Staffordshire Community Risk Register June 2021

The purpose of the Staffordshire Community Risk Register (CRR) is two-fold namely:

- To direct Contingency Planning, Emergency Planning and Business Continuity Management work streams within Staffordshire, to ensure that time, money, and expertise is focused to provide the best capabilities possible in respect of the risks faced.
- Additionally, the publication of the CRR is to reassure the people and communities of Staffordshire that a well-established, proactive risk assessment process operates here.

Risks are listed as:

- National risks, i.e. those defined by the UK government. (Note some risks defined by the UK Government such as coastal flooding do not relate to Staffordshire and are therefore discounted from this register).
- Risks determined locally, which are considered by local partners to be worthy of inclusion in the register as no national risk covers the individual circumstances.

Likelihood of Malicious Risks are not assessed locally as this is undertaken by central Government. Detail is published in the National Risk Register (see the table on page 11 of this document which contains detail from the Gov.uk site).

Note that the impact rating is on the scale of 1 to 5 and the likelihood rating, again on a 1-5 scale is based on the chances of the scenario occurring in our area in the next 2 years. Please see page 12 of this document for a meaning of the scores.

Note also that in assessing these risks, the Risk Assessment Working Group has in each case considered how the risks could impact on the Birmingham Commonwealth Games 2022.

Number	Risk	Likely impact	Impact	Likelihood	Rating	What is in place in our area to respond?
Accidents and system failures						
1	Major fire	Major fire in a residential or industrial area which may be accompanied by explosions. Potential for significant loss of life and casualty numbers	3	2	Medium	There are a number of multi-agency emergency plans and arrangements in place which responders would work to, led by the Fire Service in the event of such an incident. These cover command and control, management of public communications, and the recovery and site restoration. The local authority (LA) would be responsible for the provision of shelter and alternative residential accommodation. Almost all of the residential tower blocks in Staffordshire are owned by private housing associations Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service has worked in conjunction with LAs and housing associations to ensure the safety of residents in the wake of the tragic fire at Grenfell Tower in London.
2	Fire or explosion at a gas terminal, storage site or high pressure gas pipeline	Liquefied gas release causing a fire or explosion which could result in a fatalities and casualties. We assume that it is likely there would be rubble and debris with the potential for people to be trapped	3	1	Medium	The response to any of these incidents would be largely the same and would be led by the Fire Service.\n\nThere are a number of multi-agency emergency plans and arrangements in place which responders would work to in the event of any of these incidents. These would cover command and control, management of public communications, pipelines, casualties, fatalities and the recovery and site restoration.\n\nThe NHS has arrangements in place to be able to respond to large numbers of casualties.\n\nLocal authorities would lead with the recovery
3	Fire or explosion at an onshore fuel pipeline or distribution site	Fire or explosion at a fuel pipeline following ignition of a flammable fuel under high pressure. The fire may continue to burn until the pipeline is isolated.	2	1	Low	
4	Accidental release of biological pathogen or other biological substance	A pathogen is inadvertently released from a laboratory that causes fatalities and casualties	2	1	Low	There are a number of multi-agency emergency plans and arrangements in place which responders would use if a local response was required. The Director(s) of Public Health at Staffs County Council of Stoke-on-Trent City

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						Council would likely lead the multi-agency response with support and advice from Public Health England.
5	Large toxic chemical release	Could impact up to 3km from site causing fatalities and casualties, environmental contamination (air, land, water, animal welfare, agriculture and waste management). Water supplies and agricultural land might be at risk of contamination.	3	1	Medium	There are a number of multi-agency emergency plans and arrangements in place which responders would use if a local response was required. Fire would be the lead agency.
6	Accident involving high consequence dangerous goods	Road or rail tanker accident resulting in large fire and/or explosion. The consequences could be worse if it occurred in a populated or urban area.	2	2	Medium	There are a number of multi-agency emergency plans and arrangements in place which responders would use if a local response was required. Fire would be the lead agency.
7	Food supply contamination	A major contamination incident in the food chain causing illness, and possible fatalities during the time taken to identify it.	3	3	High	Public Health England would lead the response and again there are a number of multi-agency emergency plans and arrangements in place which responders would work to in the event of this happening.
8	Radiation exposure from stolen goods	Incorrect handling of a stolen radioactive source could result in the accidental exposure to the radioactive material resulting in deaths and many people requiring long-term medical care.	1	1	Low	The Fire and Rescue Service supported by Public Health England would lead on the response to such incidents. There are a number of multi-agency emergency plans and arrangements in place which responders would work to in the event of any of these incidents. These would cover command and control, of public communications and the recovery and site restoration. The NHS has arrangements in place to be able to respond to large numbers of casualties
9	Aviation crash	Collision of two passenger aircrafts causing the death of all passengers on the planes as	3	1	Medium	There are a number of multi-agency emergency plans and arrangements in place which responders would work to in the event of this occurring. These would cover command

