



# **RISK ASSESSMENT -**

## **Rural lanes with verges of less than 1.2m**

## **but with National Speed Limits (>40mph)**

Location:.....

By completing the Rural Lanes Survey Form you are confirming that you have read and understood the health and safety guidelines listed below and have taken all reasonable precautions to ensure your personal safety and the safety of others.

### **The following survey should be used where the following criteria are met:**

The verge to be surveyed is not on a sharp bend

The verge to be surveyed is not on the brow of a hill

Traffic counts along the stretch of verges does not exceed 5 cars per 5 minute period – as assessed during the 5 minutes immediately before surveying commences

**Insert map of verge to be surveyed here:**

Hazard/risk	Safety Precautions
Lone Working and working in Remote Areas	Take a mobile phone. If you plan to survey alone, let someone know where you are going and report back at the end of the survey.
Parking	When parking, do not obstruct the carriageway or any access points and avoid any sharp bends or junctions.
Carriageway/Verge Hazards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passing Traffic</li> <li>• Bends in the road</li> <li>• Hidden dips in the road</li> <li>• Uneven ground</li> <li>• Deep dykes</li> <li>• Steep slopes and banks</li> <li>• Maintenance work</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Wear high visibility</b> clothing (Class 3) at all times whilst on the verge and only survey in daylight and good weather. (A high visibility vest is available on request from the Project Officer who can post this to you.)</li> <li>• <b>Hazard warning signs</b> should be located <b>50m</b> preceding beginning and end of the stretch of verge to be surveyed</li> <li>• <b>Work in pairs</b> – one person surveying and one person watching the road for traffic and other hazards.</li> <li>• When walking along the carriageway adhere to the <a href="#">Highway Code</a>; typically walking on the right-hand-side to face on-coming traffic, but adapting your road position as necessary to factor in bends and other situations.</li> <li>• Be alert to other road users and their needs.</li> <li>• Wear footwear with good ankle support and a good outdoor grip.</li> <li>• Take special care when working adjacent to deep water or steep slopes.</li> <li>• Take special care if you see any maintenance activity and decide whether it is safe for you to continue the survey.</li> <li>• Flying debris from moving machinery and noise can be particularly hazardous. Keep at least 15 m from any vegetation strimming and wait for the operator to see you and stop before getting any nearer.</li> <li>• Avoid working alongside roads that have been recently surfaced (with loose chippings).</li> </ul>
Animals and Bites/Stings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Horse riders</li> <li>• Dog walkers</li> <li>• Weil's disease (contaminated water)</li> <li>• Ticks (Lyme's disease)</li> </ul>	Be careful of animals and considerate to their needs. If working near water wash hands before eating, drinking or smoking. Bites/Stings – seek medical advice. Wear long trousers. Use insect repellent. Remove any ticks as soon as possible as recommended by your GP.
Fly Tipping	Do not move or touch waste and beware of any sharp objects such as broken bottles, wire or syringes.
Proximity to railway crossings	Do not enter onto railway property to carry out survey work.
Proximity to active airfield	Do not be distracted by noise.



<p>Weather conditions: Ensure visibility is good. Avoid working in foggy conditions or gusty winds.</p> <p>Sun exposure – poor shade:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sun burn/heat stroke</li> <li>• Dehydration</li> </ul>	<p>Take plenty of drinking water Wear clothing suited to the weather conditions. Keep covered and wear a sun hat. Use sunblock.</p>
<p>Scratches/cuts/stings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barbed wire</li> <li>• Blackthorn/hawthorn/bramble</li> <li>• Burns:</li> <li>• Giant hogweed/wild parsnip/spurge</li> <li>• Hemlock waterdropwort</li> <li>• Allergens:</li> <li>• Pollens</li> </ul> <p>Poisonous plants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ragwort</li> </ul>	<p>Carry a small first aid kit in the car. Take medications with you if suffering from any allergens. Avoid touching poisonous plants such as ragwort. Keep tetanus jabs up to date.</p>

***Please Note: Please avoid picking and trampling plants. It is an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to pick wild plants listed in Schedule 8 and, without the owner's permission, to uproot any wild plant.***

