

WESTMINSTER BOROUGH RISK REGISTER

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Risk Registers

The National Risk Register

1. The Register provides an assessment of the most significant emergencies which the United Kingdom and its citizens could face over the next few years summarised into three categories: accidents, natural events (collectively known as hazards) and malicious attacks (known as threats).
2. The National Risk Register is intended to capture the range of emergencies that might have a major impact on all, or significant parts of the UK.
3. It provides a national picture of the risks we face, and is designed to complement Community Risk Registers, already produced and published locally by emergency planners. The driver for this work is the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, which also defines what we mean by emergencies, and what responsibilities are placed on emergency responders in order to prepare for them.

Community Risk Registers

4. Community Risk Registers (CRRs) consider the likelihood and potential impact on a range of hazards occurring in specific areas of England and Wales. The London specific risk register is approved and published by London Local Resilience Forum (LLRF), which have been established under the Civil Contingencies Act. They include representatives from the local emergency services, and public, private and voluntary organisations. In order to produce the Community Risk Registers, LRFs use a combination of their own judgement about each risk, as well as guidance provided by central government drawn from the National Risk Assessment (NRA).
5. The City of Westminster is part of the London Local Resilience Form with all other London boroughs, all boroughs across London feed into the London Community Risk Register through the sub regional resilience forums. Westminster is a member of the Central Sub Regional Resilience Forum, which includes the City of London, The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, and the boroughs of; Lambeth; Southwark; and Tower Hamlets.
6. For more information on the London Community Risk Register go to; [London Risk Register](#)

Borough Risk Registers

7. Borough Risk Registers (BRRs) consider the main risks specific to the borough. These are taken from the London Community Risk Register and adapted for local use.
8. The BRR is designed to be a living document that will be revised and updated as and when required. The BRR will from time to time include other site-specific risks, as they are identified. The BRR differs from the CRR in that likelihood and impact scoring is not included. The layout of each risk is based on the outcome and overview of the hazard and the perceived impact to the area or the borough. A borough contextualisation statement is provided at the end of each risk as are the control measures in place.

Risk Register Overview

Background

9. Risk assessment underpins the work of the [London Resilience Forum](#). Assessments within the London Risk Register drive the development of multi-agency capabilities to prevent, mitigate, respond to, and recover from incidents.
10. Publication of the London Risk Register is designed to assist Local Authorities and businesses develop their own emergency and business continuity arrangements.
11. Planning is based on 'reasonable worst-case scenarios' informed by historical and scientific data, modelling, and professional expert judgement of both the likelihood and impact of a risk. The inclusion of a risk does not mean it is expected to happen, nor that the impact would be as serious as the description provided.

12. Each risk is scored for impact and likelihood. Likelihood is expressed as the “annual likelihood of each RWCS occurring, with the assessment valid for two years”. Impacts are rated between “Limited” (1) and “Catastrophic” (5). The likelihood and impact scores are combined to give an overall risk rating.

Likelihood scale

Score	Likelihood Descriptor	Probability of the Reasonable Worst-Case Scenario occurring within a 12 month period
1	Low	Less than 0.2% chance of occurring per year
2	Medium Low	Between 0.2% and 1%
3	Medium	Between 1% and 5%
4	Medium High	Between 5% and 25%
5	High	More than 25%

Impacts Categories

Each impact category is split into several “indicators” which are scored out of five. Indicator scores are amalgamated to reach a score for that category, and the category scores are amalgamated to reach an overall impact score.

Impact Category	Explanation
Human Welfare	Includes numbers of fatalities and casualties resulting from the RWCS, needs for mass evacuation, and short and long term accommodation.
Behavioural Impacts	Psychological impacts of the risk, including how people’s perception and behaviour might change as a result of the risk.
Economic	An approximate net economic cost, including both direct (e.g. loss of goods, buildings, infrastructure) and indirect (e.g. loss of business, increased demand for public services) costs.
Essential Services	How the RWCS might impact the emergency services, critical infrastructure, transport, education and other service and infrastructure providers
Environment	Encompassing long-term impact of contamination or pollution of land, water or air with harmful biological / chemical / radioactive matter or oil, flooding, or disruption or destruction of plant or animal life.
Security	Includes impacts to law enforcement and intelligence services, and disruptions to criminal justice and border security.

Understanding the Risk Register

13. Risks are grouped by theme and presented in order of overall rating within that theme, with the highest risks first. Themes are based on common features and consequences, which makes it easier to understand the risk in context and to consider which risks might influence, or be influenced by, others.

Risk themes are:

- Accidents and system failures
- Human and animal disease
- Societal risks
- Natural hazards
- Hostile state activity

Risk Review Schedule

1. All risks with an overall rating of “Very high” and “High” will be reviewed yearly, other risks will be reviewed every two years.