Number	Risk	Likely impact	Impact	Likelihood	Rating	What is in place in our area to respond?
		well as some people on the ground.				and control, management of public communications, care of people, and the recovery and site restoration. The NHS has arrangements in place to be able to respond to large numbers of casualties Local authorities would lead with the recovery.
10	Collapse of a major government contractor	Commercial failure of a major private provider of integrated facilities management and construction	2	4	Medium	Local authorities and Health commissioners have business continuity plans to ensure the continuation of service in the event of a failure of provider.
11	Major social care provider failure	Large company with regional or national footprint providing domiciliary care fails, possibly during the winter period.	2	4	Medium	Local authorities and Health commissioners have business continuity plans to ensure the continuation of service in the event of a failure of provider. A major incident could be called to ensure continuity of provision of service to a large number of service users.
12	Reservoir/dam collapse	Collapse of reservoir dam without notice	3	1	Medium	There are a number of multi-agency emergency plans and arrangements in place which responders would work to in the event of such a disaster. Staffordshire partners last undertook a major live exercise involving a reservoir dam collapse called Exercise TRITON in 2013.
13	Water infrastructure failure or loss of drinking water	Loss of drinking water which could last between 24 hours and 2 weeks.	2	2	Medium	There are a number of multi-agency emergency plans and arrangements in place which responders would work to in the event of a loss of supply. Staffordshire partners would prioritise vulnerable people The water industry also has robust emergency plans in place.
14	Failure of the national electricity transmission system	Complete and total loss of all power to the whole of the UK for 72 hours or more.	4	3	**Very High**	There are multi-agency emergency plans and arrangements in place which responders would work to in the event of total power loss. This includes a multi-agency resilient telecommunications plan.
15	Gas supply failure	A technical failure resulting in the loss of gas supply to some of UK.	2	2	Medium	There are a number of multi-agency emergency plans and arrangements in place which responders would work to in the event of a loss of supply. The gas industry also has robust emergency plans in place.

Number	Risk	Likely impact	Impact	Likelihood	Rating	What is in place in our area to respond?
16	Disruption to or loss of telecommunications systems	Loss of mobile or fixed (land-line) services for up to 72 hours for up to 100,000 people	1	2	Low	There are a number of multi-agency emergency plans and arrangements in place which responders would work to in the event of a loss of telecommunications The communications sector also has robust emergency plans in place.
					Natural and Environmental Hazards	
17	Fluvial flooding	Major river flooding affecting large areas of Staffordshire causing the flooding of people's homes and businesses. Key transport routes could be closed and important infrastructure (gas, electricity and telecoms) could be affected.	4	3	**Very High**	There are a number of multi-agency emergency plans and arrangements in place which responders would work to in the event of flooding. These would cover command and control, management of public communications, the flood plan, care of people, evacuation and shelter arrangements. Staffordshire partners regularly test and exercise flood response
18	Surface water flooding	Surface water flooding caused by a warm unstable atmosphere, is most likely to occur in summer. Areas of very high rainfall could cause locally significant flooding across widely dispersed areas in Staffordshire	3	3	High	
19	Drought	Drought resulting in rota water supply disconnections to businesses.	3	2	Medium	There are a number of multi-agency emergency plans and arrangements in place which responders would work to in the event of a drought. There would be a lead-in period before the drought actually occurred during which hose pipe bans and other water-saving measures would be put into place.
20	Poor air quality	Up to 30 days of ground-level ozone or fine particulate matter concentrations that would be harmful to human health.	3	3	High	Public Health England would warn partners and the public in the event of this occurring in our area. If required, Staffordshire partners would set up their multi-agency command and control arrangements and communications

