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Introduction

What is a Community Risk Register?

This Community Risk Register highlights risks that have the highest likelihood and potential to have significant impact, causing disruption to the Fife area and its communities, as defined in the map on page 02.

This document will:

• Inform you about the highest risks and their consequences in the Fife area
• Provide you with links to organisations and websites to find out more
• Encourage steps that can be taken to become better prepared and more resilient in your home, business and community

While certain risks are mentioned it does not mean that they will definitely occur in the Fife area.

It does mean there is a possibility of them happening and this document will provide information about what can be done if any of them do occur and how you can prepare and stay informed.

You should also use this information in conjunction with local knowledge and advice from the emergency services, agencies, local health boards and your local authority. Contact details can be found on page 19.

Who is this document for?

Whenever an emergency1 occurs, it has the potential to affect you and those around you in a number of ways.

This document will highlight some of the different ways in which this could happen, ranging from how it affects you, the individual, to the broader Fife Local Resilience Partnership (LRP) area.

You
How you could be affected in your daily life

Your Family
How those close to you could be affected

Your Business
What it could mean for your business

Your Community
What the effects could be to your local community

Your Area
How the overall region could be affected

1To aid understanding and continuity throughout the CRR, the term ‘emergency’ is being used to cover all types of disruptive events, incidents and accidents which may occur as a result of an identified potential risk.
Resilience Partnership Profile

The Fife LRP comprises organisations who are required to prepare and plan for, respond to and recover from major disruptions and emergencies in the Fife area. The partnership works to enhance the safety of Fife and its local communities.

Examples of organisations which make up this multiagency partnership include, but are not limited to:

- Fife Council
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- Police Scotland
- Scottish Ambulance Service
- NHS Fife
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
- HM Coast Guard (MCA)
- Met Office
- Utility companies
- Industry and Commerce
- Voluntary organisations

How is a Community Risk Register created?

The CRR is the result of risk assessments carried out by the multi-agency partnership to identify the likely risks in the area and rate them in terms of their potential impact and likelihood of occurring. The results of these assessments are used to inform the partnership and produce agreed and effective multi-agency plans and procedures.

This document is the result of professional judgement from a range of contributors, historical evidence, scientific input and expert analysis in evaluating the key risks facing the Fife LRP area.

This CRR covers non-malicious emergencies (natural occurrences, accidents) rather than threats (eg, terrorist incidents). Although the Fife LRP area addresses threats within its risk assessment work, the sensitivity of the information supporting its assessments, means that details will not be made available in the public domain.

The specific risks identified in this document are ones that are viewed to have the potential to cause significant disruption to people’s lives should they occur in the Fife area.

This CRR forms just one aspect of the partnership’s work in preparing for emergencies and sharing information to increase the overall resilience of the area. It also compliments local community resilience plans undertaken by community groups, with assistance from the Local Authority.
Area Profile

Fife

Fife has a mix of urban towns and rural villages, of which the three largest towns are Dunfermline, Kirkcaldy and Glenrothes. At 2014, Fife’s population was 367,260, almost 7% of the Scottish population.

A quarter of the Fife population, and rising, comprises of people over 60, whereas younger people make up a slightly lower percentage than the Scottish average of almost a fifth.

The Local Authority is responsible for the provision of services to the community. Key NHS facilities can be found throughout the area, providing a comprehensive service to a varied demographic and community, with quality provision within primary population centres.

The rivers and estuaries of the Tay and Forth valleys create a natural border to the North and South, and the variable 170km coastline, made up of estuarine flats, sandy beaches and cliffs lies to the East. These areas of outstanding beauty and importance to Fife include a total of 53 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

These sites vary in makeup with emphasis on geological, fauna, and flora, for example, and are spread throughout the region, from hills and valleys, to the cliffs and estuaries.

Tourism, petro-chemical and distilleries are important industries that contribute to Fife’s economy.

The road and rail networks within Fife provide essential bonds between the North and South of the country, as do all the bridges spanning the Forth and Tay. The Queensferry Crossing will open in 2016 and supplement these vital road links.
Potential Risks

Influenza Type Diseases - Pandemic

A flu pandemic occurs when a new influenza virus emerges for which people have little or no immunity and for which there is no vaccine.

