



**Emergency**  
**Planning**  
**Team**



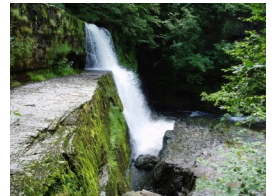
**Neath Port Talbot**  
**Castell-nedd Port Talbot**  
County Borough Council Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol

**NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

# **LOCAL RISK REGISTER**



**PREPARING FOR EMERGENCIES**  
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW





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# OVERVIEW

**Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council (NPTCBC) along with our multi-agency partners, work together to plan for emergencies. To help with this planning we prepare a “Local Risk Register” which provides information on potential emergencies that could have a major impact on our area.**

## **What is the purpose of this document?**

This document helps inform people in the area about the risks that could occur where they live so they can be better prepared in their homes, communities and businesses.

This register looks at the likelihood and impact of a range of hazards. This links in to a national UK-wide system to allocate resources which could be called upon in the event of a civil emergency.

Just because a ‘risk’ is included doesn’t necessarily mean that we expect it to happen. It means there is a possibility of it happening, and we have made plans and arrangements to reduce its impact if it does.

## **What we do**

The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 requires NPTCBC to work alongside other local authorities, emergency services and other responders across the South Wales Police Force region to co-ordinate and co-operate at a regional and local level.

This involves ensuring that local risks are assessed, response plans are in place and exercised, and responders are trained so that any potential impacts arising from an emergency are minimised. Depending on the nature and severity of an emergency, we can then call on the support of other partners whenever necessary.

## **What are the types of risks?**

Some risks are more obvious than others, however there are several main categories including: natural events, human diseases, animal diseases, major accidents and malicious attacks and flooding.

