

Northamptonshire Prepared



Northamptonshire Community Risk Register

2024 Edition



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Front page: Arthingworth, Northamptonshire

This page: Northampton's iconic National Lift Tower, St James, Northampton

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Foreword

I am happy to present to you the new version of the Northamptonshire Community Risk Register for 2024. This document is updated every two years in line with the National Security Risk Assessment (NSRA).



The Northamptonshire Community Risk Register, will signpost you to sources of up to date information which will help you become more prepared and resilient in your homes, communities and businesses. It also aims to localise some of the items raised in the National Risk Register which can be found

www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-risk-register-2020.

A range of the most likely risks are mentioned in this document, it does not mean that they will definitely occur locally. It simply means we know there is a possibility of them happening and that organisations have taken steps to ensure preparedness and reduce the impact on our communities.

I hope you find this summary a useful source of information.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Ashley Tuckley'.

**Northamptonshire Local Resilience
Forum Chair Ashley Tuckley**
Assistant Chief Constable -
Northamptonshire Police

This document aims to summarise the Community Risk Register in a format which can be easily used by residents and communities.

Northamptonshire Profile

Northamptonshire's main town of Northampton is situated in the East Midlands about halfway between London and Birmingham. It is one of the largest towns in England and is approximately seventy miles from London. The county is often described as the Rose of the Shires or County of Squires and Spires - a nickname that highlights the county's rich history of nobility and of the stunning architectural heritage.

The River Nene flows through Northamptonshire and is popular with boaters. The river is a hundred miles long and is the eighth longest river in the UK. There are several other major river systems and canals which connect Northamptonshire to various major towns and cities, these provided crucial water transportation via narrow boats which were towed along the side by horses.

The 18th and 19th centuries saw Northampton evolve into an industrial town particularly known for its leather and shoe industry and the town soon became a prominent centre for these industries. Northamptonshire is renowned worldwide for its tradition of high quality shoe making and has earned it the esteemed title of being the 'shoe capital of the world'.

Northamptonshire has an estimated population of 747,622. Approximately 31% of the county's population lives in the densely populated town of Northampton. In total, 68.8% of the county's population live in 'urban city and town' areas, 20.1% in areas classified as 'rural town and fringe' and 11.1% in 'rural villages and dispersed'.

Northamptonshire's dynamism is shown in several major industry sectors which include financial services, advanced manufacturing, healthcare, hospitality, logistics and distribution and retail.



Barratt Shoe Ltd factory, Northampton, in 1935 (image:Mirrorpix)

To understand why some risks are more significant in Northamptonshire, it's helpful to look at the profile of the area, including social, economic and geographical factors. These factors also influence how we can prepare for and manage emergencies locally.

The Northamptonshire Local Resilience Forum (LRF) area consists of two unitary authorities (West Northants Council and North Northants Council) within one LRF area.

North Northants Council



West Northants Council



Local Resilience Forum

The Northamptonshire Local Resilience Forum (most commonly known as the LRF) was formed as a result of the Civil Contingencies Act (CCA) 2004. The LRF's main aim is to provide multi-agency co-ordination between responders across the county.

The LRF has representation from Police, Fire, Ambulance, Military, NHS, Local Authorities, Environment Agency and Utilities with support from a Government Liaison Officer. It is co-ordinated by a Business Manager whose main role is to organise multi-agency meetings, ensure risk assessments are maintained and support training and exercising across partners. They manage relevant documents on shared websites.

The LRF is not a responder itself. Its sole duty is to maintain effective co-operation and co-ordination between emergency responders, so that efforts are not duplicated and each understands how their partner agencies work.

The LRF ensures the county is best prepared for a range of emergencies that may arise and can also conduct debriefs of past emergencies especially if more than one agency was involved. Once the debrief is conducted, gaps will be identified, and the finished document will be used as a future training exercise to ensure all future responses are better handled.





Althorpe House, Northamptonshire



*Guilsborough,
Northamptonshire*



*Denton,
Northamptonshire*



Harelstone Firs, Northamptonshire



Pitsford Water, Northamptonshire



Brington, Northamptonshire

*Grand Union Canal,
Bugbrooke,
Northamptonshire*



*All photos of Northamptonshire are accredited to local photographer James Trusler Photography:
jamestruslerphotography@hotmail.com | @jamestruslerphotography*



Brockhall, Northamptonshire

Preparedness

These resources will help you quickly prepare for the hazards and threats that may affect you.