Because of this lack of immunity the virus is able to:

- Infect more humans over a large geographical area
- Spread rapidly and efficiently from person to person
- Cause clinical illness in a proportion of those infected

Pandemic flu is similar to seasonal flu but the symptoms can be more severe and whilst seasonal flu tends to happen around October to May every year, a pandemic flu can happen at any time.

- Illness, unable to go to work, loss of income, limited mobility, loss of life, high levels of anxiety
- Missing school and work, passing illness on, loss of income, multiple members ill, loss of life
- Workforce unable to get to work, loss of income, business networks affected
- Increased demand on healthcare services, transport disruption and delays, economic losses, significant loss of life
- Transport and delivery disruptions, increased demand on healthcare services, economic and business losses, tourism affected, loss of life
**Possible Consequences**

- Many people affected
- Public anxiety
- Higher than usual number of deaths
- Health and social care services stretched
- Vulnerable people at a higher risk
- High staff absence levels
- Public transportation affected
- Normal daily routines become affected

**What the Fife LRP members are doing:**

In the event of an outbreak, working together to:
- Put surveillance arrangements in place to quickly identify and react to new diseases to avoid large outbreaks occurring
- Promote good infection control measures in health centres and hospitals
- Promote business continuity with local partners and businesses
- Support the NHS and social care services to cope with increased demand
- Assist in managing the local provision of appropriate and effective vaccinations
- Raise public awareness with the community and the media
- Manage a higher than normal level of fatalities
- Maintain and further develop multi-agency pandemic flu plans

**What you can do:**

- Keep healthy – living a healthy lifestyle significantly increases your body’s immune system and ability to cope with the flu and other illnesses
- Ensure you have someone who would be able to collect your medication, food and other important supplies for you – this will allow you to remain at home, potentially reducing further spread of the pandemic flu
- Have your own supplies of over-the-counter cold and flu medicines for you and your family
- Know and understand your children’s school arrangements on such matters
- Look out for and follow advice from the NHS and other relevant agencies about the outbreak

**For more information:**

- Contact your local NHS board or visit: www.nhs.uk/conditions/pandemic-flu
- Ready Scotland - Pandemic Flu: www.readyscotland.org/are-you-ready/pandemic-flu/
- Healthier Scotland - Take Life On: www.takelifeon.co.uk

More preparedness information can be found on page 15.
Potential Risks

Severe Weather

This is relevant to the Fife area as over the years there has been a range of weather events occurring, that have included heavy snow, rain, ice and high winds.

Examples include the severe storms that hit the area in 2010, 2011 and in January of 2012. This resulted in significant power cuts and damage to buildings, including disruption to all major transport routes. Heavy snowfalls and high winds affected communities throughout the area. Similarly, in 2012 and 2013 where severe winds resulted in when the closure of bridges and loss of power over a significant period caused extensive disruption.

Severe Weather can:

- come in a variety of forms; storm force winds, extreme temperatures, heavy rain (see Flooding page 09) and snow

- last for prolonged periods and its impact can cause significant damage and disruption to people’s lives and livelihoods

- have a knock-on effect and create additional emergencies

Unable to go to work/home, loss of income, transport delays, disruption to daily routine, injury, loss of life

Structural damage to home, increased insurance premiums, missing school, no utilities, transport delays, injury, loss of life

No utilities, business suspended or closed, damaged building, staff unable to reach work, supply/distribution network disruption, IT failure

Economic and business losses, damaged buildings, transport delays, loss of life

Utilities failure, economic losses, transport disruptions, tourism affected
**Possible Consequences**

Can be significant and long-lasting:
- Loss of utilities (power, gas, water, telecommunications) in homes and businesses
- Danger to life from windblown objects such as trees, and structural failure
- Vulnerable people exposed to health threatening temperatures
- Damage to property and infrastructure in urban and rural areas
- Limited or delayed transport availability
- Businesses and services may be forced to close or suspend operations
- Schools and public buildings closed
- Impact on rural areas; crops, livestock affected and isolated communities
- Natural landscape affected

