

Hazard/threat category	Sub-category
Transport accidents	Local accident involving transport of hazardous chemicals
Hazard and threat description, plus scale	Risk reference number
Up to 50 fatalities and up to 500 casualties. Extent of the impact would depend on substance involved, quantity, nature and location of accident	HL12
Date of revision	Next review
December 2007	December 2008
Version	2
Author	Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service

1. Overview of hazard or threat

Leak of or fire involving highly toxic chemical(s) following an accident on the road or rail transportation network.

Depending on the nature of the chemical and the area of the accident attendance by the emergency services could be very difficult. Casualty and body recovery could be delayed until the chemical(s) are made safe.

Decontamination of casualties and bodies may need to be carried out prior to them being removed.

A regional response may be required by the Fire Service for equipment and personnel.

There could be contamination of watercourses or air pollution depending on the chemical(s).

Local residents and businesses may not be able to return to their properties for some time.

2. Key historical evidence

Incidents involving transporting Hazardous Chemicals do occur very frequently but are not to this scale. There has not been an incident of this magnitude in the Thames valley, there have been several smaller incidents but none with the potential to reach these levels of fatalities and casualties

3. Likelihood

Hazard	Outcome description	Likelihood
Local accident involving transport of hazardous chemicals	Up to 50 fatalities and up to 500 casualties. Extent of the impact would depend on substance involved, quantity, nature and location of accident	Negligible (1)

4. Impact

Summary

Hazard	Outcome description	Impact			
		Health	Social	Env	Econ
Local accident involving transport of hazardous chemicals	Up to 50 fatalities and up to 500 casualties. Extent of the impact would depend on substance involved, quantity, nature and location of accident	4	4	4	4

Details

Impacts
Primary
Large numbers of casualties requiring treatment and/or decontamination
Recovery of bodies from the site and the surrounding area that may require decontamination
Poor air quality due to smoke which may contain toxic or noxious substances
Serious environmental contamination of land, surface water and ground water
Secondary
Long term effects on business in area affected
Possible health implications due to toxic substances.
Possible contamination of area around site from chemical(s)
Possible impact to surface and ground water abstractions from contaminates

5. Vulnerability and resilience

Hazardous chemicals are transported throughout the Thames Valley on a daily basis by various means. Due to the transportation industries high standards accidents involving hazardous chemicals with the outcomes indicated are unlikely to happen.

6. Overall assessment

Category	Sub-category		
Transport accidents	Local accident involving transport of hazardous chemicals		
Outcome description	Impact	Likelihood	Risk

Up to 50 fatalities and up to 500 casualties. Extent of the impact would depend on substance involved, quantity, nature and location of accident	4	1	Medium
<p>Controls in place</p> <p>The Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) Regulations 2002 HAZCHEM and Trem cards BFRS 11/2, Incidents involving hazardous substances; OC 11/14, Hazardous substances marking schemes; OC 11/3/1 Chlorine liquid in transportation Oxfordshire County Council Emergency Plan RBFRS Major incident plan RBFRS Hazmat Procedures Milton Keynes Council Major Incident Guide Environment Agency Incident Management Plans EA 24/7 Incident Response EA MOU with Fire Brigades, Police, Local Authorities, Highways Agency, Health Protection Agency & Health Authorities South Central Ambulance Service NHS Trust Major Incident Plans Royal Berkshire Hospital NHS Trust Major Incident Plan Heatherwood & Wexham Park Hospitals NHS Trust Major Incident Plan Berkshire Healthcare Trust Major Incident Plan Berkshire Primary Care Organisations Major Incident Plan and Operational Response Manuals Buckinghamshire Hospitals NHS Trust Major Incident Plan Buckinghamshire Primary Care Organisations Major Incident Plan Buckinghamshire Mental Health Trust Major Incident Plan Milton Keynes Hospital NHS Trust Major Incident Plan Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals NHS Trust Major Incident Plan Nuffield Orthopaedic Clinic Major Incident Plan Oxfordshire Primary Care Organisations Major Incident Plan Oxford Mental Health Trust Major Incident Plan South Central Strategic Health Authority Major Incident Plan Berkshire Integrated Emergency Planning Structure Berkshire Unitary Authorities Emergency Plans X 6 Buckinghamshire CC Emergency Plan Aylesbury Vale District Council Emergency Plan Chiltern District Council Emergency Plan South Bucks District Council Emergency Plan Thames Valley Police Emergency Procedures Manual ACPO Emergency Procedures Manual Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Service Major Incident Policy</p>			

Additional risk treatment required

Local/Regional joint emergency plans
Local/Regional joint exercises