Make sure you:

- have suitable insurance, the Association of British Insurers website www.abi.org.uk has useful information on home insurance and flooding insurance, but don't forget car insurance too;
- fit and maintain smoke alarms;
- prepare a first aid kit;
- sign up to Community Messaging and information services



Think about:

- a safe meeting place with family members should an emergency occur whilst you are away from home, i.e. whilst at work, school or college
- where you would go and stay - and how you would get there - if an emergency meant that you couldn't stay at home; how your family will stay in contact in the event of an emergency
- whether elderly or vulnerable family, friends or neighbours may need your help
- putting together a grab bag of things to take in an emergency, such as medication, ID, mobile phone and charger, glasses, keys, wallet and cash.



Find out:

- where and how to turn off water, gas and electricity supplies in your home or business;
- the emergency procedures for your children at school and at your workplace.

The government publication '**Preparing for Emergencies**'
www.gov.uk/government/publications/preparing-for-emergencies/preparing-for-emergencies

This provides a useful guide to help people, businesses and communities to identify and prepare for the hazards and threats that may disrupt their lives.

Go In, Stay In, Tune In

Major emergencies can be caused by anything from flooding and transport accidents to chemical spills and terrorism. In nearly every case you can help by following these three simple steps:



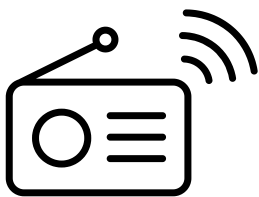
Go indoors, close doors and windows and shut down ventilation systems if it is safe to do so. Unless there is an obvious risk to the property, this will give you good short-term protection against the vast majority of hazards.



Stay indoors until you know more about the situation and the appropriate action you need to take to protect yourself further. The action you should take will be different depending on the nature of an incident so you could put yourself at more risk by not waiting for further instructions.



Tune into local radio, television and social media channels to find out more about what is happening. If there is a major emergency, radio and TV companies will interrupt their programs to give the public safety advice and information about the incident.



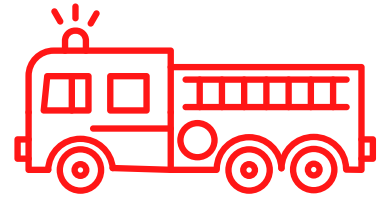
Radio Northampton 104.2 FM, 103.6 FM
Heart Four Counties 96.6 FM
Inspiration FM 107.8 FM



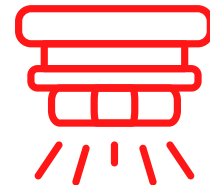
Harringworth Viaduct, Northamptonshire

Fire Prevention and Safety

The emergency services are trained to cope with a wide range of emergency situations, but there is a lot that you can do to help them and yourself:



- fit one smoke alarm per floor of your home and check it weekly (introduce Test it Tuesday!);
- make an action plan so that everyone in your household knows how to escape in the event of a fire;
- take care when cooking with hot oil - use a temperature-controlled deep fat fryer;
- never leave lit candles unattended;
- ensure cigarettes are stubbed out and disposed of carefully;



- never smoke in bed;
- keep matches and lighters out of reach of children;
- have your chimney swept regularly;
- take extra care in the kitchen - cooking accidents account for 59% of fires in the home;
- take care when you're tired or when you've been drinking - half of all deaths in domestic fires happen between 10pm and 8am;
- if you are unlucky enough to have a fire at home, don't tackle the fire yourself, however small it is.

If there is a fire, get out, stay out and call 999

For more safety and advice information from Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service visit

<https://www.northantsfire.gov.uk/safety-3/>

Health Advice

If you think your situation is a **LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCY**, call 999

If you need help now, but it's not an emergency, then call 111 or go to www.111.nhs.uk. Do not attend Accident and Emergency unless it is a true emergency. You can also access health services from high street pharmacists who can see and treat a range of issues such as sore throat and ear ache.

NHS 111 is a free number from landlines and mobiles and is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. When you call you will speak to a trained health adviser or clinician and, following a short assessment, be directed to the right service, at the right time and as close to your home as possible.



First Aid and Self-Help

In case of minor accidents and injuries, keep a well-stocked first aid kit in your home and car. Ensure that it's locked and stored in a cool, dry place out of reach of children.

For details on what your first aid kit should contain visit www.nhs.uk/common-health-questions/accidents-first-aid-and-treatments/what-should-i-keep-in-my-first-aid-kit-aid-kit/



Remember to check your medications regularly to ensure they are within their expiry dates.

It may also be useful to keep a basic first aid manual or instruction booklet with your first aid kit.