**What the Fife LRP members are doing:**

- Maintaining, testing and exercising plans and procedures for an effective multi-agency response to severe weather events
- Distributing early notification of severe weather forecasts
- Working with communities to develop community emergency plans for their local area
- Providing support and guidance on business continuity to local partners and businesses
- Identifying and targeting assistance to the most vulnerable members of communities

**What you can do:**

- Listen to local weather forecasts and take heed of any warnings of extreme weather
- Plan any journeys or activities with the weather in mind, consider delaying plans
- If you have to travel in extreme weather, ensure you have appropriate clothing and emergency supplies with you
- Think about how you would cope with a loss of utilities and what you would do if it happens
- Engage with Fife Council to develop and/or follow your local community emergency plan
- Communicate extreme weather updates to your family and friends
- Consider offering help to vulnerable neighbours in your community if safe to do so
- Ensure you have adequate insurance
- Plan ahead to reduce the impact on your business. Fife Council provides generic business continuity advice to local businesses and voluntary organisations on how you can do this

**For more information:**

- Met Office Severe Weather Advice and signing up for warnings: [www.metoffice.gov.uk/guide/weather/severe-weather-advice](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/guide/weather/severe-weather-advice)
- Ready Scotland – Severe Weather: [www.readyscotland.org/are-you-ready/severe-weather](http://www.readyscotland.org/are-you-ready/severe-weather)

More preparedness information can be found on page 15.
Potential Risks

Flooding

There are many notable examples of flooding occurring in the Fife area that have previously caused significant damage, anxiety and disruption across many communities. Historically, Kilrenny, Ceres, Freuchie, Dura Den, East Wemyss and Auchtermuchty have all suffered significant instances of river flooding and Methil, St. Andrews, and Rosyth subject to coastal flooding, resulting in damage to homes and commercial property. The types of flooding which are more likely to cause damage and disruption are coastal, river and flash flooding.

Coastal flooding can:

- Be the result of sea surges, high tides and/or gale force winds
- Affect the coastline and local defence barriers which may be overtopped or breached
- Generally be expected

River and Flash Flooding can:

- Be the result of heavy rain and melting snow or a combination of factors
- Affect any area, from those adjoining steep sided hills to flat plains
- Sometimes be rapid with little or no warning
Possible Consequences

- Risk to life, people and animals
- Flooding of homes and businesses
- Evacuation and/or isolation of residents
- Transport disruption with flooded roads and bridges
- Disruption of utilities
- Damage to property, agricultural land and general infrastructure
- Emergency accommodation for those evacuated
- Pollution and contamination of the local environment
- Long term restoration and recovery issues for those affected
- Potential unrecoverable damage to businesses

What the Fife LRP members are doing:

- Identifying and risk assessing areas that could be affected by flooding and those communities at risk in these areas
- Developing multi-agency plans and responses to flooding
- Working with communities to develop community emergency plans for their local area
- Testing and exercising flood related scenarios and recovery plans
- Providing information in advance, e.g. weather and flood warnings
- Providing support and guidance on business continuity to local partners and businesses

What you can do:

- Find out if you live or work within a flood risk area from the SEPA website (below)
- Sign up to receive SEPA Floodline alerts (below)
- Engage with Fife Council to develop and/or follow your local community emergency plan (below)
- Ensure you have adequate insurance
- Where possible, move valuable or irreplaceable items to higher areas in your house during times of flood risk
- Identify a neighbour who may need help or who might be able to assist you if you need to evacuate your home
- Create a flood plan for your home and business (below – Ready Scotland)

For more information:

- Scottish Environment Protection Agency - Flooding
  www.sepa.org.uk/flooding.aspx
- Ready Scotland - Flooding
  www.readyscotland.org/are-you-ready/flooding/

More preparedness information can be found on page 15.
Potential Risks

Industrial Site Incidents

In the Fife area, there are locations such as commercial and research facilities that regularly use hazardous substances. Should an incident involving these substances occur the affects could be short or long term depending on the nature of the incident.

These sites are strictly regulated, with strong and robust contingency plans in place to limit disruption, and to warn local communities in the event of an incident.