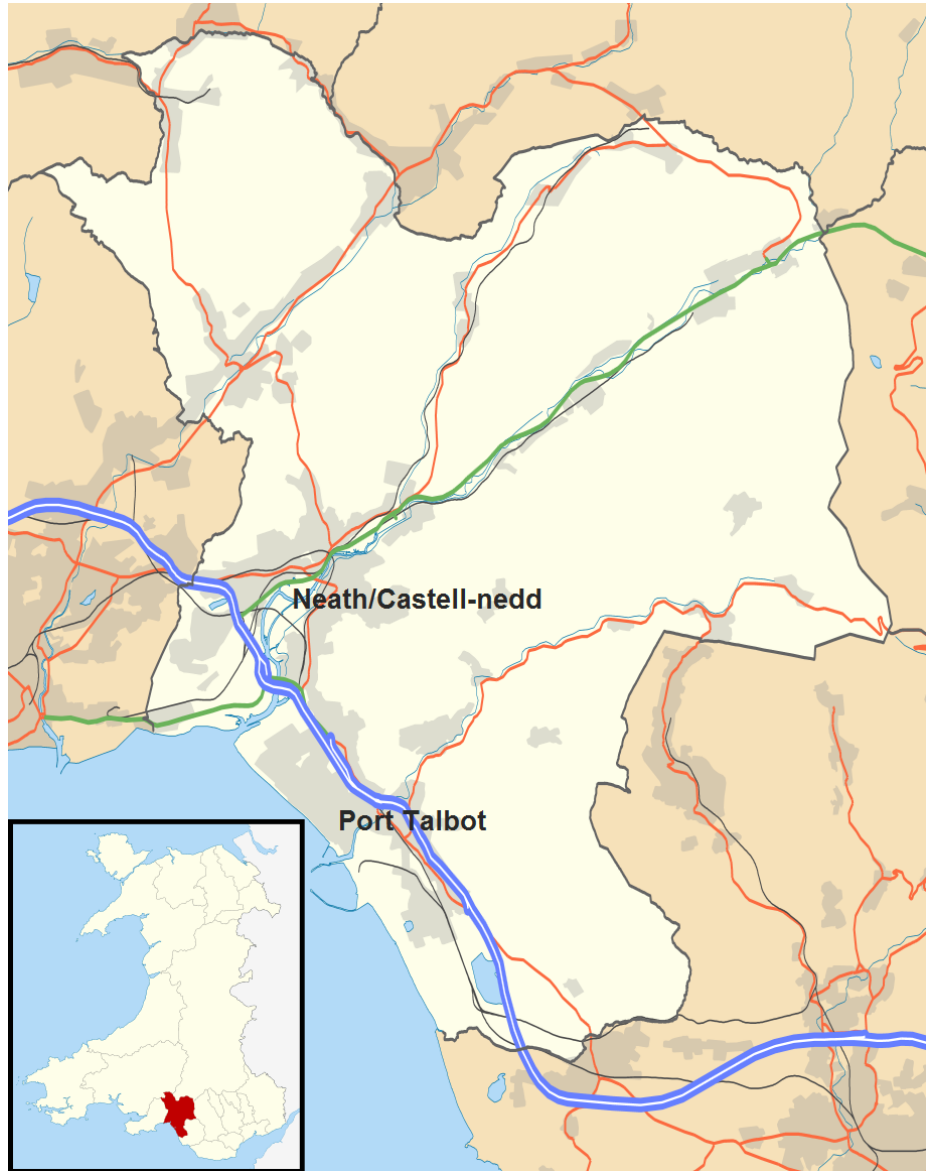
# NEATH PORT TALBOT PROFILE

Neath Port Talbot has a population of approximately 137,400 people. There are a number of communities that are both rural and sparsely populated.

The towns of Neath and Port Talbot lie adjacent to the M4 motorway and the A465 dual carriageway, linking it to several of the region's other towns and industrial areas. Both towns have main stations on the London to Swansea rail line.

Port Talbot has its own commercial sea port capable of handling vessels up to 180,000 tons. The tidal harbour has the deepest berthing facilities available in the Severn Estuary; Berths for smaller sea-going vessels of up to 6,500 tonnes are available at Briton Ferry on the River Neath.

The local economy has a strong manufacturing base, service sector and construction industry. It has an increasingly successful tourism and leisure industry with a blue flagged coastline. It is home to a wide range of national and international companies such as TATA Steel.



# INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

**Certain industrial activities involving dangerous substances and materials have the potential to cause accidents, although the scale and the nature of the accident may vary considerably. Some of these accidents may cause serious injuries to people or environmental damage.**

Neath and Port Talbot are not considered to be more at risk than any other part of the country. However there are industrial sites, fuel and gas pipelines running through the area and storage depots that have the potential to cause a major incident.

## History

In November 2001, the explosion of a blast furnace at CORUS (now known as Tata Steel) Port Talbot, led to the tragic deaths of three employees and the injury of a number of other people. The explosion caused widespread alarm and concern throughout the locality.

On July 12th 2016, a tyre fire in an industrial unit in the docks area of Port Talbot occurred. The incident lasted for 3 days and had a significant impact on the responding agencies. However, due to the wind direction the incident had little impact on local businesses and a large community.

## Legislation

The Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) Regulations 2015 aim to prevent major accidents involving dangerous substances and to limit the consequences to people and the environment. Similarly the Pipeline Safety Regulations were established in 1996 to assist in minimising the consequences to the health and safety of people in the event of an emergency involving a major pipeline.

The Pipeline Safety Regulations put responsibility on the Local Authorities to compile and review emergency response plans to alleviate the effects on the local community if such an accident were to occur.

## Industrial sites in the area

There are a number of industrial sites which fall under the COMAH regulations in Neath, Port Talbot & Swansea.

The local Authority works closely with the site operators and partner agencies to compile, review and exercise plans to deal with any offsite effects that may occur from incidents. Plans are exercised and reviewed every 3 years.

There are 11 Major Accident Hazard pipelines across the area for which multi-agency plans have been written.

The potential of an industrial accident does not always arise from large sites in the area. There are many smaller sites which could have a significant impact within our community such as industrial units that are not covered by plans requiring a specific pre-planned emergency response.

However, work is being undertaken to identify hazardous sites which have the potential to cause an incident affecting the local community, for example sites that process tyre waste and refuse derived fuel (RDF). Protocols are in place for identified sites and other critical buildings/locations that may have an impact on the community if an emergency incident were to occur.

## Risk impacts:

- Endangerment of life
- Health issues for public in the vicinity
- Damage to property and the local area
- Pollution of the local environment and water courses

## What are we doing in NPTCBC?

- Work directly with site operators and multi-agency partners to develop on and off-site response plans
- Identification of ways and means of communicating with the public
- Facilitate regular exercises to rehearse on site and off site consequences
- Support for local communities to develop their own emergency plans
- Progress projects further to identify potential hazardous sites and prepare multi-agency protocols to respond to incidents

## What can you do?

- Be aware if you have received specific emergency instructions from a neighbouring industrial site, endeavour to follow those instructions and wait for further advice
- If you hear warning of an emergency incident, go indoors; close all your doors and windows and tune into Local Radio for advice
- Co-operate with the emergency services fully. They are there to help. Stay calm and listen to their instructions if you are evacuated from your home for any reason



# TRANSPORT INCIDENTS

Transport emergencies can be the result of incidents or disruption caused by severe weather such as snow and floods. The situation can be further complicated by extremes of temperature if people are trapped in their vehicles for long periods of time.