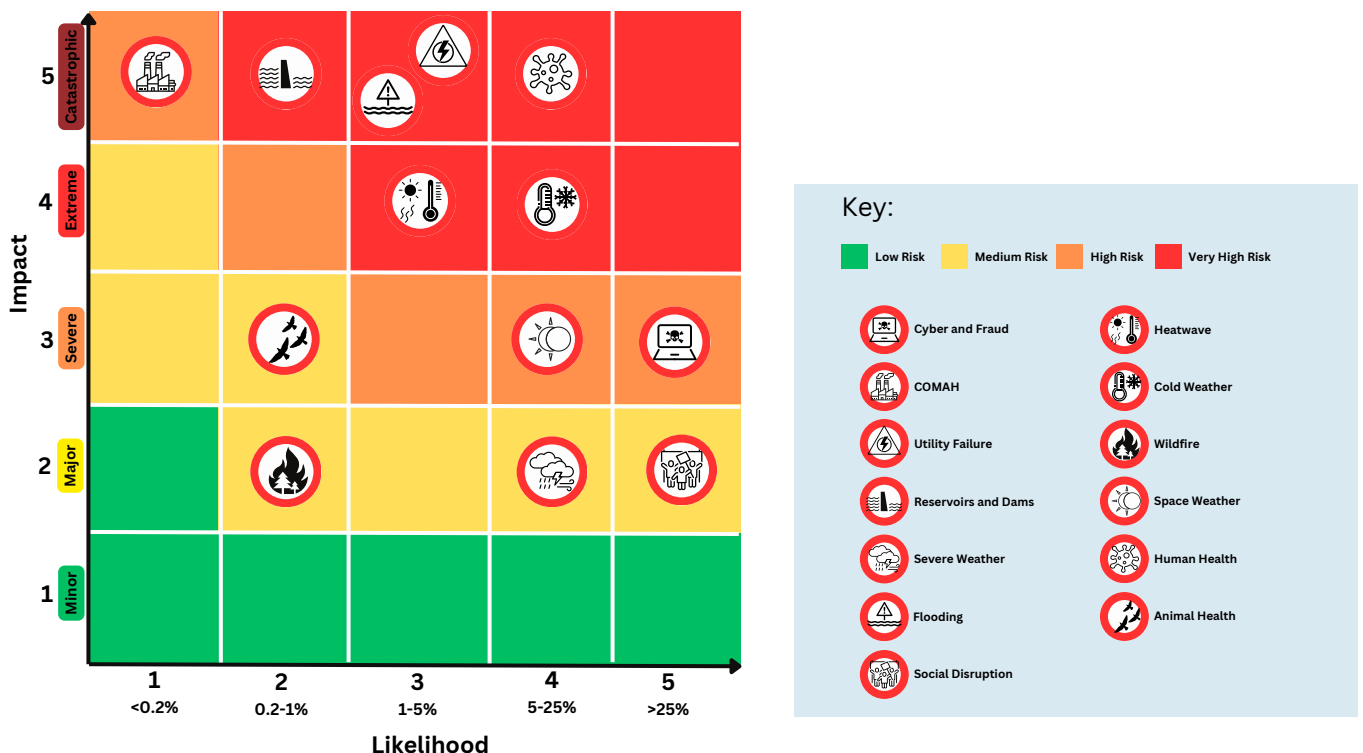
Further advice can be sought from 111 or here www.nhs.uk/conditions/first-aid. These NHS web pages provide information and guidance about common first aid situations, but they aren't a replacement for taking a first aid training course.

Basic first aid courses are run regularly in most areas around the UK. In Northamptonshire, St John Ambulance and British Red Cross both provide a selection of first aid courses, as well as courses from independent first aid training companies.

What are the risks?

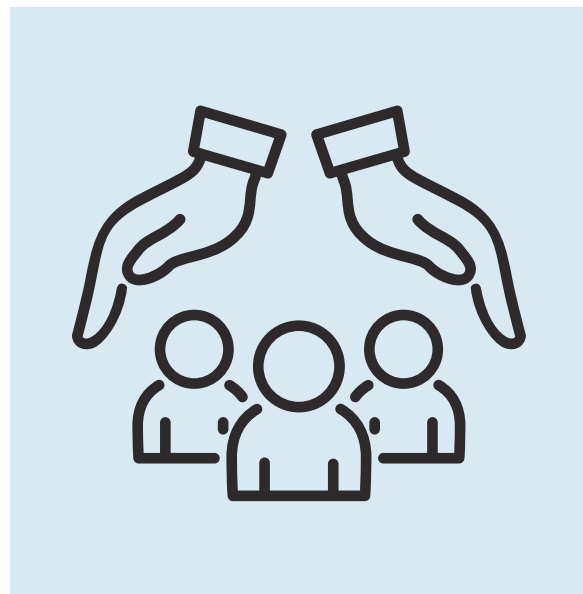
As a partnership the Local Resilience Forum considers all risks by looking at the likelihood of them occurring and considering the potential impacts, to our health (casualties, fatalities and psychological effects), the local economy, the local environment and people's lives (evacuation, shelter, utilities).

