



Safety & Accessibility Overview – Dudhope History & Nature Trail

Updated: 13/06/2025

We want everyone to enjoy the trail safely. While this is a natural and historic space with some uneven areas, we inspect and maintain the trail regularly. Here's an overview of potential risks and what we've done to manage them.

<u>Hazard</u>	<u>Risk</u>	<u>Who it at risk</u>	<u>What is being done currently</u>	<u>Further management of risk</u>	<u>Who needs to take action?</u>
Walking the trail	Slips, trips & falls from uneven surfaces leading to potential injury/potential broken bones/RIDDOR reportable injuries.	Employees, visitors, children, members of the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Path maintenance in place • Trail inspected weekly, and document • Employees report any potential hazards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where the gravel grid stabiliser is showing, install further stones to eliminate any trip hazards. Monitor this going forward • Engage users for feedback on improvements • Raised concrete slab on the south east corner of the trail needs further stones to bring this in level 	Management and staff of Uppertunity
Allergic reactions to plants	Contact dermatitis or pollen sensitivity	Employees, visitors, children, members of the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid planting high-risk allergenic species 		Management to engage users for feedback
Low-hanging branches or natural overgrowth	Minor scratches, tripping on plant matter	Employees, visitors, children, members of the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low hanging trees will be monitored and trimmed 		Management and staff of Uppertunity
Interactive equipment and structures	Cuts and bruises from sharp edges or bumps	Employees, visitors, children, members of the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment built to a high standard and regularly inspected • All equipment monitored weekly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place soft edges on wishing well • Document equipment inspections <p>Xylophone in close proximity to the building and could act as fire load.</p>	Management and staff of Uppertunity

Uppertunity – risk assessment

				Move this further away to reduce the risk from this	
Weather conditions	Slippery surfaces from rain, snow and ice.	Employees, visitors, children, members of the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gritting materials in place and main paths gritted where required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to the nature of the trail, monitor falling leaves and clear up in wet conditions 	Management and staff of Uppertunity
Dogs	Allergies or dog bites and litter from dog excrement	Employees, visitors, children, members of the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog owners generally courteous when using the public space Employees monitor and report any unwanted behaviour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install signage requesting that all dogs are kept on leads on the paths and that mess is to be picked up 	
Ticks & other bites/stings	Lyme disease from tick bites, Anaphylaxis from stings	Employees, visitors, children, members of the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grass is kept short First aid supplies within Dudhope Castle during week day opening hours. Lower risk from ticks in the city 		
Accessibility	Disabled persons utilising the trail	Disabled persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main paths have a compacted gravel surface laid over stabilising grids. This provides firm and mostly level access for many wheelchair users, though smaller wheels may find sections more challenging There are no steep gradients, and most of the trail is on a gentle slope or flat. The central area is grassed but has smooth access The site is historic and subject to some restrictions, we've considered accessibility throughout, within these constraints One or two benches per area for resting No steps or stairs required to complete the trail Nearby parking, including disabled access parking 		