



Tidal/Static/Flowing Water Hazards

Working procedure

V1.1

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Forward

This guidance recognizes the identified risks to staff working with a security, stewarding, safety and crowd management role close to water hazards. It outlines a dynamic risk assessment model to be used by staff that are working around water hazards. The document also describes specialist PPE that will be issued to team members, as well as instructions on the correct use of the PPE.

This policy is intended to complement any existing arrangements or support facilities/agencies that events/festivals/venues may have.

Vespasian Security are committed to reducing the risk posed by water hazards to staff, contractors, clients and members of the public.

Risk Assessment

Where a deployment position has been identified as being close to a water hazard, this assessment will then cause these procedures to be implemented.

Key factors are:

- Working on water upon/in a vessel (boat/ship)
- Working on water on a fixed location with little/no guard rail (pontoon/jetty/pier)
- Working immediately adjacent to a water hazard whilst conducting perimeter/ejection/rule enforcement duties where physical intervention may be required.

Where any one or more of these factors are present the following procedures and equipment will be distributed and followed.

The risk assessment will be specific to the event and will sit as an appendix to the Vespasian Crowd Management Plan (CMP).

Personal Protective Equipment

Supplied by Vespasian:

- Two way radio: This communication is key for your ability to call for assistance and gain information regarding any potential threat groups/individuals.
- Life vest/buoyancy aid: This is an automatic inflating device that will ensure any team member falling into the water will be kept buoyant. This device can also be manually operated in the event of it failing to inflate once submerged. **THIS DEVICE MUST BE WORN ON TOP OF YOUR OUTER MOST LAYER OF CLOTHING**
- High visibility clothing layer: This high visibility clothing will clearly illustrate your role within the security and crowd management team. This clothing will also assist any rescue teams in locating you in the water in the event of you entering the water.

Supplied by team member:

- Sturdy footwear in the form of shoes or boots that have a clean and effective grip pattern on the sole. This is standard for all Vespasian team members and is vital within the water hazard role. This will ensure sure footedness around potentially wet surfaces.
- Torch: Although all deployment locations are assessed to have sufficient lighting during the hours of darkness, it is relatively common for equipment failure or unforeseen circumstances to cause poorly lit areas of work. This compounds the possible risks when working around a water hazard.

As standard, all Vespasian team members should bring their own torch to work and it is imperative that team members working around water hazards carry their torch. This will enable team members to identify trip/slip hazards and look for members of the public within the water.

Dynamic risk assessment criteria

Although a formal risk assessment will have been carried out, it is important to dynamically assess the risk that the water poses to team members and members of the public. This is due to the changing nature of water in rivers, still waters and in sea and tidal areas.

Multiple impact factors will affect the water/sea state and should be considered and assessed on a regular basis throughout each deployed shift. Any changes in assessment should be passed on to security control and included in a verbal handover to the team member relieving the position both for breaks and at the point of shift change over.

Variables to consider but not limited to:

Variable	Still water	River	Sea
Wind	√	√	√
Wave height	√	N/A	√
Vessel activity	√	√	√
Water speed	N/A	√	√
Tide height and direction	N/A	N/A	√
Condition of ground under foot	√	√	√

NO MATTER THE SITUATION NEVER DELIBERATELY ENTER THE WATER

If any team member or member of the public enters the water, contact Security Radio Control immediately via your radio. You will then be given instructions by the radio controller. Any specialist water rescue teams will then be dispatched to assist the individual. A medical team will also be dispatched as well as a response team to remove the individual from the area if required.

Nobody's personal safety should be put at RISK !!

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