The list below is the assessment for Northamptonshire of the key risks that have the potential to cause a significant disruption or harm to the county.



Northamptonshire Risks

The risks within Northamptonshire have been split into categories or ‘families’, and are based upon the National Risk Register which aims to explain the types of emergencies that might occur, what the Government and partners are doing to mitigate them, and how you as individuals, families or small businesses can help to protect yourself.



This document will focus on the following seven risk categories:

- **Malicious Attacks**

- **Cyber**

- **Serious and organised crime**, such as human trafficking

- **Accidents and system failures**, such as power failure or an interruption to water supplies

- **Natural and environmental hazards**, such as flooding or heatwaves

- **Human and animal disease**, such as flu pandemics or foot and mouth

- **Societal (Social Disruption)**, such as riots

Malicious Attacks

The threat of terrorism in the UK is real, but with a little knowledge you can increase your safety and help protect yourself against a terrorist attack. To find out more, visit www.protectuk.police.uk/

To report an imminent threat, call **999**.

To report any suspicious behaviour or activity ring the confidential Anti-Terrorist Hotline on **0800 789 321**.

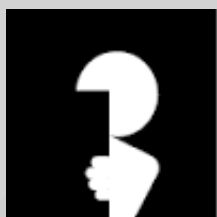


In the rare event of an attack there are three key steps for keeping safe;



RUN

Run to a place of safety. This is a far better option than to surrender or negotiate. If there's nowhere to go, then ..



HIDE

It's better to **hide** than to confront. Remember to turn your phone to silent and turn off vibrate. Barricade yourself in if you can. Then finally and only when it is safe to do so ..



TELL

Tell the police by calling **999**.

The following website provides details of official helplines and support services available to victims, survivors, witnesses, and family members of those affected by terrorism

www.victimsofterrorism.campaign.gov.uk

An online counter terrorism training course has been made available so you can learn how to spot the signs of suspicious behaviour and understand what to do in the event of a major incident, visit

www.gov.uk/government/news/act-awareness-learning

Cyber and Fraud

In today's society, cyber criminals can seek to steal money or data, disrupt government and individuals, or draw attention to a cause.

Smartphones, computers and the internet have become an integral part of our daily lives, making it difficult to function without them. From online banking and shopping to email and social media, it is vital to take precautionary measures to prevent these criminals from accessing our accounts, data and devices.

How to report fraud and cybercrime

Action Fraud is the UK's national reporting centre for fraud and cybercrime where you should report fraud if you have been scammed, defrauded or experienced cybercrime. Visit www.actionfraud.police.uk or call 0300 123 2040.

You can also register to receive free, direct, verified, accurate information about scams and fraud in your area at www.actionfraudalert.co.uk

The National Cyber Security Centre www.ncsc.gov.uk provides practical guidance for individuals and families, self-employed and sole traders, small and medium sized organisations, large organisations, public sector and cyber security professionals.



Protect yourself from fraud and cybercrime

- 1 Do not give any personal information (name, address, bank details, and email or phone number) to organisations or people before verifying their credentials.
- 2 Make sure your computer has up to date anti-virus software and a firewall installed.



- 3 Be aware that many fraudulent activities begin with a phishing email, which is defined as an attempt to obtain sensitive information (such as credit card details, usernames and passwords) by posing as a trustworthy entity in electronic communication. Keep in mind that reputable banks and financial institutions won't ask you to verify your bank details by clicking on a link in an email. Even if the correspondence appears genuine, it's best to be cautious and not to trust it.

- 4 Identity theft can happen easily if fraudsters get hold of even a small amount of personal information. Always remember to shred receipts that display your card details and any mail that has your name and address on it.



For more information and advice visit
www.actionfraud.police.uk and
hwww.getsafeonline.org/

For advice and guidance on passwords, follow this link to the National Cyber Security Centre's #thinkrandom campaign for password security www.ncsc.gov.uk/blog-post/three-random-words-or-thinkrandom-0

Serious and Organised Crime

Thousands of lives are damaged every year by serious and organised crime. From firearms to cybercrime and modern slavery to human trafficking, Northamptonshire Police are committed to disrupting and dismantling co-ordinated, criminal behaviour.



