General Guidance for School Fetes and Community Events

2024 - 2025



Introduction

The Highland Council wants everyone attending school fetes and activities including those where inflatables have been arranged to have a safe and enjoyable time while doing so safely. The Council is mindful that a School or any other Council property is also a place of work and as such is covered by various regulations including the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974.

To maintain safe environments and fulfil our duty of care to employees, pupils, contractors, and visitors to our sites across Highland we must comply with these regulations and ask that all staff, let applicants and contractors do the same. The Highland Council expects all staff, let applicants, contractors, and sub-contractors to abide and follow all relevant statutory regulations and guidance issued to maintain a safe event to take place. Prior to events comprehensive Risk Assessments should be completed in full to not compromise events or bring any unnecessary risk on to the estate.

Safe Use of Inflatable Play Structures

All inflatable structures need to be used in strict accordance with the manufacturer's written instruction and comply with the HSE guidance at Bouncy castles and other play inflatables: safety advice (hse.gov.uk)

If you bring an air receiver of relevant size on to a council site it must comply with the Pressure Systems Safety Regulations at Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2000 (PSSR) (hse.gov.uk)

Before driving stakes into the ground, the risk from underground services must be suitably considered and comply with the HSE guidance at Avoiding danger from underground services - HSG47 (hse.gov.uk)

Work Equipment

All work equipment brought on to a council site must be used in strict accordance with the manufacturer's written instructions and comply with the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998; PUWER 1998: Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998. Open learning guidance (hse.gov.uk)

All contractors must have suitable and sufficient risk assessments or safe systems of work to ensure their activity does not present hazards or cause harm to persons, property or livestock on council sites. For guidance on managing risk please click https://www.hse.gov.uk/simple-health-safety/risk/index.htm

Power Supplies

If you intend to bring your own generator to site, you must manage the risk of fuelling it appropriately. Ideally to reduce the risk from refuelling the tank of your generator should be capable of holding sufficient fuel for the duration of the activity. If you bring petrol to site you are responsible for insuring safe handling, storage and decanting of the fuel. Consideration must be given to the following; https://www.hse.gov.uk/fireandexplosion/decar.htm and https://www.hse.gov.uk/fireandexplosion/petroleum.htm

If you bring LPG gas powered systems to site, you must operate in compliance with the following; https://www.hse.gov.uk/gas/lpg/legalframework.htm

If you intend to plug in to the council's existing electrical supply, then you must have the written permission from the council to do so and you will be required to demonstrate compliance with the following https://www.hse.gov.uk/electricity/maintenance/safety.htm

Highland Council Specific Guidance in Support of HSE

For the Safe Use of Inflatable Play Structures please complete and submit checklist of items you will need to show compliance with. Please fully complete, providing any necessary documentation, and sign and date in the appropriate place to show acceptance of these terms and conditions of booking.