

Risk Assessments

When you click the 'Read more' link you will find a series of links to the latest 2015 Risk Assessments. The IAM cannot complete these on behalf of groups, but these have been produced to try and make the process as simple as possible. They are available to download from the website here, to be completed by groups individually.

Below are a series of links to 2015 Risk Assessments for the observer-related activities of IAM RoadSmart Groups. The IAM cannot complete these on behalf of groups, but these have been produced to try and make the process as simple as possible. They are available to download from the website here, to be completed by groups individually.

It has been argued that there is no need to do this, as observers are volunteers, not subject to the Health and Safety legislation. HSE advice is that volunteers are treated in the same way as employees for health and safety purposes.

How to use them

The objective of the risk assessments here is very simple by considering the activity to be conducted it is possible to identify the risks which they present to those involved or affected by them. That allows consideration of how to control the level of the risk. The intention is to create processes that take account of those risks. Once those processes have been identified they can be recorded as Control measures. These are the things that are actually done in order to keep the risk low.

The intention is not that each ride or drive, or even each associate or observer, should have a separate one of these forms completed the intent is that the form is used by each group so that they have a risk assessment of their activity generally. There may be some individual sets of circumstances where a group feels it wishes to complete a specific risk assessment for an individual case and of course, if that is the view there is no reason not to but the intention is not to generate vast quantities of paperwork and effort, rather to keep this as simple and useful as possible.

The people who undertake the activity should be consulted in the course of writing the risk assessment (they often know what is done, or can be done, far better than anyone else). Once the document is completed it should be available for them to use by whatever process works locally.

The risk assessments should be reviewed periodically, and any appropriate alterations made.

The form should be used locally and completed locally they cannot be done centrally by IAM House. However, we have tried to generate a simple system for you to use, and have populated it with what we think are the most common issues, to try and make it easier for those who are unfamiliar with the process.

Updating

We hope to create a process which allows you to feed your experience and good practices back through the Regional Forums. This will mean that all groups can benefit from each others experience, and the central draft documents can include good suggestions from around the country.

Risk assessments should be reviewed periodically annually is the normal time period. Having a record that this has been done in committee minutes is a useful mechanism we would suggest an annual review built into a specific point in the year (eg on the Agenda for every June committee meeting). Groups have different rhythms to the way they work, and building this into how each group works is obviously best done by the individual group.