

Risk Assessment

Event / Location : Wickham St Pauls Annual Fireworks display, WSP Village Green

Date of Event: Saturday 24th October 2026

Equipment / Effect : Fireworks as defined by UN categorisation

Description of Effect:-

Non Proximate Articles Pyrotechnic for Entertainment Purposes

Date of assessment	Scheduled review date	Assessed by
28/07/2026	28/07/2027	M.Cooper
28/07/2026	28/07/2027	D.Cooper (persons of specialist knowledge)

Hazard/Activity/Materials	Who may be harmed?	Risk Rating (Likelihood x Severity = Risk)		
1. Storage of Flammable and/or hazardous substances - Fire - Contact with flammable and/or hazardous substances	- Crew/Operator - Members of the Public	2	4	8

Hazard Control Measures

- Fireworks to be stored on site in accordance with HSE regulations.
- Fireworks to be 'rigged' and operated by trained operators.
- Firing site to be limited to smallest possible safe area and manned once rigged to stop unauthorised persons entering firing zone
- Hazard tape and Luminous orange fencing to be used to define exclusion zone
- No unauthorised access to pyro store and venue management will be informed of this necessity.
- Appropriate PPE to be worn during use and handling.
- Only trained and experienced operators to handle pyrotechnics.

Residual Risk Rating following the implementation of Hazard Control measures	1	4	4
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Hazard/Activity/Materials	Who may be harmed?	Risk Rating (Likelihood x Severity = Risk)	
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2. Use of explosive pyrotechnical devices and/or flammable substances - Toxic/unpleasant vapours, smoke build up - Fire and explosions - Destruction of property - Injury to persons	ALL	2	5	10

Hazard Control Measures

- Only trained and experienced crew to use and fire the equipment and pyrotechnic effects.
- Pyrotechnics to be stored in accordance with HSE regulations.
- Appropriate PPE to be worn during use and handling.
- Quantities, types and size of pyrotechnics to be fired appropriate to the venue's limitations.
- The air to toxic particle ratio levels is extremely low in most venues or the event is outdoors, therefore the risks are mitigated.
- Advise public and volunteers of possible problems for asthmatics.
- Ventilate area after firing.
- Only use products known for their reliability and consistency
- Ensure clear means of escape, clearly signed and lighted.

Residual Risk Rating following the implementation of Hazard Control measures	1	5	5
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Hazard/Activity/Materials	Who may be harmed?	Risk Rating (Likelihood x Severity = Risk)		
3. Fire - Injury to persons - Destruction of property	ALL	2	5	10

Hazard Control Measures

- Only trained and experienced crew to use the equipment and pyrotechnic effects.
- Appropriate PPE and clothing to be worn.
- Surrounding materials to be fire-proofed and fire blankets used
- Equipment self-extinguishing
- No product that is not going to be used is to be stored on site.
- Store equipment and pyrotechnics in designated packaging in a secure area away from escape routes and hazards.

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Residual Risk Rating following the implementation of Hazard Control measures	1	5	5
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Hazard/Activity/Materials	Who may be harmed?	Risk Rating (Likelihood x Severity = Risk)		
4. Parking and pedestrianisation, vehicle movements - Vehicles travelling along roads along side public viewing and firing site - Risk of fire - Injury to persons and property	- Marshalls Public	2	4	8

Hazard Control Measures

- Minimise vehicle movements during ingress and egress, using marshals to assist with traffic control
- Main through road users advised by marshals and signage of event times.
- Village event so extra vehicles will be at minimum and parking on street or Village hall car park will be sufficient.
- No unauthorised vehicles to be within controlled areas during firing.

Residual Risk Rating following the implementation of Hazard Control measures		1	4	4
Hazard/Activity/Materials		Who may be harmed?		(Likelihood x Severity = Risk)
5. Misplacement of pyrotechnics from the designated positions	ALL	2	4	8
Injury to persons				
Fire				

Hazard Control Measures

- Use tried and tested means of securing equipment/pyrotechnics.
- Ensure devices are positioned and securely rigged.

