



Planning for Emergencies

MERSEYSIDE RESILIENCE FORUM

Merseyside Community Risk Register

2025

INTRODUCTION

What is the Community Risk Register?

The Community Risk Register (CRR) has been compiled by the Merseyside Resilience Forum (MRF) to identify potential risks that may affect the communities of Merseyside. The MRF is a collaboration of multi-agency services / partners working together to prepare for emergencies on Merseyside, including:

British Transport Police (BTP)	Cadent
Cheshire & Merseyside Integrated Care Board	Environment Agency (EA)
Health & Safety Executive (HSE)	Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Liverpool City Council	Liverpool City Region – Combined Authority
Liverpool John Lennon Airport	Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA)
Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service (MFRS)	Merseyside Police
Mersey Tunnels Police	Met Office
NHS England	National Grid (Gas)
National Highways	North West Ambulance Service (NWAS)
Port of Liverpool Police	Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council
SP Energy Networks	St Helens Metropolitan Borough Council
Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council	United Utilities
UK Health Security Agency	

The CRR provides the basis for the responder agencies to develop emergency plans and provides a guide for the preparedness work carried out by the MRF. The CRR is also intended to inform the public - individuals, families and businesses - on the range of potential disruptive events that these agencies have considered when making their plans, and to provide assurance that they are ready to deal with these emergencies to provide resilience for the communities that they serve.

How has the Community Risk Register Been Compiled?

The Government assesses hazards and threats that could affect the United Kingdom. These are published in the National Risk Register. It explains the likelihood of a risk occurring and, if it happens, the effects it may have.

Under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (CCA) all areas of the United Kingdom are required to establish a local resilience forum within the local Police Force area. The CCA places a legal duty on local emergency responders to carry out assessments on the risks to their area and publish them.

The register prioritises risks at a Merseyside level. It is a document that shows which risks have been identified to affect Merseyside. The likelihood of an event occurring has been assessed using historical evidence and projected occurrence data relating to the risk occurring. The potential impact of such an emergency has been assessed with regard to welfare of the community, essential services, the local economy and local environment in accordance with national guidance.

The inclusion of these hazards does not mean that the Merseyside Resilience Forum (MRF) believes the risk will materialise, or that if it were to do so, it would be at that scale. The risk scenarios are considered to be reasonable worst case assumptions upon which our risk assessment is based. The likelihood and impact assessments have been used to develop a Risk Rating of Low, Medium, High or Very High. This is displayed on the Risk Matrix (page 8).

The risk matrix below shows non-malicious and certain malicious events. This does not mean that we are not considering all malicious threats within our risk assessment work, but given the sensitivity of the information supporting these risk assessments and the potential for use by adversaries, specific details will not be made available via this document.

Lead Responsibility

For the purpose of clarity, the Lead Responsibility refers to the organisation responsible for compiling the specific entry into the CRR. This does not necessarily denote responsibility for enacting risk treatment or for lead response in case of an incident.

FURTHER INFORMATION

To view the National Risk Register of Civil Emergencies please visit the Government website via the link below:

[National Risk Register - 2025 edition](#)

To view the Cabinet Office Guidance for Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Response & Recovery please visit the Government website via the links below:

[Emergency Preparedness](#)

[Emergency Response and Recovery](#)

Further information is also available on the Merseyside Prepared website via the links below:

www.merseysideprepared.org.uk

If you have any further queries, please contact:

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RISK INDEX

ACCIDENTS AND SYSTEM FAILURES	Lead Responsibility
Social Care Provider Failure	Liverpool City Council
Insolvency Affecting Fuel Supply	Merseyside Police
Rail Accident	British Transport Police
Passenger Vessel Accident	Maritime & Coastguard Agency
Maritime Pollution Incident	Maritime & Coastguard Agency
Vessel Blocking Major Port	Port Police
Road Accident Involving Dangerous Goods	Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service
Aviation Collision	Liverpool John Lennon Airport (Fire)
Drone Incident	Liverpool John Lennon Airport (Fire)
Disruption of Space-Based Services	Department for Science, Innovation and Technology
Loss of PNT Services	Department for Science, Innovation and Technology
Loss of Telecommunications	Merseyside Police
Failure of National Electricity	SP Energy Networks
Failure of Regional Electricity	SP Energy Networks
Failure of Gas Supply	St Helens MBC
Radiation Exposure – Transport/Stolen/Lost	UK Health Security Agency
Technical Failure - Retail Bank	Liverpool City Council
Technical Failure - Financial Market	Liverpool City Council
Fire at a Major Hazard Site (COMAH)	Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service
Chemical Release from Major Hazard Site (COMAH)	Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service
Fire on Offshore Installation	Maritime & Coastguard Agency
Fire at Onshore Fuel Pipeline	Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service
Fire at Onshore Major Hazard Pipeline	Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service
Accidental Release of Hazardous Pathogen	UK Health Security Agency
Reservoir / Dam Collapse	Environment Agency
Failure of Water Infrastructure	United Utilities
Food Supply Contamination	UK Health Security Agency
Major Fire	Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service

