



**Virtual Fisheries Forum | 12/12/2023 | Health & Safety Requirements for
Projects & Working Parties**

Q & A SESSION

Q. Are you covering H&S changes to the AT insurance policy?

A. (Alex Clegg) - This session will cover general best practice, not the AT insurance policy specifically. If you require more detail on this, please send an email to admin@anglingtrust.net.

Q. HASWA only applies to organisations that employ 5 or more employees not volunteers?

A. (Paul Coulson) - If you have more than 5 employees than you need to have a written policy for H&S.

Q. Reimbursing someone's fuel costs for attending a voluntary work party is deemed acceptable and not considered as payment for their time given?

A. (Mark Owen) – Not considered as payment and the volunteer should not be left out of pocket.

Q. Does the Chainsaw certificate needs to be current as applies to Forestry Commission requirements?

A. (Paul Coulson) - I would check the date and how long they have had the certificate, and when was the last time they used the piece of kit in question. If they have been trained in chainsaw use since before 1998 than the PUWER regs don't apply.

Q. Will slides be available please?

A. (Alex Clegg) - Hi Ian - we'll be circulating a recording of each presentation plus slides and other material here <https://anglingtrust.net/regional-forums/virtual-fisheries-forum-resources-centre-2023-24/>

Q. Question the complexity of risk Assessments for bailiffs?

A. (Paul Coulson) - Make them as clear as possible. They don't have to be page after page of minute detail.

Q. What responsibility does a club have for health & safety for work which is contracted out?.

A. (Mark Owen) – Both a full and Joint responsibility equally.

Q. Is it sufficient for clubs and owners to have a combined RA or do owners also need a separate one?.

A. (Paul Coulson) - A combined one would be ideal. Just make sure that it is written together and shared with all concerned.

Q. Is there any specific guidance regarding disabled access / facilities?.

A. (Mark Owen) – BDAA (British Disabled Anglers Association) <https://bdaa.co.uk/> Can provide information regarding peg creation, access and facilities etc.

Q. Is there a template available for the key elements that could then be tweaked for the specific site?

A. (Alex Clegg) – [A template is available on the Angling Trust website here](#)

Q. WE have 35 volunteers managing our river beats. We have sent several on chainsaw courses. We are currently considering sending 3 on a 3 day course. For me a one day course would be sufficient as we are not felling huge trees?.

A. (Paul Coulson) – The city and Guilds or NPTC two-day course on chainsaw maintenance and cross cutting is a good place to start. If they want to move up to tackling bigger trees up to 380mm diameter than further training will be needed.

Q. Can officers of clubs be personally liable if say Health and safety paperwork and implication is not up to scratch in the event of an accident?

A. (Mark Owen) – Absolutely, yes they can.

Key contacts from this forum meeting: -

Mark Owen (Angling Trust - Head of Fisheries)

mark.owen@anglingtrust.net

Alex Clegg (Angling Trust National Angler Engagement Manager)

alex.clegg@anglingtrust.net

Paul Coulson (Director of Operations – IFM)

paul.coulson@ifm.org.uk

Mark Egerton (Angling Trust National Angler Engagement Officer)

mark.egerton@anglingtrust.net

Funded by fishing licence income and
delivered in partnership with the



**Environment
Agency**

If you haven't already done so, buy your licence [here](#)