The motivation behind serious organised crime (SOC) is usually for financial gain and the effects of SOC can often be felt by everybody in the community, regardless of if they're involved or not.

This is why we need your help to identify and bring those involved with organised crime groups to justice. Tell us if you know about:

- Drug dealing
- Children involved in supplying drugs
- People being forced to hand over their pay
- Drug dealers moving in with a vulnerable person (known as cuckooing)
- People who use weapons



You can report via our website, or by calling **999** in an emergency or **101**, or you can report anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555111 or via the www.crimestoppers-uk.org.

Nobody thinks they'll be a victim of crime until, of course, it happens. But if you're clued in to the criminals' tricks and tactics you can stay one step ahead. Browse the Northamptonshire Police website for first-hand knowledge, industry best practices and practical crime prevention advice from officers and specialist teams all across the police: www.northants.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention



Accidents and System Failures

This section covers industrial accidents, releases of hazardous materials as well as utility and infrastructure failures or outages.

COMAH (Control of Major Accident Hazard) Regulations

Unless you are advised otherwise, the national **Go In, Stay In, Tune In** message applies.

COMAH regulations exist to reduce the effects of major accidents involving dangerous substances. They apply to any site storing or handling large quantities of industrial chemicals. Operators must take all measures necessary to prevent major accidents and to limit their consequences for people and the environment.

The regulations operate on two levels depending on the type and quantity of chemicals handled, **Lower Tier** and **Upper Tier**.

Lower Tier sites are required to document a Major Accident Prevention Policy. An Upper Tier COMAH site is required to produce a full safety report which proves that all necessary measures have been taken to reduce risks posed by the site.

There are no Upper Tier sites within Northamptonshire, we have 7 Lower Tier Sites, some of these do have multi-agency plans:

1. Miswa Chemicals Limited, Northampton NN4 7PW (West Northants)
2. PX Limited, Northampton NN5 5JN (West Northants)
3. Gasrec Bio-LNG Station, DIRFT NN6 7GY (West Northants)
4. Tesco Distribution Limited, DIRFT CV23 8YH (West Northants)
5. CPL Aromas Limited, Brixworth NN6 9UB (West Northants)
6. Lumentec Technology UK Limited, Towcester NN12 8EQ (West Northants)
7. Scott Bader UK Limited, Wollaston NN29 7RL (North Northants)

You can now search online for establishments in your area using this link www.hse.gov.uk/comah/comah-establishments.htm

Northamptonshire LRF partners work closely with the site operators to ensure plans are up to date and regularly tested.



Electricity power failure

During a power cut, call 105 ... it's free and will put you through to a local network operator who can give you help and advice.

To find out more visit www.powercut105.com.

WHAT SHOULD I DO DURING A POWER CUT?

- Switch off all electrical appliances, ready for when the power comes back on.
- Leave a light on so you know when the power outage has been resolved.
- Check to see if your neighbours are okay.
- Report the power cut, if you are unsure who your operator is, call 105.
- Keep a torch handy - it's much safer than using candles.
- Get a battery-powered or wind-up radio (useful for keeping up to date with relevant local news).
- Keep warm - keep a blanket and warm clothing handy and fill a vacuum flask or hot water bottle.
- Stock your cupboard with food and drink that doesn't require electricity to prepare it.
- Keep your mobile phone and laptop fully charged.
- Check network operators website or social media channels for updates.

For more information visit www.nationalgrid.co.uk/power-cut-information

National Grid offer a **Priority Services Register (PSR)** this provides extra help and additional support during a power cut for elderly, very ill or disabled people, or those who rely on power for medical equipment.

www.nationalgrid.co.uk/customers-and-community/priority-services



Water

Top tips on protecting your home or workplace from burst water pipes:

- 1 Wrap-up your pipes** - pipes can be exposed to freezing temperatures if they're in a part of your home that isn't heated. Water companies recommend that any water pipes which are exposed to cold temperatures (such as those in the loft or in outside buildings like garages and out-houses, or your outside tap) should be protected with lagging. This helps to keep your pipes cosy and warm, reducing the risk of them freezing and bursting.
- 2 Find your stop tap** - if there's a burst pipe at home, the fastest way to stop the flow is to turn your stop tap off. Normally they're under the kitchen sink or in the downstairs toilet - but may also be in a utility room or garage.
- 3** If your home has a water storage tank - the sort found in the loft or airing cupboard - it may have an additional stop tap or valve near to the tank itself. This will shut off the water supply to your hot water system. Once your stop tap has been located, it's worth checking it works, as sometimes they can seize up if not used often.