## ROAD

### **What roads are included within the local network?**

The majority of local roads are managed by Neath Port Talbot CBC. Roads which form part of the UK's strategic road network (the M4 and A465) are managed by the South Wales Trunk Road Agency.

Other significant roads within the counties include the A4067, A48, and the A483 (Fabian Way). These roads are all heavily used routes for access to and from towns and our industries.

Most road incidents are within the routine capabilities of the emergency services.

However, there is always the risk of an incident going beyond these capabilities and the need for more extended agency involvement, especially if the accident involves chemicals or hazardous materials.

## RAIL

### **Has the rail network been considered within the Risk Register?**

The Swansea to London main line as well as other rail arteries pass through Neath Port Talbot. The Risk Register considers the possibility of a rail incident within the area.

## SEA

### **Has a maritime incident been considered within the Risk Register?**

The Bristol Channel is busy with vessels from around the world visiting our local ports and those in South East Wales and west of England. The Risk Register considers the possibility of an incident involving a vessel of the coast (fire, stranding, collision or sinking) or in adjacent waters.

## AIR

Swansea Airport is located approximately 6 miles from Swansea City Centre. The Airport is used for general aviation, charter flights, Police helicopter and Welsh Air Ambulance Services. The Risk Register considers the possibility of commercial and military aircraft incident within the area.



## Risk impacts:

- Disruption to normal travel capabilities
- Death or injury to people
- People stranded in vehicles potentially in extreme weather conditions
- Environmental impacts if goods are spilled into the local environment
- Possible damage to buildings or infrastructure

## What are we doing in NPTCBC?

- Work with national transport companies to plan for dealing with incidents
- The various Highways departments work alongside the Highways Agency to keep all major county roads accessible during times of severe weather

## What can you do?

- When travelling make yourself aware of any emergency procedures issued by operators
- Have an emergency kit in your car or basic items when you travel
- You may not be directly involved in an incident but the transport disruption may last for a considerable time, hampering your plans
- When driving, abide by the rules of the road, adhere to speed limits and drive safely
- Ensure your vehicle is kept in a roadworthy and safe condition
- Avoid non-essential journeys during times of severe weather
- Plan your journey in advance and take advice from local media, TV, radio, social media etc

# FLOODING

**Over the coming years, rising temperatures and sea levels, and an increase in the frequency and severity of extreme weather events are likely to raise the risk of flooding in the UK.**

There are three main sources of flooding i.e. coastal, river and surface water. Flooding is identified in the NPTCBC Risk Register as having the potential to have a significant impact within our community.

There have been many flood events in recent years across the UK such as; Maesteg in November 2016, Cumbria in 2009 and 2015, Somerset during the winter of 2013/2014, and during the summer of 2007 across various parts of the UK. This shows flooding can take different forms and, at its most serious, can affect many different aspects of our daily lives.

## **What is meant by coastal flooding?**

The threat from tidal flooding is contained to a number of areas along the Neath Port Talbot coastline which may or may not have sea defences in place. The main danger from flooding arises from a combination of high tides and a storm surge.

## **What is meant by river and surface flooding?**

### **Surface water flooding**

Surface water flooding happens when the ground, rivers and drains cannot absorb heavy rainfall. Typically this type of flooding is highly localised and happens very quickly, making it difficult to provide any warning.

### **Fluvial (river) flooding**

Fluvial flooding (river) is a risk that can occur at any time of the year and can be caused by:

- Prolonged rainfall coupled with factors that restrict the rain from being absorbed by the ground (ground saturation, development), which in turn leads to overland flow.
- Rapid thaw of heavy snows.
- Intensely heavy rainfall due to convective storms.
- Abnormally high river levels caused by any of the above leading to overtopping or bursting of riverbanks (likely to have effects downstream from cause).

One of the highest identified flood risk areas is Canalside, Aberdulais, Neath.

Natural Resources Wales (NRW) are responsible for main river flooding, flood forecasting and warning. Flood forecasting and warning is based upon catchment areas, and for this reason the

catchment boundaries of NRW do not exactly coincide with the territorial boundary of the Council area.

