



# Community Risk Register

# SUFFOLK



# Would you know what to do in an emergency?

Suffolk's Community Risk Register (CRR) will help inform you about the key emergency risks that could occur in our county, so that you can prepare your home, your business, and your local community.

Although it's rare for major emergencies to happen in Suffolk, being aware of what you need to do if one happens will help to keep you and your loved ones safe.



# What is an emergency?

## The Civil Contingencies Act (2004) defines an emergency as:

- an event or situation which threatens serious damage to human welfare in the United Kingdom
- an event or situation which threatens serious damage to the environment of a place in the United Kingdom
- war or terrorism which threatens serious damage to the security of the United Kingdom

## Examples of major emergencies seen in Suffolk before:

- Storm Eunice (2022)
- Covid (2020)
- East Coast (Operation Barnett) Tidal Surge (2017)

## All members of the SRF work to a common set of ambitions and aim to:

- Save lives
- Relieve suffering
- Avoid emergencies becoming more severe
- Protect infrastructure and property
- Restore normality as soon as possible

This Community Risk Register has been produced by the Suffolk Resilience Forum (SRF), which is a partnership made up of the organisations needed to prepare, respond, and recover from emergencies in the county. Members of the SRF include:

- Joint Emergency Planning Unit (JEPU) (Local Authorities)
- Emergency Services including Ambulance, Fire and Police
- Suffolk County Council and Public Health Suffolk
- Environment Agency
- Met Office
- Suffolk Highways
- National Highways
- Network Rail
- British Transport Police
- Utility companies (for example Anglian Water, UK Power Networks)
- The Military
- Voluntary agencies
- Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities



# Assessing the Risks

## National risks

The [National Risk Register](#) is updated by Government and outlines the key risks that could directly affect the UK, the likelihood of these emergencies happening, and their potential impact. The document also contains information and advice on how the public can prepare and respond to these risks.

## Risks for Suffolk

National risks will have differing impacts on different parts of the country, so, under the Civil Contingencies Act, members of the SRF are required to prepare a separate Community Risk Register for Suffolk.

The risk register is informed by the social, health, environmental, infrastructure and economic profile of Suffolk, as well as national guidance. It has been developed locally with multi-agency partners and subject matter experts through the SRF Risk Assessment Group before being endorsed by the SRF Executive Group.

A wide range of risks are assessed and given two key scores that are each rated between 1 and 5 based on:

- The likelihood or probability of the incident occurring, which is determined by historical evidence, subject matter expert opinion and local expertise.
- The impact or consequences of an incident, which is measured across seven areas:
  - Human welfare
  - Human behaviours
  - Essential service delivery including health and social care
  - International Order
  - Security
  - Environmental
  - Economic

These factors also influence how we can prepare for and manage emergencies at a local level.



# SRF Community Risk Register

Being aware of the risks in Suffolk will help you to be prepared. The below are just some examples of the potential risks in our county and further up-to-date information on all risks can be found [here](#).

## Very High Risks

Very high risks have a critical impact that will require immediate attention from the SRF. These risks may have a high or low likelihood of occurrence but are still treated as a high priority because of their potential high consequences. This may mean that strategies are developed to reduce or eliminate risks, and that mitigation, including specific multi-agency planning, exercising and training, is put in place, as well as the risk being monitored regularly.

### What are very high risks for Suffolk?

#### Accident and system failures:

- Loss of electricity/power over a wide area

#### Human and disease risks:

- Emerging infectious diseases such as Covid-19
- Influenza type pandemic

## High Risks

High risks may have a high or low likelihood of occurrence but are still classed as significant because of the serious consequences that they could cause. These risks are monitored regularly, and generic multi-agency planning, exercise and training takes place to help prepare SRF members. Strategies may also be developed to help reduce or eliminate these risks.

### What are high risks for Suffolk?

#### Accident and system failures:

- Large transport accident (road, rail, or air)
- Significant disruption to fuel supply

#### Natural hazard risks:

- Coastal flooding
- Surface water flooding
- Low temperatures and heavy snow

#### Societal risks:

- Industrial action from staff providing critical services such as health and social care or firefighters

#### Malicious risks:

- High profile cyber incident and
- Terrorist incident





## Medium risks

Although the impact of most medium risks is less significant, they may still cause casualties or inconvenience in the short term and require a response from the SRF. Others will have a high impact but have a low likelihood of occurrence. For this reason, these risks are monitored to ensure that they are being appropriately managed to help minimise their impact.

### What are medium risks for Suffolk?

#### Accident and system failures:

- Accident at high consequence industrial area (chemical, nuclear etc)
- Major fire
- Loss of drinking water
- Loss of gas supply

#### Health risks:

- Avian Flu or other outbreak of animal disease

#### Natural hazard risks:

- Heatwave
- Drought
- Low temperatures and snow
- Storms

#### Societal risks:

- Industrial action from staff providing critical services such as firefighters or prison officers

## Low risks

Low risks are unlikely to occur or have a significant impact but are still monitored to ensure that they remain in the correct category. These risks are covered by generic planning from the SRF.

### What are low risks for Suffolk?

#### Accident and system failures:

- Loss of communications
- Maritime pollution

#### Natural hazard risks:

- Earthquake

#### Societal risks:

- Industrial action by public transport staff



# What can I do to help prepare for these risks?

While it is unlikely that these risks will happen, being prepared will help to minimise their impact on you, your family, and your property.

You can use our [interactive map](#) to see if there are any risks in, or near to, the town or village that you live in.

It's also a good idea to prepare a "[Get Prepared](#)" bag so that you have this ready for an emergency or if you need to evacuate your home.



# Suffolk Prepared



Our phonenumber is open from Monday to Friday, between 9am and 5pm. All calls are answered by Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service's Business Support team. Please ask to speak to the Suffolk Resilience Forum and the team will put you through.

**Tel:** 01473 260588

**Email:** [SuffolkResilienceForum@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:SuffolkResilienceForum@suffolk.gov.uk)

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