For more information, useful videos and advice visit:

www.anglianwater.co.uk is our main supplier however the following also cover a small part of the county:

www.thameswater.co.uk

www.stwater.co.uk

Anglian Water offer a **Priority Services Register** this provides practical support for people with a wide range of needs www.anglianwater.co.uk/help-and-advice/water-care/priority-services/sign-up-for-priority-services



Gas

To report a gas or carbon monoxide emergency, or if a pipeline is struck (even if no gas leak has occurred) call 0800 111 999 - 24 hours a day. In the event of an emergency:

- do not smoke or light matches;
- do not turn electrical switches on or off;
- open doors and windows;
- turn off the meter at the control handle unless the meter is in the cellar;
- call the National Gas Emergency number (0800 111 999).

GENERAL SAFETY ADVICE

- Get your gas appliances checked annually by a Gas Safe-registered engineer
- Always check IDs before allowing anyone into your home

More information can be found at www.nationalgridgas.com/safety-and-emergencies/emergencies-and-safety-advice

Reservoirs and dams

According to the Environment Agency (EA), across Northamptonshire there are **39** dams and reservoirs of varying size and construction. There are also a further **18** reservoirs in adjacent counties that, if they were to breach would impact the Northamptonshire area. The potential flood risk posed by these sites in the unlikely event they fail depends on the geography of the local area. The flood warning information service enables you to enter the details of your property and identify whether you are at risk from rivers, surface water or from dams and reservoirs for more information visit www.flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/long-term-flood-risk



Natural and environmental hazards

Severe Weather

The UK is prone to weather extremes, including heatwaves, cold weather and snow, strong winds, extreme rainfall and flooding.



WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

- Listen to weather forecasts and heed any warnings of extreme weather;
- Plan any journeys or activities with the weather in mind;
- Only travel if essential - if you have to travel in severe weather check and prepare your vehicle first. Make sure you have adequate clothing and emergency supplies (including bottled water) in your vehicle;
- Check for weather warnings via the Met Office helpline 0370 900 0100 or at www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/warnings-and-advice/uk-warnings and sign up to receive Met Office alerts directly by email or by mobile app.

Flooding



With its vast array of watercourses, Northamptonshire has had more than its fair share of flooding incidents. Flooding at its most serious can affect many different aspects of our daily lives.

Surface water flooding is particularly difficult to forecast and can happen at very short notice.

Never walk or drive through flood water, there may be underwater hazards and it may be deeper than it appears.



You can check your flood risk, sign up for free flood warnings and keep up to date with the latest situation at www.gov.uk/check-flood-risk, call Floodline on 0345 988 1188 or follow @EnvAgency on X (Twitter) for the latest flood update.

To find out if your property is at risk of flooding from rivers, surface water or from dams and reservoirs visit www.flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/long-term-flood-risk/ OR www.flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/warnings

Flood Re is a way to help people who live in flood risk areas get affordable home insurance www.abi.org.uk/products-and-issues/topics-and-issues/flood-re

Help and advice also available from the National Flood Forum: www.nationalfloodforum.org.uk

You can also get a lot of information on how to prepare for, respond to and report flooding in Northamptonshire www.westnorthants.gov.uk/emergency-planning/flood-and-water-management



Heatwave

Most of us welcome hot weather, but when it's too hot for too long, there are health risks. The main risks posed by a heatwave are:

- not having enough water (dehydration);
- overheating, which can make symptoms worse for people who already have problems with their heart or breathing;
- heat exhaustion and heatstroke.

Heatwaves can be dangerous, especially for the very young, very old or those with certain medical conditions:

- stay out of the heat - especially between 11am and 3pm when the sun reaches its peak;
- cool yourself down with plenty of cold drinks - avoid alcohol and hot drinks;
- keep curtains and blinds closed during the day to keep rooms cool;
- consult your GP if you feel unusual symptoms or call **NHS 111** if symptoms persist;
- call **999** for an ambulance if a person has severe symptoms, such as loss of consciousness, confusion or seizures.