Information regarding some of these sites is sometimes considered sensitive, and as a consequence, the monitoring of regulatory requirements by Government bodies and Emergency Services are equally robust and comprehensive.

Examples of such incidents are:

- an explosion at an industry site e.g. - complex, plant, pipeline or facility
- a release of harmful materials

Advised to stay indoors/possible evacuation to a safer area, loss of income, inability to get home, injury, illness, loss of life

Advised to stay indoors/possible evacuation to a safer area, structural damages to home or business, no utilities, injury, illness, loss of life

No utilities, business may be in affected area, staffing levels affected, supply/distribution network affected

Businesses suspended or closed, economic loses, building damage, utility supply disrupted, loss of life, long term recovery

Economic loses, utility supply disrupted, tourism affected
Possible Consequences

- Danger to life
- Public health issues and injuries
- People may be advised to stay indoors for safety purposes
- Possible evacuation of the affected area
- Potential for further incidents (e.g. fire or structural collapse)
- Damage to buildings and structures
- Disruption to oil, petrol or utility supplies
- Economic loses
- Adverse impact on farm and agricultural produce
- Damage to environment including waterways and wildlife

What the Fife LRP members are doing:

- Following guidance of regulators and working closely with site operators to produce, test and exercise multi-agency plans to provide emergency response assistance and recovery
- Working with multi-agency partners to respond effectively
- Identifying ways and means of communicating with the public before, during and after an incident
- Working with partners to identify lessons from previous incidents and learn from them

What you can do:

- Listen to and follow instructions issued by site operators, emergency services and others during an incident
- Know and understand your children’s school arrangements on such matters
- Keep relevant phone numbers handy to stay in touch with people if you get separated

For more information:

- Ready Scotland - Are You Ready:
  www.readyscotland.org/are-you-ready/

More preparedness information can be found on page 15.
Potential Risks

Transport Disruptions

The Fife area has a dependence on the primary road and rail bridges spanning the Forth and the Tay Rivers, which combined, are used by in excess of 40,000 vehicles and over 190 trains per day. The bridges play a significant part of Fife’s economic and social makeup, and closure for any of the following reasons could have a major impact.

Similarly, accidents which have occurred in the past on the major arteries resulting in closures, have significantly impacted of traffic flow, and volume, during peak periods.

The restriction of fuel supplies, be it accidental, economic, or related to industrial action, would necessitate a robust, and quick response from all public and private sector enterprises, structured to limit the overall impact.

Possible reasons for disruptions:

- Accidents
- Landslides
- Severe weather
- Flooding
- Industrial action

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Unable to go to work/home, loss of income, transport delays, disruption to daily routine

Transport delays, missing school, missing holidays, loss of income

Business suspended or closed, damaged building, staff unable to reach work, supply/distribution network disruption, IT failure

Economic losses, building damage, transport delays, tourism affected

Economic losses, transport delays, tourism affected, communication failures
## Possible Consequences

- Inability to get to work or pursue normal routine
- Emergency vehicles unable to operate fully
- Limited transportation available or delayed transportation options
- Waterways or spaces close to accident could be negatively impacted
- Businesses and services may be forced to close or suspend operations

## What the Fife LRP members are doing:

- Maintaining, testing and exercising plans and procedures for an effective multi-agency response to severe weather events
- Providing support and guidance on business continuity to local partners and businesses
- Engaging with communities to develop community resilience
- Identifying and targeting assistance to the most vulnerable members of communities
- Develop multi-agency plans to ensure the maintenance of fuel supplies to essential services

## What you can do:

- Listen to local news sources and official social media accounts for updates on any disruptions that have occurred in your area
- Follow directions or diversions provided by the Local Authority
- Consider planning alternative routes to destinations
- Communicate updates to your family and friends
- Consider fuel usage reduction, and rate of consumption, i.e. prioritize journeys, heating and oil usage

## For more information:

- Traffic Scotland
  [https://trafficscotland.org](https://trafficscotland.org)
- Traveline Scotland
  [www.travelinescotland.com](http://www.travelinescotland.com)

More preparedness information can be found on page 15.
Preparedness

There is much that you can do to make yourself, your family and business better prepared for emergencies or disruptive events.

