

Risk Variables – Impact (Severity) Factors

APPENDIX J

Description / Score / Risk Examples	Health and Safety	Environmental	Staffing and Culture	Compliance with Regulations	Service Provision	Damage to Reputation	Information and Communication	Financial
Insignificant 1	Incident	No lasting detrimental consequences e.g. noise, fumes of short term duration	Localised staff and management dissatisfaction causing little or no disruption to services	Minor breach of internal regulations, not reportable.	Brief disruption to an important service area. Significant disruption to non-crucial service area.	Complaints from individuals / small action groups. Negative, but little local media coverage.	Brief inability to access data but no service effect.	Costing less than £5,000
Minor 2	Injury	Detrimental affect for a short period e.g. significant discharge of pollutants in localised area.	Broader based staff and management dissatisfaction impacting on some services	Minor breach of external regulations, not reportable.	Major disruption to an important service area for a short period. Adverse disruption to non-crucial service area for a period of weeks.	Complaints from local stakeholders. Adverse local media coverage, being picked up by the national media.	Loss of data for medium period slightly affecting service delivery.	Costing between £5,000 and £50,000
Moderate 3	Serious Injury	Serious discharge of pollutants requiring remedial action.	Localised / national action causing a short term disruption to services.	Breach of internal regulations leading to disciplinary action. Breach of external regulations, reportable.	Complete loss of an important service area for a short period. Major disruption to non-crucial service area for a period of weeks	Broader based general dissatisfaction with the running of the council. Adverse national media coverage.	Loss of data for significant period moderately affecting service delivery but full data recovery.	Costing between £50,000 and £500,000
Major 4	Fatality	Long term detrimental affect e.g. major discharge of pollutants leading to prosecution.	Resignation / removal of local management leading to a significant deterioration in services over the short term.	Significant breach of external regulations leading to intervention or sanctions.	Major loss of an important service area for a period of weeks. Major loss of several non-crucial service areas for a period of weeks.	Resignation / removal of CEO / elected Members. Audit Commission enquiry. Significant adverse national media coverage.	Loss of data for significant period seriously affecting service delivery and recovered data damaged.	Costing between £500,000 and £5,000,000
Catastrophic 5	Multiple fatalities	Extensive harm caused to the local environment e.g. wide spread discharge of hazardous pollutants leading to government intervention.	Significant morale problems, inability to recruit suitable staff resulting in poor quality service delivery over a long period.	Major breach leading to suspension or discontinuation of business or outsourcing / privatisation of key services.	Virtual inability to function.	Delegated powers removed. Persistent adverse national media coverage.	Operating systems no longer compatible or supported and therefore redundant. Complete loss of data (inability to retrieve critical service data) leading to service failure for an extended period.	Costing more than £5,000,000