## Risk impacts:

- Risk to life (people and animals)
- Damage to property, businesses, agricultural land, roads, structures and infrastructure
- Pollution and contamination of local environments
- Long-term damage to tourism, businesses and agriculture

## What are we doing in NPTCBC?

- Developing multi-agency flood plans/ protocols for the high risk areas
- Identifying the vulnerable key infrastructure and vulnerable groups located in the high risk areas
- Production of multi-agency plans to assist with the evacuation of those communities who are at risk
- Development of ways and means of alerting the public as early as possible when there is a significant flood risk
- Producing multi-agency plans for the evacuation of those communities who are at risk
- Continuing to invest in maintaining and improving flood defences in our high-risk areas
- Developing flood rescue and assistance for those who become isolated by flooding
- Developing a Strategic Recovery protocol

## What can you do?

- Find out if your property is within a flood risk area by visiting the Natural Resources Wales website, or calling **Floodline** on **0345 988 1188**
- Ensure that you are registered to receive free flood warnings if you live in a flood risk area  
[www.naturalresources.wales/flooding/sign-up-to-receive-flood-warnings/](http://www.naturalresources.wales/flooding/sign-up-to-receive-flood-warnings/)
- Plan where you will go if you have to evacuate and how you will get there
- Know what to do to protect your property during a flood and have adequate insurance
- Prepare a Flood Plan – you can download a personal plan from:  
[www.naturalresources.wales/flooding/what-to-do-before-a-flood/](http://www.naturalresources.wales/flooding/what-to-do-before-a-flood/)
- Identify neighbours who may need assistance or who may be able to provide assistance to you, in case of evacuation
- Have supplies in your home that will enable you to cope for up to 3 days should you be unable to evacuate
- Where possible, move valuable/ irreplaceable items to upper floors during times of flood risk

# SEVERE WEATHER

**The United Kingdom experiences severe weather due to its maritime temperate climate with occasional continental and arctic influences. These can bring with them heavy rain or snow, strong winds and extreme temperatures. As experience has shown, severe weather can take a variety of forms and at times cause significant problems and disruption to normal life.**

Over the coming years, we are likely to see an increase in temperatures, sea levels, along with the frequency and severity of extreme weather events in the UK. Weather forecasting can now give warning of most events and offer general advice to the public. There are many types of severe weather that can have a serious local impact in the UK. The main types of severe weather that we need to plan for include storms, gales, low temperatures, heavy snow, heat waves and drought.

## History

The summer of 2003 is estimated to have resulted in more than 2000 excess deaths, mainly among vulnerable people. Since then, the Heat Health Watch system has been introduced and during the hot weather of July 2006 significantly fewer excess deaths were recorded. A storm struck many parts of the UK in January 2007, with gusts of wind up to 77mph. This caused 9 deaths and widespread damage to trees and buildings across the UK along with power disruptions. During late 2010 and 2011 the UK experienced spells of severe winter weather with very low temperatures and significant snowfalls. December 2010 was exceptionally cold across the UK. Mean temperatures across the UK were 5.0°C below average. This occurred unusually early in winter, with the snowfalls judged as the most significant since November 1965.

The winter of 2011-12 was a weather event which brought heavy snowfalls, record low temperatures, travel chaos, and school disruption. It was referred to as The Big Freeze by national media. The weather conditions caused numerous widespread impacts. The emergency services, local authorities, transport organisations and utilities were all put under great pressure. Snowfalls caused the most problems with transport; road, rail and air all badly affected.

## **Risk impacts:**

### **STORMS AND GALES**

- Danger of life (people and animals)
- Damage to property
- Damage & disruption to infrastructure, assets & communication networks
- Travel disruption

### **LOW TEMPERATURES AND HEAVY SNOW**

- Travel disruption
- Vulnerable people exposed to health threatening temperatures
- Power and water failures
- School and public building closures

### **HEATWAVES**

- An increased number of admissions to hospital and consultations with GPs due to sunburn, heat exhaustion and respiratory problems
- Increased vehicle breakdowns due to overheating engines
- Road surfaces deteriorating as tarmac begins to melt

### **What are we doing in NPTCBC?**

- Production of multi-agency plan to manage severe weather events
- Consideration of weather forecasts prior to any large events in the area
- Receiving & distributing severe weather notifications

### **What can you do?**

- Listen to weather forecasts & heed any warnings of extreme weather
- Endeavour to follow advice given for travelling
- Plan journeys or activities with the weather in mind
- If you have to travel in severe weather make sure you have adequate clothing and emergency supplies in your vehicle

# FUEL SHORTAGES

Everyone relies to some extent on fuel, whether it is for getting to work, distributing products or providing services. The availability of fuel within the UK is generally very good; however there have been examples within recent years of brief disruptions to supply on both a regional and national basis.