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- Only trained and experienced SFX crew to handle, position and rig pyrotechnics.
- Carry out separate checks on all placed devices.
- Ensure direct line of site on all effects and/or contact with a spotter.
- Have required extinguishers and trained personnel available.
- Carry out final check before show time.

Residual Risk Rating following the implementation of Hazard Control measures	1	4	4
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Hazard/Activity/Materials	Who may be harmed?	Risk Rating (Likelihood x Severity = Risk)		
6. Misfires • Injury to persons • Fire • Unauthorised explosions	• Crew • Performers	2	4	8

Hazard Control Measures

- Only trained and experienced SFX crew to handle, position and rig pyrotechnics
- Only materials/pyrotechnics known for consistency and reliability will be used
- Pyrotechnics to be positioned correctly and securely with safety distances adhered to and enforced.
- All effects to be checked just prior to show time.
- Post- show all effects to be checked by trained and competent operators
- Firing area to remain secure until any misfires have been dealt with and removed into a safe location.
- Misfiring to be handled per the COSHH assessments

Residual Risk Rating following the implementation of Hazard Control measures	1	4	4
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Hazard/Activity/Materials	Who may be harmed?	Risk Rating (Likelihood x Severity = Risk)		
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7. Adverse weather: - Change in wind direction - Rain - Thunder / lightning	ALL	3	3	9
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Hazard Control Measures

- Test launch of small firework to gauge effect.
- Where possible firework are to be rigged in the middle of the village green allowing for:
- Increase separation from fireworks and relocate safety line / barriers.
- If safe separation cannot be ensured, delay or cancel display.
- If adverse weather conditions, cancel event
- If Lightning detected within 5km or 3.11m all site activity to cease until 20 mins after last detectable strike, if not possible event to be cancelled

Residual Risk Rating following the implementation of Hazard Control measures		1	3	3
Hazard/Activity/Materials	Who may be harmed?	Risk Rating (Likelihood x Severity = Risk)		
7.Smoke and build up of smoke produced by pyrotechnics • Toxic vapours • Unpleasant smells • Irritant to asthmatics	• ALL	2	5	10

Hazard Control Measures

- Only fire quantities and types of pyrotechnics appropriate to the venue
- The air to toxic particle ratio levels is extremely low in most venues, therefore the risks are mitigated.
- Advise medical personnel of possible problems for asthmatics.
- Ventilate area after firing.
- Only use pyrotechnics known for reliability and consistency
- Abort firing if smoke build up has been miscalculated and becomes unreasonable for the venue and or space.

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Residual Risk Rating following the implementation of Hazard Control measures	1	5	5
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Hazard/Activity/Materials	Who may be harmed?	Risk Rating (Likelihood x Severity = Risk)		
8. Crowd Control / Over crowding - Separation of children from parents - Crush injuries	ALL	2	5	10

Hazard Control Measures

- Only advertise to Village as a Village event to minimise footfall and ease ingress and egress.
- Soft plastic orange fencing to be used as crowd barrier, in the unlikely event of a crush fencing would give and pressure would be elevated.
- Volunteer marshals are in place and are responsible for crowd control. They are identifiable by wearing fluorescent bibs or jackets.
- Voice amplification will be used to communicate with the crowd.

Residual Risk Rating following the implementation of Hazard Control measures	1	5	5
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Risk Assessment

Risk Assessment Matrix

The table below is used to calculate the Risk Rating shown in the Risk Assessments

		Likelihood of Incident				
Severity of Injury		Very Unlikely 1	Unlikely 2	Possible 3	Probable 4	Virtual Certainty 5
	Insignificant 1	1	2	3	4	5
	Minor Injury 2	2	4	6	8	10
	Reportable Injury 3	3	6	9	12	15
	Major Injury 4	4	8	12	16	20
	Fatality 5	5	10	15	20	25

Risk Assessment

Likelihood of Incident x Severity of Injury = Risk Rating

Risk Rating 1 - 5	No Further Action required
Risk Rating 6 - 10	Introduce further hazard controls where possible
Risk Rating 12 - 25	STOP! Controls must be introduced to reduce risk rating

Adopted
Date 28th July 2026
Minute reference 26/078
Review Date: May 2027