Somerset Council

Risk assessment form (H&S)

Name of assessor(s)	Callum McMillan	Group / Establishment:	SSE Outdoors
Date	13/01/26		

What is the workplace / activity	How was the assessment done?	Next review date:
Abseiling takes place within our grounds on a purpose-built tower. The tower has three levels of varying height and is aimed to be used a progression challenge.	On-site assessment	January 2027
		Is the assessment 'generic' or specific to the situation?
		Good reception /main office

Who could be harmed, and how?	What is already being done to control the risks?	*Risk Rating Severity x Likelihood			What further action is recommended to reduce risks further?	Action by whom?	Date action due	Date action done	Residual Risk Rating Severity x Likelihood		
		S	L	S x L					S	L	S x L
All participants – Clothing/ hair entrapment & jewellery.	• COP guidance regarding clothing to be followed. • Releasable abseil knot to be used. • Hair to be tied back and/or tucked out of the way throughout session. • Any jewellery to be removed at start of session.	2	2	4							

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		S	L	S x L					S	L	S x L
All participants – Slips, trips, falls & minor injuries	• Walking always expected. • Group to be always kept under control. • Briefed to take care moving up or down the stairs. • All staff to have first aid kit on session.	2	2	4							
All participants – Extreme weather.	• Check weather prior to starts of session/day • Cease activity if lightening is within 2 miles (1 mile per second from thunder to lightening) • Alternative activity identified if winds are high (yellow warning or higher)	2	1	2							
All participants – Hit by falling object.	• Safety brief for all at start of session. • Helmets to be worn throughout the session. • Constant monitoring of participants • Clothing to be securely fitted and checked throughout session.	2	1	2							

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		S	**L**	**S x L**					**S**	**L**	**S x L**
	• Pockets emptied or closed securely.										
All participants – Safety equipment failure/ damage.	• Only centre owned equipment to be used. • Manufacturers guidelines for replacement, storage of equipment to be followed. • Equipment checks to be carried out in line with equipment management procedure. • Instructor to check equipment for signs of wear and damage each session. • Report any damaged equipment, and place in the 'de-com bin' in core stores with corresponding defect form filled out. • Assessed instructor to oversee the tower operation and any of its associated safety equipment.	5	1	5							

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		S	L	S x L					S	L	S x L
	• Helmets and Harnesses to be checked by instructor before each turn. • Check, check systems to encourage multiple responsibility for safety checks and eliminate instructor error. • Regular equipment inspections to be carried out and recorded Working as trained in accordance with COP's										
All participants – Psychological scarring	• Challenge by choice model, for all. • Every participant may can change their mind about having a go. • Ensure instructors receive training in soft skills, communication methods to deliver to a variety of participants. • Clear instructions/ demonstration from the	3	2	5							

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		S	L	S x L					S	L	S x L
	instructor to clarify the activity. • Start low and progress to higher platforms if participants are willing. Celebrate all success, no matter how small.										

Please now pass this assessment to your manager for approval					
Name of assessor's manager:	Luke Hoather	Date:	12/01/26	Manager's comments	
Signature:	LHoather				