

UNIVERSAL RISK CRITERIA Severity x Likelihood ® Risk Criterion E.g. High severity x Possible ® Moderate	LIKELIHOOD OF OCCURANCE				
SEVERITY OF CONSEQUENCES Most predictable consequence if the event in question was to occur	UNLIKELY Less than 10% chance in next 12 months	POSSIBLE Greater than 10% chance in next 12 months	LIKELY Greater than 60% chance in next 6 months	ALMOST CERTAIN Greater than 90% chance in next month	
LOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero or minor injury or work absence • Readily recoverable, local, minor service disruption • Negligible loss of resource • Financial loss under £50,000 • Isolated comment in media / occasional complaint • No discernible impact on reputation • No evident impact on performance / objectives 	NEGLIGIBLE	NEGLIGIBLE	ACCEPTABLE	MODERATE
MEDIUM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderate yet recoverable injury, harm or work absence • Recoverable, localised, short term service disruption • Moderate loss of resource • Financial loss over £50,000 	NEGLIGIBLE	ACCEPTABLE	MODERATE	SUBSTANTIAL

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adverse local media attention / service user complaints • Some impact on reputation • Limited / local impact on performance / objectives 				
HIGH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent / substantial harm, disability or inability to work or numerous casualties • Recoverable widespread or substantial service disruption • Substantial but recoverable loss of resource • Financial loss over £100,000 • Adverse comment from auditors / minister / significant damage to reputation, national media attention • Major impact on performance / objectives 	ACCEPTABLE	MODERATE	SUBSTANTIAL	UNACCEPTABLE
CATASTROPHIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Death or multiple casualties • Irreversible or substantial long term service disruption • Irrecoverable substantial loss of income • Financial loss over £250,000 • International media attention • Government intervention/catastrophic damage reputation • Corporate impact on performance objectives 	MODERATE	SUBSTANTIAL	UNACCEPTABLE	UNACCEPTABLE