Westminster Borough Risk Register

Very High (VH)

These are classed as primary or critical risks requiring immediate attention. They may have a high or medium likelihood of occurrence, but their potential consequences are such that they must be treated as a high priority. This may mean that strategies should be developed to reduce or eliminate the risks, but also that mitigation in the form of (multi-agency) planning, exercising and training for these hazards should be put in place and the risk monitored on a regular frequency. Consideration should be given to planning being specific to the risk rather than generic.

Accidents and System Failures: Failure of the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS)

Human and Animal Disease: Pandemic and Outbreak of an Emerging infectious diseases

Societal Risks: N/A at this time

Natural Hazards: Severe Space Weather, High Temperatures and Heatwaves, Fluvial Flooding, Surface Water Flooding, and Drought

Hostile State Activity: High-Altitude Electromagnetic Pulse (HEMP) and Nuclear attack by a state on the UK mainland or UK overseas interests

High (H)

These risks are classed as significant. They may have a high or low likelihood of occurrence, but their potential consequences are sufficiently serious to warrant appropriate consideration after those risks classed as 'very high'. Consideration should be given to the development of strategies to reduce or eliminate the risks, but also that mitigation in the form of at least (multi-agency) generic planning, exercising and training should be put in place and monitored on a regular frequency

Accidents and system failures: Local accident on motorways and major trunk roads, Fires in purpose built high-rise flats, Fires in large public and commercial buildings, Rail Accident, Accident involving high consequence dangerous goods, Malicious Drone Incident, Loss of Positioning, Navigation and Timing (PNT) Services, Simultaneous loss of all fixed and mobile forms of communication, Failure of Gas Supply Infrastructure, Civil Nuclear Accident, and Technological failure of a UK critical financial market infrastructure

Human and animal disease: N/A at this time

Societal Risks: Public Disorder

Natural hazards: Groundwater Flooding, Volcanic Eruption, Storms, Low temperatures and snow, Coastal Flooding, and Poor Air Quality

Hostile State Activity: N/A at this time

Medium (M)

These risks are less significant, but may cause upset and inconvenience in the short term. These risks should be monitored to ensure that they are being appropriately managed and consideration given to their being managed under generic emergency planning arrangements.

Accidents and System Failures: Complex Built Environments, Building Collapse, Bridge Collapse, Radioactive incident caused by mishandling of radioactive material, Large aircraft incident in proximity to airport, Small aircraft incident in proximity to airport, Major Social Care Provider Failure, Insolvency of Supplier of Critical Services to public Sector, Collapse of a Major Government Contractor, Failure of a supplier of Critical National Infrastructure (CNI) Chemicals, Aviation Collision, Disruption of Space-based Services, Regional Failure of the Electricity Network, Radiation Release from Overseas Nuclear Site, Technological Failure at a Systemically Important Retail Bank, Accidental Fire or Explosion at an Onshore Major Hazard (COMAH) site, Accidental Large Toxic Chemical Release from a COMAH site, Explosion at a High-pressure Gas Pipeline, Accidental Fire or Explosion at an Onshore Fuel Pipeline, Localised Industrial Accident Involving Small Toxic Release, Reservoir/Dam Collapse, Water Infrastructure Failure or Loss of Drinking Water, Food Supply Contamination, and Major Fire

Human and Animal Disease: Major Outbreak of Animal Disease

Societal Risks: Industrial action - public transport, Industrial action - firefighters, Industrial action - Prison Staff, Industrial action - fuel supply, and Reception and Integration of British Nationals Arriving from Overseas

Natural Hazards: Fires Involving Landfill and Waste Processing Sites, Major Fire in Care Homes and Hospitals, Wildfire

Hostile State Activity: N/A at this time

Low (L)

These risks are both unlikely to occur and not significant in their impact. They should be managed using normal or generic planning arrangements and require minimal monitoring and control unless subsequent risk assessments show a substantial change, prompting a move to another risk category.

Accidents and system failures: Insolvency Affecting Fuel Supply, Larger Passenger Vessel Accident, Major Maritime Pollution Incident, Radiation Exposure from Transported, Stolen or Lost Goods, and Accidental Work-Related (laboratory) Release of a Hazardous Pathogen

Human and animal disease: N/A at this time

Societal Risks: N/A at this time

Natural hazards: Land Movement and Earthquake

Hostile State Activity: Major interference in UK democratic Process

To Learn More

For more information about the risk register and details on each of these risks visit the [London Risk Register](#). Additionally, be sure to visit the Westminster **Stay Safe in an Emergency** webpage to learn more about how you can prepare for and respond to emergencies.