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NATURAL HAZARDS	Lead Responsibility
Wildfire	Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service
Volcanic Eruption	Liverpool John Lennon Airport (Fire)
Earthquake	Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service
Humanitarian Crisis - Overseas	Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
Disaster Response - Overseas	Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
Severe Space Weather	Met Office
Storms	Met Office
High Temperatures and Heatwaves	Met Office
Low Temperatures and Snow	Met Office
Coastal Flooding	Environment Agency
River Flooding	Environment Agency
Surface Water Flooding	Liverpool City Council
Drought	Environment Agency
Poor Air Quality	UK Health Security Agency
HUMAN AND ANIMAL DISEASES	Lead Responsibility
Pandemic	UK Health Security Agency
Emerging Infectious Disease	UK Health Security Agency
Animal Disease – Foot & Mouth	Wirral MBC
Animal Disease – Avian Influenza	Wirral MBC
Animal Disease – African Horse Sickness	Wirral MBC
Animal Disease – African Swine Fever	Wirral MBC
Plant Pest – Xylella Fastidiosa	Wirral MBC
Plant Pest – Agrilus Planipennis	Wirral MBC

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SOCIETAL	Lead Responsibility
Public Disorder	Merseyside Police
Industrial Action - Transport	Liverpool City Region – Combined Authority
Industrial Action – Firefighters	Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service
Industrial Action - Prison Staff	Merseyside Police
Industrial Action - Fuel	Merseyside Police
British Nationals Arriving from Overseas	Liverpool City Council
MALICIOUS	Lead Responsibility
Cyber - Health and Social Care System	NHS England / Cheshire & Merseyside Integrated Care Board
Cyber - Transport	Liverpool City Region – Combined Authority
Cyber – Telecommunications	Merseyside Police
Cyber – UK Retail Bank	Merseyside Police
Attack on UK Financial Sector	Merseyside Police
Loss of Transatlantic Telecoms Cables	Department for Science, Innovation and Technology
LOCAL	Lead Responsibility
Tunnel Incident	Mersey Tunnels Police
Aviation Crash at Sea	Maritime & Coastguard Agency
Motorway Incident	National Highways
Building Collapse	Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service
Groundwater Pollution	Environment Agency
Fire at Waste / Recycling Site	Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service
Industrial Action – Emergency Services	North West Ambulance Service
Temporary Risks - Festivals / Sporting / Leisure Events	Event Organisers

RISK MATRIX

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IMPACT	5		Failure of National Electricity	Pandemic		
	4	Loss of PNT Services	Failure of Gas Supply Surface Water Flooding	Cyber - Telecoms Loss of Transatlantic Telecoms Cables Severe Space Weather Emerging Infectious Disease		
	3	Passenger Vessel Accident Aviation Collision Fire at a Major Hazard Site (COMAH) Chemical Release from Major Hazard Site (COMAH) Fire on Offshore Installation Fire at Onshore Major Hazard Pipeline Animal Disease - African Horse Sickness	Disruption to Space-Based Services Reservoir / Dam Collapse Failure of Water Infrastructure Volcanic Eruption Drought Animal Disease – Foot & Mouth	Loss of Telecommunications Failure of Regional Electricity Technical Failure - Retail Bank Humanitarian Crisis Overseas High Temperatures and Heatwaves Low Temperatures & Snow Poor Air Quality Indus Action - Fuel	Food Supply Contamination British Nationals Arriving from Overseas	Cyber - Health and Social Care Cyber - Transport Cyber – UK Retail Bank Technical Failure - Financial Market Disaster Response Overseas
	2	Maritime Pollution Incident Fire at Onshore Fuel Pipeline Accidental Release of Hazardous Pathogen Aviation Crash at Sea	Rail Accident Major Fire	Storms Coastal Flooding River Flooding Animal Disease – Avian Influenza Public Disorder	Social Care Provider Failure Plant Pest – Agrilus Planipennis Indus Action - Emer Services	Attack on UK Financial Sector
	1	Vessel Blocking Major Port Radiation Exposure – Transport/Stolen/Lost Earthquake	Drone Incident Wildfire Animal Disease – African Swine Fever Tunnel Incident Motorway Incident Building Collapse Fire at Waste/Recycling Site Indus Action – Prison Staff	Road Accident Involving Dangerous Goods Animal Disease – African Swine Fever Indus Action - Transport	Insolvency Affecting Fuel Supply Indus Action – Firefighters	Plant Pest – Xylella Fastidiosa Groundwater Pollution
		1	2	3	4	5
			LIKELIHOOD			