Risk Assessment - Youth Group engaging with P-way Dept. activities

Reference No: PER-45547-62
Version No: 1
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Allowing the Youth Group to take part in a number of Permanent Way department activities on the lineside.
Note: This Risk Assessment is in addition to the Generic Risk Assessment for Youth Group activities on the Railway (ONT-45533-73 latest version).

Department: Permanent Way
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Review Due Before: 30 September 2027
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Team: Kev Jarvis (Process Assurance), Colin Charman (Safety Director), Mike Bennett (OnTrack)

Youth Group walking and working trackside on an operating day

Type	Hazard Cause	Persons Affected	Control Measures	L S T Overall	Additional Control Measures	L S T Overall	Owner/Action
Health and Safety	A young person gets too close to a train or otherwise causes an incident and / or injures themselves while walking trackside. P-way work sites always involve walking or working On or Near the Line which is a dangerous place when trains are running.	Everyone	1) CRITICAL - Administrative: A senior member of the P-Way Department to be allocated the role of chaperone to accompany the Youth Group to keep an eye on proceedings. This P-way chaperone must not undertaken any other duties for the duration of the Youth Group visit. - Effective 2) CRITICAL - Administrative: A pre-worksite briefing to take place. To be given by a senior member of the P-way team and this must include processess and procedures for working On or Near the Line in accordance with the PTS Rules. - Effective 3) CRITICAL - PPE: All Youths and accompanying supervisors to wear correct PPE (minimum of orange vest and sturdy boots) - Effective	3 x 3 = 9 Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical.	1) Substitution: The worksite should be chosen to be close to Broadway, Toddington, Winchcombe or Cheltenham stations so that suitable welfare facilities are available and also to minimise exposure time to trains. Work can also be undertaken in sidings to reduce the risk further. - Improvable 2) Administrative: Youth Group supervisors MUST themselves be PTS trained. - Effective 3) Administrative: As part of the briefing, a suitable Position of Safety must be identified on the lineside in which all Youths, Supervisors and chaperone(s) must stand when a train passes. - Effective	2 x 3 = 6 Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical.	n/a

Gloucestershire Warwickshire Steam Railway Plc
Risk Assessment for Youth Group engaging with P-way Dept. activities - Permanent Way

Type	Hazard Cause	Persons Affected	Control Measures	L S T Overall	Additional Control Measures	L S T Overall	Owner/Action
Health and Safety	Personal Injury Injury caused by slips, trips or falls, through incorrect manual handling, or incorrect/no PPE	Everyone	1) CRITICAL - Engineering: Additional care and concentration must be taken when using keying hammers; feet are not to be used to steady components in case of missed strike. - Improvable 2) CRITICAL - Administrative: Manual Handling Training - P-way team to advise on correct way to lift and use tools and materials - Effective 3) CRITICAL - Administrative: PTS briefing to include the dangers of walking on ballast (and its movement underfoot) and Youths instructed to never walk on sleepers or the rail. When stepping over the track, it must be ballast-to-ballast. - Improvable 4) CRITICAL - Administrative: A First Aid Kit to be carried at all times and a qualified First Aider must always be present when the Youth Group work with P-Way to attend to any cuts, scratches, bruises, etc. - Effective 5) CRITICAL - PPE: When working with tools and materials, Youths to wear suitable gloves to aid with grip and prevent cuts; P-way can supply these if necessary. - Effective 6) CRITICAL - PPE: If machinery is to be used (impact wrench, Robels, etc.) all Youths to be issued suitable ear protection (e.g. ear defenders) and must wear these until the noise has subsided. - Effective	3 x 3 = 9 Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical.	1) Elimination: Use of disc cutters (rail saw or angle grinder) prohibited during visit by Youth Group. - Effective 2) Elimination: Youths are not to touch materials which have a COSHH assessment (e.g. petrol for machinery). - Effective 3) Elimination: Youths must NOT operate petrol-driven machinery (impact wrenches, Robels, etc.). If the equipment is to be used as part of the activity, it must only be used by a competent member of the P-way team. - Effective 4) Substitution: Youths may get involved in light- to moderate- level work activities such as tightening fishplates, digging ballast, changing sleepers, etc. under suitable supervision of supervisors and gang members. Consideration must be given to ability of youths present and the work must be able to be completed before passage of train. - Effective 5) Substitution: When keying up rails, P-way Team to insert keys and engage the key sufficiently before allowing Youth Team members to strike the key. Other people to be out of the vicinity of the hammer swing in case of a loss of grip. - Improvable 6) Administrative: The P-way PIC has overall control of the worksite and their instructions must be obeyed by all, including Youth Group and supervisors at all times. - Effective	2 x 2 = 4 Low - Risk to be monitored to ensure it remains adequately controlled to an acceptable level.	n/a
Health and Safety	Distraction People get so distracted by work or conversation that results in a potential dangerous situation developing	Everyone	1) CRITICAL - Substitution: Youth Group work groups to be limited in number to maximum of eight youths engaged on one activity. - Effective 2) CRITICAL - Administrative: PTS briefing to include the dangers of being on or near the line with passing trains and Youths to be instructed to stand quietly in an allocated Position of Safety once the Lookout advises of an approaching train. Youth Group supervisor and P-way chaperone to ensure all Youths are present at the Position of Safety before acknowledging approaching train. - Effective 3) CRITICAL - Administrative: Youth Team to be asked to turn mobile phones onto silent or aeroplane mode to reduce temptation to make or answer phone calls and lose concentration/become distracted. - Improvable	2 x 3 = 6 Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical.	1) Administrative: It may be possible to have more than one activity taking place but each Youth Group 'gang' must have Youth Group supervisors and a P-way chaperone accompanying them at all times. - Effective 2) Administrative: If necessary, Advance Lookouts to be posted to give additional warning time of approaching trains to allow more time to move to a Position of Safety. - Improvable	2 x 2 = 4 Low - Risk to be monitored to ensure it remains adequately controlled to an acceptable level.	n/a

Type	Hazard Cause	Persons Affected	Control Measures	L S T Overall	Additional Control Measures	L S T Overall	Owner/Action
Health and Safety	Walking or Working in Greet Tunnel Increased risks of trips and falls due to impaired visibility	Everyone	1) CRITICAL - Substitution: All members of the Youth Group are to be given their own torches to use. - Effective 2) CRITICAL - Substitution: Additional torches to be carried in case of failure or breakages. - Effective 3) CRITICAL - Administrative: Walking through Greet Tunnel can only be done on a non-operating day and with the Toddington to Cheltenham section under full line possession - Effective 4) CRITICAL - Administrative: All YG Leaders and P-way Chaperones to carry high-power intense torches for use at all times. - Effective 5) CRITICAL - PPE: Gloves to be worn in addition to standard PPE. - Effective	3 x 2 = 6 Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical.	1) Engineering: Walking speed through the tunnel to be at a slow pace to avoid rushing. - Effective 2) Administrative: P-way Chaperone to count-in and count-out all persons at either end of the tunnel to ensure all persons are present. This is to be verified by YG leader(s). - Effective 3) Administrative: Additional YG leaders to be in attendance to escort any youths out of the tunnel due to apprehension, fear or worry. - Effective 4) Administrative: First aid kits to be carried and trained first aiders to be present in the group. - Effective	2 x 2 = 4 Low - Risk to be monitored to ensure it remains adequately controlled to an acceptable level.	n/a

COSHH Assessments

There are no COSHH assessments associated with this risk assessment.

Ends