Number	Risk	Likely impact	Impact	Likelihood	Rating	What is in place in our area to respond?
					High	arrangements would be put into place to warn people in the affected area.
21	Volcanic eruption	Volcanic eruption abroad resulting in temporary closures of parts of UK airspace for up to 25 days, with the risk of British Nationals being stranded abroad.	3	4	High	Such an incident would be national in scale and would be coordinated by UK Government.
22	Heatwave	Daily temperatures in excess of 28° C and minimum in excess of 15° C for at least 2 weeks. Five of those days consecutively will exceed 32° C	3	3	High	There are a number of multi-agency emergency plans and arrangements in place which responders would work to in the event of heatwave. Additionally there is a national plan put in place by UK Government which is reviewed annually. Social care providers, local authority and Health services have agreed actions to take in the event of the plan being triggered.
23	Low temperatures and heavy snow	Snow falling and lying over most of the area for at least a week (possibly in excess of 30cm) and during this time daily temperatures could be below -3ºC. This could result in a number of excess deaths amongst the elderly and vulnerable and many casualties, mainly due to slips, trips and falls.	3	3	High	There are a number of multi-agency emergency plans and arrangements in place which responders would work to in the event of this occurring. These would cover command and control, management of public communications, care of people, management of excess deaths. All partners are aware of the need to maintain robust business continuity plans to enable essential services to continue during severe weather disruption.
24	Severe space weather	Disruption to electricity supply, GPS and radio networks due to severe sun activity.	3	3	High	Whilst such an incident would be national in scale and would be coordinated by UK Government, Staffordshire would implement its agreed command and control arrangements. In September 2016 the LRF ran a major live exercise (Exercise AURORA) to test our response to such a scenario.

Number	Risk	Likely impact	Impact	Likelihood	Rating	What is in place in our area to respond?
25	Storms	Storm force winds for at least 6 hours with wind speeds in excess of 55mph and gusts in excess of 85mph. Although the storm will be over in less than a day, disruption to infrastructure including power and transport networks could last much longer.	3	4	High	There are a number of multi-agency emergency plans and arrangements in place which responders would work to in the event of any of this occurring. These would cover command and control, management of public communications, care of people, and the recovery and site restoration. Local authorities would lead with the recovery/ clean up.
26	Earthquake in the UK	Earthquake activity at intensity level 7 or above on the European Macro Seismic Scale (EMS) causing damage to buildings.	1	3	Low	If there were significant impacts, Staffordshire partners could set up their multi-agency command and control arrangements. The local authorities would lead on the recovery (clean-up and restoration to normality).
Human and Animal Disease						
27	Influenza-type pandemic	Worldwide outbreak of influenza occurring as a result of a virus emerging that is very different from current strains and results in sustained human transmission worldwide. Up to half the population could be affected.	5	4	**Very High**	Directors of Public Health (Staffs CC or Stoke-on-Trent CC) would lead the multi-agency response. As is the case with Covid-19. There is a Pandemic Influenza and Infectious Diseases Plan for multi-agency partners to work to. Additionally there are excess deaths arrangements and NHS mass casualty plans
28	The growth and spread of antimicrobial resistance	Bacteria and viruses evolve ways to survive treatment	3	3	High	The LRF's response would be much the same as with Pandemic Influenza and Emerging Infectious Diseases. Directors of Public Health (Staffs CC or Stoke-on-Trent CC) would lead the multi-agency response.
29	Emerging infectious disease	Over the last 30 years more than 30 new or newly recognized diseases have been identified such as MERS, SARS, Ebola and now Covid-19. The disease is likely to occur	3	3	High	Directors of Public Health (Staffs CC or Stoke-on-Trent CC) would lead the multi-agency response. As is the case with Covid-19. There is a Pandemic Influenza and Infectious Diseases Plan for multi-agency partners to work to. Additionally there are excess deaths arrangements and NHS mass casualty plans