For more information visit www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/heatwave-how-to-cope-in-hot-weather

The **Adverse Weather and Health Plan (AWHP)** consolidates existing measures taken by government, agencies, the NHS England and local authorities to protect individuals and communities from the health effects of adverse weather and to build community resilience. It delivers the commitment under the National Adaptation Programme to develop a single plan, improving current guidance on weather and health. To view the most up to date version, follow this link

www.assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/64b67e2a0ea2cb000d15e4a8/Adverse-weather-health-plan-2023.pdf



Cold Weather

Extreme weather and cold temperatures increase the risk of illness and injury:

- keep your home warm, ideally heat to at least 18°C;
- get help with money - there are benefits and other help you can get to keep your home warm;
- get the flu jab;
- wear multiple layers and good grip shoes or boots if you have to go outside;
- have plenty of food and hot drinks.

For more information visit www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/

The **Adverse Weather and Health Plan (AWHP)** helps prevent the major avoidable effects on health during periods of cold weather in England.

For information to help you, your business and your community plan for severe weather, visit the Community Resilience pages of the Met Office by following this link

www.metoffice.gov.uk/services/government/environmental-hazard-resilience/community-resilience



Wildfires

Increasing temperatures lead to lengthy periods of hot, dry weather, raising the risk of uncontrolled fires breaking out. These can include grass or wildfires, both in urban and rural areas of the UK.

Hot weather and little rainfall can result in grassy areas becoming dry and straw-like. This happened in the summer of 2022 when the UK experienced multiple heatwaves and a period of prolonged high temperatures and little rainfall. In these conditions, grass can catch on fire from the smallest spark.

Grass fires in fields, parklands, and urban areas broke out across the country, as well as larger wildfires in rural areas. Homes and properties were lost, as well as a devastating impact on the environment and biodiversity.

During hot periods it's important to take precautions and know how to stay safe during a wildfire.

If you see a wildfire:

- Stay calm;
- Ensure you are in a safe location;
- Call **999** and provide as much detail as possible about the fire including its size and location.



Space weather

Should it occur, space weather would most likely affect the whole of the UK rather than specifically Northamptonshire itself. For this reason, planning and research is being conducted on a national level.

Some of the ways the UK is preparing for such an event is improving system resilience in case of a major solar flare which would disrupt all electrical items and communication systems.

Developing space weather forecasts is also one of the ways the UK is preparing for a severe space weather event. The Met Office Weather Operations Centre (MOSWOC) is one of three space weather prediction centres around the globe and provides the vital information to help build the resilience of UK infrastructure and industries in the face of space weather events, thereby supporting continued economic growth.

For more information go to

www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/specialist-forecasts/space-weather



Human and Animal Disease

We can't say when or what the next infectious disease will be, but evidence suggests they may become more frequent.

This may be linked to:

- climate change;
- the increase in travel;
- greater movement and displacement of people;
- the global transport of animals, food and intensive food production methods;
- humans encroaching on the habitat of wild animals;
- better detection systems that spot new diseases.



Human diseases

Human diseases take a variety of forms, some of which have the potential to cause a civil emergency due to the number of people they might affect. One such risk is an influenza ('flu') pandemic. These occur when a flu virus evolves that few people (if any) are immune to. There are important differences between 'ordinary' seasonal flu of the kind that happens in winter, and pandemic flu. In a pandemic, the new virus will spread quickly and cause more serious illness in a large proportion of the population, due to the lack of immunity. There is a high probability of a flu pandemic occurring, but it is impossible to predict when, or exactly what it would be like.

Emerging infectious diseases are closely monitored by public health agencies and international partners such as the World Health Organisation www.who.int and the UK Health Security Agency www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-health-security-agency. Information will be provided on specific diseases as and when they emerge.



As a reminder, hygiene is the main method that can help prevent the spread of germs. Carry tissues and use them to catch coughs or sneezes, bin the used tissues as soon as possible and then wash your hands to kill the germs.

CATCH IT

Germs spread easily. Always carry tissues and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.



BIN IT

Germs can live for several hours on tissues. Dispose of your tissue as soon as possible.



KILL IT

Hands can transfer germs to every surface you touch. Clean your hands as soon as you can.



Animal diseases

Animal diseases threaten the UK for three main reasons:

- firstly, because of the potential for some diseases to spread from animals to humans and cause illness;
- secondly, because they affect the animals on which we rely on for food, trade, or to maintain ecosystems, this is particularly true of Northamptonshire with its huge agricultural presence;
- thirdly, the agricultural community is commercially important to Northamptonshire in the provision of employment, and in supporting other industries and local services.