You can significantly reduce the risk by being informed and prepared.

Being aware of the risks in your local community will help you prepare for the consequences they may bring. By planning and preparing now, you can limit the impact an emergency could have on you, your family or business. There are many types of emergency situations that could disrupt your daily life including not being able to travel, get in touch with family members, colleagues and other people.

Some initial steps you can take:

- Identify the risks that might affect you, your home or business in your local area
- Research/investigate specific actions you can take to reduce the impact of those risks in areas of your life
- Identify somewhere your family can meet if you are evacuated or cannot return to your home
- Check your insurance cover in detail and keep a copy of the policy in a safe place
- Sign up to official social media feeds and apps such as those on page 18.
- Take time to help your elderly or vulnerable neighbours where possible
- Consider what you would do with your pets

In an emergency, there are many ways in which information is communicated to the public by the appropriate authorities. This can be via traditional sources like TV and radio but also by social media such as Twitter feeds, agency website updates and Facebook notifications.

Depending on the nature of the emergency, it is possible that electricity or telecommunication infrastructure may be affected.

It is good to know your local radio stations, as they will be broadcasting important information. You may wish to write down your local radio frequencies at the back of this document.

A good start is:

- BBC Radio Scotland: (92 – 95 FM) and 810 MW

Local radio stations in Fife are:

- Kingdom FM (95.2 & 96.1)
- Forth FM (97.3)
- Tay FM (96.4 & 102.8)

For more information, plan templates and checklists:

- Ready Scotland – Preparedness at Home: www.readyscotland.org/at-home/
- Ready Scotland – My Business www.readyscotland.org/my-business/
- Ready Scotland - My Community www.readyscotland.org/my-community/
## Personal Information

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<th>Useful Contacts</th>
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Find Out More

In an emergency, always dial 999. For general police enquiries and non-emergency matters, dial 101.

Scottish Government
• Ready Scotland – Preparing for Emergencies: www.readyscotland.org

Business Resilience
• Ready Scotland – My Business www.readyscotland.org/my-business

Weather
• Met Office www.metoffice.gov.uk/publicsector/resilience/community-resilience

Environment
• Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) www.sepa.org.uk

Community Resilience
• Ready Scotland – Community www.readyscotland.org/my-community

Police
• Police Scotland www.scotland.police.uk/your-community/fife/

Health
• NHS Fife www.nhsfife.org

Utilities – Electricity
• Scottish Power Energy Networks www.spenergynetworks.co.uk
• Scottish and Southern Energy Power Distribution www.ssepd.co.uk

Utilities – Gas
• Scottish Gas Networks www.sgn.co.uk

Utilities – Water
• Scottish Water www.scottishwater.co.uk

Telecommunications
• BT www.bt.com

Transportation
• Traffic Scotland https://trafficscotland.org
• Traveline Scotland www.travelinescotland.com

Voluntary Sector
• Ready Scotland – Voluntary Response www.readyscotland.org/voluntary-response/
Useful Apps

The following apps can be downloaded:

- Ready Scotland
  www.readyscotland.org/are-you-ready/smartphone-app/

- Met Office Weather
  www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather

- Travel Line
  www.travelinescotland.com/cms/content/Apps.xhtml

Social Media

- Fife Council  Twitter @fifecouncil
  www.facebook.com/fifecouncil

- Ready Scotland Twitter @readyscotland

- Met Office Twitter @metoffice

- SSE in Scotland Twitter @hydroPD

- Traffic Scotland Twitter @trafficscotland

- Police Scotland Twitter @policescotland
  www.facebook.com/PoliceScotland

- Scottish Environment Protection Agency
  Twitter @ScottishEPA
  www.facebook.com/ScottishEnvironmentProtectionAgency

- NHS Fife Twitter @nhsfife
  www.facebook.com/nhsfife/
Contributors

- Fife Council
- Maritime & Coastguard Agency (MCA)
- Met Office
- NHS Fife
- Police Scotland
- Scottish Ambulance Service
- Scottish Fire & Rescue Service
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
- Scottish Water
- Transport Scotland