Number	Risk	Likely impact	Impact	Likelihood	Rating	What is in place in our area to respond?
		outside of the UK and be brought here by travellers such as UK residents returning home.				
30	Major outbreak of animal disease	A major outbreak disease in animals (including birds).Examples might be Avian Influenza and Foot and Mouth Disease.	3	2	Medium	Staffordshire County Council would be likely to lead the multi-agency response supported by the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) and there is an animal diseases plan in place for multi-agency partners to work to.
					Societal risks	
31	Widespread Industrial action (firefighters)	National Fire Strike for at least 8 consecutive days. Weakened response could result in increased casualties and fatalities from fires and other high-risk incidents requiring rescue that FRS attend.	2	3	Medium	Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service enjoys excellent industrial relations and has robust Business Continuity Plans that would be invoked in the event of such a strike.
32	Industrial action (prison officers)	National prison officers strike	3	4	High	The prison service and private prison providers are required to have robust business continuity plans and it is possible that the Police or military could be asked to assist. Staffordshire has multi-agency command and control arrangement that would be put into place with such an event.
33	Industrial action (public transport)	Strike action by key workers (rail) which could occur sporadically and last for some time causing disruption to commuter rail travel.	2	5	Medium	Train Operator companies would have to make alternative provision to transport its customers by road.
34	Industrial action (fuel supply)	Actual or threatened disruption to the distribution of fuel by road, by fuel tanker drivers would result in some fuel shortages, e.g. at petrol filling stations. Potential for panic	2	3	Medium	All LRF partner organisations are required to have robust BC plans to ensure continued delivery of essential services in the event of constraint in the supply of fuel.

Number	Risk	Likely impact	Impact	Likelihood	Rating	What is in place in our area to respond?
		buying to exacerbate the situation.				
35	Insolvency affecting fuel supply	Disruption of supply in the event of insolvency at a refinery of terminal.	2	1	Low	All LRF partner organisations are required to have robust BC plans to ensure continued delivery of essential services in the event of constraint in the supply of fuel.
36	Public disorder	Large scale disorder at a single or multiple locations in Staffordshire and/or Stoke-on-Trent	3	3	High	Staffordshire Police have robust intelligence gathering and assessment processes to monitor community tensions and identify when disorder could occur. All police forces train to national standards and there are procedures in place for mutual aid between forces.
37	Influx of British nationals	Large numbers of people returning to UK with nowhere to be accommodated by family of friends.	1	4	Low	Likely that people will be dispersed around UK so impact on our area may be limited. Local Authorities have Rest Centre plans and Humanitarian arrangements for emergency shelter in place in large numbers arrived. There is victim support and counselling services available if needed.
				Local Risks		
38	Local accident on motorways and major trunk roads	Multiple vehicle incident causing fatalities and casualties and resulting in closure of lanes or carriageways and major disruption and delays.	2	4	Medium	The Police and Highways England would lead the response. There are multi-agency arrangements to respond to the welfare of people caught for a long time in stationary traffic.
39	Railway accident	Potential fatalities and casualties and possible loss of freight. Major disruption to rail line including possible closure of rail tunnel.	2	2	Medium	There are a number of multi-agency emergency plans and arrangements in place which responders would work to, led by the Police or Fire Service in the event of such incidents. These cover command and control, management of public communications, and the recovery and site restoration. There are plans to deal with mass casualties (NHS) and if needed mass fatalities. Network Rail has emergency response arrangements for rail related incidents.

