries. | Yes | Organisers will have a main info hub point where first aid kit can be kept. Someone will be located here in case there is a need to contact emergency services. A mobile will be on hand to call emergency services if needed. |
| Road traffic incident | 2 | 10 | 20 = Med | All involved | Ensure all briefings and activities are conducted away from all traffic.    Adult supervision is expressly encouraged for all under 16s attending the event and vulnerable adults. | Yes | Event to be moved to a different area if excessive road traffic is present at the event site. |
| Infections diseases e.g. Coronavirus | 3 | 7 | 21 = Medium | All involved | Correct measures put in place and advertised pre-event adhering to current government guidance. Correct equipment provided at the start of the event, including hand sanitiser provided for ALL participants to use, as well as gloves and reusable sacks which will be washed after the clean. | Yes | Event leaders need to be aware of most recent government guidelines and be proactive in their promotion of the measures. The situation needs to be constantly monitored and relevant actions taken as and when necessary. |
| Organisation and planning | 3 | 3 | 10 = low | All involved | Have a clearly identifiable individual or group in charge of the vent. Have suitable first aid kits in place, arranging for disposal of collected waste, ensuring the location was suitable etc. | Yes | Event leaders should scope their cleaning location out ahead of time, finding out if any other activities are planned at that location for the same date and time. The date of the event should be planned to not occur during other activities.  Event leader should also obtain the appropriate equipment for the clean, and ensure all volunteers are aware of the location and proper use of said equipment. |
| Violence / Abuse | 2 | 7 | 10 = Low | All involved | The event organiser should advise volunteers not to approach members of the public alone, to take a non-confrontational approach and to avoid escalating confrontational situations, also making sure there is a means of requesting support from the event leads. | Yes | Briefing of participants prior to the event starting to be non-confrontational with members of the public. If members of the public become confrontational, advise volunteers to move away, and if they become violent call the police and take yourselves away, remaining in a public place. |
| Drowning  **(Delete if not applicable)** | 1 | 10 | 10 = Low | All involved | A verbal safety briefing should be conducted prior the event starting.  Safety briefing must clearly identify and state any zones which could be cut off by an incoming tide, if cleaning below the tide line on an incoming tide. Event organiser will check tide times before the event and identify timings for the safest tides. | Yes | Review in case of particularly high sea state or unusually high tides. |
| Becoming trapped in tidal mudflats  **(Delete if not applicable)** | 3 | 5 | 15 = Low | All involved | Initial safety briefing should cover dangers associated with mudflats.    Children and vulnerable adults should be supervised within small groups at all times.    Beach cleans should be organised for during an outgoing tide. | Yes | Clean Leaders should determine the risk at their site and advise if any areas are to be avoided, considering weather and terrain. |
| Injury from unexploded ordinance  **(Delete if not applicable)** | 1 | 10 | 10 = Low | All involved | Initial safety briefing should cover actions to be taken in this eventuality. Under no circumstances is any form of explosive or munitions to be handled by any individual. | Yes | Emergency services to be called immediately upon discovery of any suspected munitions found. |
| Sewage spill / water borne diseases  **(delete if not applicable)** | 3 | 7 | 21 = Med | All involved, but young children especially | The Safer Seas and River Service will be checked for sewage spills in the days leading up to the clean.  All participants will be advised to seek medical assistance if they become ill in the weeks following the action and to ensure that they inform medical staff that they have recently taken part in a clean.  All participants will be able to access further information on potential water borne diseases. | Yes | Review in case of particularly high levels of rainfall and local sewage discharges.  Advise zero interaction with contaminated water. |
| Injury from movement of resting boats  **(delete if not applicable)** | 4 | 8 | 32 = Med | All involved | Initial safety briefing should include instructions to keep away from resting boats.  Children to be supervised within small groups at all times.  A First Aid Kit should be held on site. | Yes | Clean Leader should determine the risk on site and advise if any areas are to be avoided. |