The early reporting of any suspicion of animal disease is vital. If you have concerns about the health of your animals, discuss them with your veterinary surgeon or report to DEFRA APHA directly. Latest information, resources and contacts can be found:

www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency

You can also sign up to the Alerts Service to keep up to date with the latest news www.gov.uk/guidance/apha-alert-subscription-service

The World Organisation for Animal Health is a comprehensive resource of more than 50 wildlife diseases which may have a serious impact on livestock health and public health and can adversely affect wildlife conservation. To find out more, visit www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/animal-health-and-welfare/animal-diseases



Social Disruption

Social disruption can be anything, from public disorder to industrial action (or strikes) with temporary closures and reduced services to critical public services.

Public disorder includes rioting, looting, vandalism, violence and arson. Consequences of public disorder may include:

- physical/psychological casualties;
- disruption to critical services, particularly policing and health;
- damage to property and infrastructure;
- possible evacuation or temporary shelter requirements;
- possible economic damage.

Industrial action can lead to:

- disruption of essential services, particularly transport, finance, health and education;
- disruption to business via loss of working hours;
- possible public disorder;
- economic damage (particularly for transport sector industrial action).

If you are unsure what to do:

Go in. Stay in. Tune in.

Northamptonshire Police plans and prepares for outbreaks of public disorder however unlikely. It has specially trained officers who are able to deploy quickly to local disorder or where necessary to support other parts of the country if disorder breaks out. They work very closely with other UK police forces to ensure that each area and the country as a whole are as well prepared as they can possibly be.



Northamptonshire Talking

Northamptonshire Talking (new name for Neighbourhood Alert) is a free messaging service from Northamptonshire Police and local partner organisations, providing news and updates on policing and community matters that are relevant to you.

You can sign up to receive email updates about crime and suspicious activity where you live or work, crime prevention advice and updates from your local neighbourhood policing team.

You can choose the type of information you want to receive and whether you would also like to get news and information from the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner and Neighbourhood Watch.



To register your interest, go to www.northamptonshiretalking.co.uk and follow the on screen instructions.

Other resources include:

- Northamptonshire Neighbourhood Watch:
www.ourwatch.org.uk/area/northamptonshire



Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Community Risk Register (CRR)?

At its most basic the risk register is a list of emergencies which might happen in the area, ranked in order of how likely they are to happen and how badly they will affect the community.

Why produce a risk register?

It is a legal requirement under The Civil Contingencies Act (2004) and it is a tool to both ensure communities have an awareness of the risks in their area and that organisations resources are being targeted to have the most benefit.

What science is the CRR based on?

The CRR is based on a National Risk Register produced by the Government. This is centred around a range of data including historic, scientific and expert analysis to assess the risks to the UK as a whole. Using this information we can identify which are relevant locally and add any additional risks. Again this process involves looking at a range of data, including incidents that have occurred, local knowledge and expert guidance.

What has it got to do with me?

By producing this information and sharing it with you we hope that you will be in a better position to cope in the event of an incident. But it goes beyond you if your place of work is at risk of flooding, raising the issue with managers may ensure that in the event of flooding the business survives. Checking that an elderly relation is okay in the event of severe weather may save their life.

Isn't this all just common sense?

Yes, a lot of the information contained in this document is common sense but by combining all the common sense from a large number of agencies into one document, we hope to provide a useful checklist and source of information.

Why should I do this as it will never happen to me ?

Unfortunately it could – whilst rare, major incidents do happen both locally and nationally. If we plan and prepare for such incidents they will have less of an impact. Surely it is better to spend a little time now preparing for something which may or may not happen as opposed to regretting not doing anything later.

Won't the emergency services just respond ?

In the event of a large scale incident the emergency services and others will be forced to prioritise their response to those who need it most.

The community can reduce the strain on the emergency services and others by taking some simple actions before, during, and after an event. Some of these are outlined in this document.



Storms, Ecton



Evacuation of Premier Inn, Northampton



Listed Building fire, Kettering



White Phosphorus Incendiary Devices, Quinton



Flooding and Evacuation of Billing Aquadrome, Northampton

Contact us

The member organisations of Northamptonshire LRF meet regularly to assess the risks of accidents and emergencies and put in place plans to prevent or reduce risks. We have close links to government departments in order to share information on local risks. We train and exercise together to be as well prepared for emergencies as we can be.

This Community Risk Register is published by Northamptonshire LRF in accordance with the requirements of the Civil Contingencies Act.

If you feel there is other helpful information available that might be included in this register please let us know.



For more information contact the Northamptonshire Local Resilience Forum:

Write to us at:

Northamptonshire Local Resilience Forum
c/o Northamptonshire Police
Wootton Hall Park
NORTHAMPTON NN4 0JQ

Email: lrf@northants.police.uk



Northamptonshire **Prepared**