Number	Risk	Likely impact	Impact	Likelihood	Rating	What is in place in our area to respond?
40	Building collapse	Potential for a number of persons to be trapped or missing. Localised loss of power and other essential services. Local access routes affected due to road closures.	1	2	Low	There are a number of multi-agency emergency plans and arrangements in place which responders would work to, led by the Police or relevant local authority in the event of such an incident. These cover command and control, management of public communications, and the recovery and site restoration. The NHS has robust mass casualty arrangements. Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service would lead on the search and rescue of trapped people supported by the West Midlands Ambulance Service's Hazardous Area Response Team (HART).
41	Bridge closure or collapse	Roads, access routes and transport infrastructure impassable for considerable length of time. Emergency access into / out of large populated areas severely restricted. Potential for a number of persons to be trapped or missing	1	2	Low	
42	Outbreak of plant disease	Major outbreak of plant disease causing damage to native plants, ecosystems, agricultural or horticultural crops (with knock on effects to rural economy should diseases become widespread within the plant population).	1	3	Low	Plant diseases and control measures are monitored and implemented through the Animal and Plant Health Agency and the Plant Health and Seed Inspectorate. Legislation and guidance generally relates to growers and importers. The main control measure is vigilance, with general checks of tree health carried out as part of routine tree / habitat checks as appropriate and Forest Research Tree Health Aerial Surveys. In the event of an outbreak of a significant disease, organisations that could be involved in the response effort in Staffs are: all Local Authorities, Forestry Commission, Environment Agency, Animal and Plant Health Agency and DEFRA. Also individual landowners have a role to play
43	Loss of Telecoms due to PSTN switch off	The UK's telecoms networks the 'public switched telephone network' (PSTN) will undergo	1	1	Low	

Number	Risk	Likely impact	Impact	Likelihood	Rating	What is in place in our area to respond?
		substantial change with the companies that run the network upgrading to newer digital technology known as 'voice over internet protocol' (VoIP), which carries calls over a broadband connection. The PSTN is becoming unreliable and will finally be turned off by December 2025. The transition will be straightforward for most customers, however some may require additional support to help them update their services.				A RWCS could result in other services being disrupted or lost such as personal care systems, remote monitoring systems and fleet management systems. All organisations should check their systems now and where necessary upgrade in good time

Malicious Threats

The National Risk Register of Civil Emergencies is published at: https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-risk-register-of-civil-emergencies . The likelihood of malicious attacks occurring in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent isn't assessed locally by multi-agency partners so the Local Resilience Forum uses this document for guidance and emergency preparedness purposes. It should be noted that individual and specific threats are the responsibility of the Police to assess and when and where appropriate, other partner organisations are informed. A brief summary of malicious threats in the national register is copied below.

Malicious threats include a significant range of methodologies and targets and can be collated into the following threat areas:

No	Risk	Description	What is in place in our area to respond?
T1	Conventional attack – people	Conventional attack with intent to cause fatalities/casualties directly	The Government's counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST is an integrated approach based on four main work streams, each with a clear objective to reduce the risk to the UK from all forms of terrorism: ⬛ Pursue: stopping terrorist attacks ⬛ Prevent: stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism ⬛ Protect: strengthening our protection against a terrorist attack ⬛ Prepare: where an attack cannot be stopped, mitigating its impact. The work of the Staffordshire Community Risk Register focussed on preparing for emergencies and mitigating the impact of risks, including terrorism. As such, it principally covers the Prepare work stream but this links into others. There are a number of local multi-agency emergency plans and arrangements in place which responders would work to, led by the Police in the event of such an attack. A number of organisations would support depending on the event. There are a number of multi-agency plans and arrangement in place which responders would work to in the event of a malicious threat. Pre-emptive work is undertaken to identify and protect vulnerable and attractive targets and work with them to develop and test plans.

Meaning of impact and likelihood scores

Impact:

1. Limited
2. Minor
3. Moderate
4. Significant
5. Catastrophic

Likelihood

1. Low (less than 0.2% chance of occurring within the next 2 years)
2. Medium low (between 0.2% and 1% chance of occurring within the next 2 years)
3. Medium (between 1% and 5% chance of occurring within the next 2 years)
4. Medium high (between 5% and 25% chance of occurring within the next 2 years)
5. High(More than 25% chance of occurring within the next 2 years)

The Staffordshire Community Risk Register has been produced on behalf of the Staffordshire Resilience Forum by the Staffordshire Civil Contingencies Unit

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