

Hazard/threat category	Sub-category
Transport accidents	Railway accident
Hazard and threat description, plus scale	Risk reference number
Up to 30 fatalities and up to 100 casualties. Possible loss of freight. Major disruption to rail line including possible closure of railway tunnel	HL11
Date of revision	Next review
November 2005	November 2007
Author	TVP

1. Overview of hazard or threat

Railway accidents in recent history have not resulted in major loss of life however the resulting disruption to the railway network can and has led to serious financial implications.

2. Key historical evidence

19th September 1997 – Southall – Intercity 125 collides into the rear of a freight train. 6 killed and more than 150 injured

5th October 1995 - Ladbroke Grove – A Great Western 125 train travelling to Paddington collided with an outbound Thames Train. Part of the Great Western Train catches fire. 8 persons killed and between 160 and 200 injured to various degrees

17th October 2000 – Hatfield – A GNER high speed inter city train travelling north at 115mph derails due to a defective piece of track. 4 persons killed and 102 injured.

28th February 2001 – Selby – The driver of a Land Rover travelling on the M62 fell asleep at the wheel and the vehicle crashed through a bridge parapet on the railway track below. The wreckage was struck by a GNER intercity train travelling from London to Newcastle. The GNER train derailed and collided into the front of an on coming freight train. 10 person killed and more than 70 injured.

10th May 2002 – Potters Bar – A WAGN train travelling from London to Kings Lynn becomes derailed at 100mph by faulty points as it approaches Potters Bar railway station. One of the carriages slews sideways, mounts the platforms and becomes wedged under the platform canopy. 7 persons are killed including a person walking in a nearby street who is struck by debris from a bridge damage by the derailed train. 82 persons are injured.

6th November 2004 – Ufton Nervet – A First Great Western inter city train travelling from London hits a car deliberately parked across the track at a level crossing in an apparent suicide attempt. The train derails and 7 persons are killed (including the driver of the car) and about 71 injured

3. Likelihood

The evidence detailed above does not include every train crash and/or fatality that has occurred in the last 10 years across the country.

Hazard	Outcome description	Likelihood
Railway accident	Up to 30 fatalities and up to 100 casualties. Possible loss of freight. Major disruption to rail line including possible closure of railway tunnel	Possible (4)

4. Impact

Summary

Hazard	Outcome description	Impact			
		Health	Social	Env	Econ
Railway accident	Up to 30 fatalities and up to 100 casualties. Possible loss of freight. Major disruption to rail line including possible closure of railway tunnel	3	3	3	4

Details

Impacts
Primary
Loss of life and casualties, some requiring long term care
Temporary accommodation and other needs of survivors many of whom will not be local to the scene of the crash and indeed may be from other countries
Severe disruption to large sections of the railway network
Possible serious environmental contamination of land, surface water and/or groundwater from fuel and cargo
Secondary
Increased road traffic around the area of the site due to rail closure
Loss of income to railway operators due to lack of passenger/customer confidence.
Possible impact to surface and/or groundwater which may affect abstractions used for industry, agriculture and potable supply
Long term environmental impacts

5. Vulnerability and resilience

The Thames valley has some significant railway routes passing through its area. Ufton Nervet is in the Thames Valley and proved not only our vulnerability to such an incident but our resilience and capabilities to deal with a train crash

6. Overall assessment

Category	Sub-category		
Transport accidents	Railway accident		
Outcome description	Impact	Likelihood	Risk
Up to 30 fatalities and up to 100 casualties. Possible loss of freight. Major disruption to rail line including possible closure of railway tunnel	Moderate	Possible	High
<p>Controls in place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Mass Fatalities Plan • Multi agency training and exercising • Royal Berkshire Hospital NHS Trust Major Incident Plan • Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospitals NHS Trust Major Incident Plan • Berkshire Primary Care Organisations Major Incident Plan and Operational Response Manuals • Berkshire Healthcare Trust Major Incident Plan • Buckinghamshire Hospitals NHS Trust Major Incident Plan • Milton Keynes Hospital NHS Trust Major Incident Plan • Buckinghamshire Mental Health Trust Major Incident Plan • Buckinghamshire Primary Care Organisations Major Incident Plan • Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals NHS Trust Major Incident Plan • Oxford Mental Health Trust Major Incident Plan • Nuffield Orthopaedic Clinic Major Incident Plan • Oxfordshire Primary Care Organisations Major Incident Plan • South Central Strategic Health Authority Major Incident Plan • Berkshire Integrated Emergency Planning Structure • Wokingham District Council Emergency Plan • Reading Borough Council Emergency Plan • West Berkshire Council Emergency Plan • Bracknell Forest Borough Council Emergency Plan • Royal Borough Council of Windsor and Maidenhead Emergency Plan • Slough Borough Council Emergency Plan • Buckinghamshire County Council Emergency Plan. • Aylesbury Vale District Council Emergency Plan. 			

- Chiltern District Council Emergency Plan.
- South Bucks District Council Emergency Plan.
- Wycombe District Council Emergency Plan.
- Environment Agency Incident Management Plans
- Environment Agency 24/7 incident response
- Environment Agency Memorandum of Understanding with Fire Brigades, Police, Local Authorities, Highways Agency, Health Protection Agency and Health Authority.
- South Central Ambulance Service NHS Trust Major Incident Plan
- Milton Keynes Council Major Incident Guide
- Thames Valley Police Emergency Procedures Manual
- ACPO Emergency Procedures Manual
- Oxfordshire County Council Emergency Plan
- Royal Berkshire Fire & Rescue Service Major Incident Policy
- Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Service Major Incident Policy
- Buckinghamshire Fire & Rescue Service Major Incident Policy

Additional risk treatment required

None