A disruption could be caused by a number of factors, including scarcity of supply, a technical problem with part of the fuel supply infrastructure, industrial action or public protest. In the event of such a disruption to supply, it is also possible that stocks could be further depleted through increased consumer demand (panic buying).

## History

In September 2000, blockades at key oil distribution points caused nationwide fuel shortages for over a week. Threats of similar action in August 2005 led to panic buying which caused localised disruptions across the country.

The industrial action taken by Shell tanker drivers in June 2008 had a widespread effect on fuel distribution throughout the UK resulting in some filling stations running out of fuel.

## Risk impacts:

- Public and commercial filling stations exhausted within 48 hours
- Up to 10 days to return to normal supply levels

## What are we doing in NPTCBC?

- Identification of filling stations for essential fuel users such as emergency service vehicles which links to the national emergency plan for fuel
- Production of multi-agency plans to manage a fair distribution of fuel to maintain key public services when it is in limited supply

## What can you do?

- Maintain your vehicle in order to ensure that it is as fuel efficient as possible
- Minimise travel during fuel shortages, and only make essential journeys
- Consider other means of conserving fuel, such as car-sharing, walking or cycling
- Avoid panic-buying
- If fuel is stored at home it should be done in accordance with regulations and safety advice

# ANIMAL DISEASE

**Animal diseases that are highly contagious cause high fatality rates amongst livestock or have the possibility of infecting humans.**

The most serious disease in this category is highly pathogenic avian influenza. Avian Influenza is largely a disease of birds.

The virus does not easily cross from birds to infect humans, although there is a risk if people with seasonal flu become co-infected with Avian Influenza.

## History

There have been a number of significant animal disease cases in Wales over the past decade. These include:

- Foot & Mouth (2001)
- Avian Influenza (2007)
- Bluetongue (2008)
- Swine Flu (2009)
- Bovine Tuberculosis (2012)

## Risk impacts:

- Damage to local agricultural economy
- Mass cull / disposal of animal carcasses
- Loss of livelihoods for farmers and farm workers
- Health risks to farm workers

## What are we doing in NPTCBC?

- Production of multi-agency plans for managing animal disease outbreaks
- Raising disease awareness amongst farmers and farm workers
- Preventing importation of diseases throughout our ports

## What can you do?

- Register any livestock which you own with The Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)
- If an outbreak is declared then follow any guidance from the government to protect your livestock and limit the spread of disease
- Vaccinate your livestock where possible
- Use the UK pet travel scheme if returning from abroad



# LOSS OF INFRASTRUCTURE

**Infrastructure includes all of the different essential services which we rely on as part of modern society and the economy. The UK's infrastructure is made up of electricity, water, gas, oil, fuel, transport, telecommunications, food, health and financial services.**

A disruption to any element of UK's infrastructure could be a consequence of an emergency incident. Many parts of the infrastructure network are dependent on one another e.g. electricity is required at water pumping stations.

Those services which could directly or indirectly impact upon other elements of the infrastructure network are outlined below:

## **Are there plans in place to deal with a loss of electricity and gas?**

Wide-scale loss of electricity or gas would have a direct or indirect impact on all other infrastructure sectors. In the event of a major gas or electricity supply emergency, both industry and government will have significant roles to play in managing the incident and its consequences. The gas and electricity companies would be responsible for the practical and operational management of an incident. These companies have well established plans and procedures in place to respond to incidents, which can range from the management of a local incident to a national level disruption.

## **Why are telecommunications important?**

Wide-scale telecoms disruption would have a direct or indirect impact on all other infrastructure sectors. Individuals and businesses are increasingly dependent on the telecoms network either for mobile and fixed line telephony or provision of internet. A response to an emergency incident is seriously compromised when there is a disruption to telecommunications. Lines of communication between responders and members of the public are critical when responding to an emergency.

## **Water**

Water disruptions include burst water mains, supply disruption and contamination. Dependent on the severity of the incident a multiagency emergency may be declared to ensure that people's basic water needs are met. There could also be a significant impact on health and food provision, as well as an impact on the capabilities of fire and rescue services.

## Risk impacts:

- People exposed to poor sanitation and lack of drinking water
- Homes without heating and limited ability to heat food and water
- Limited ability to keep food cold or frozen
- Transportation and travelling difficulties
- People unable to get cash from cash machines or make card purchases
- Limited telecommunications (including mobile phones)
- Vulnerable people unable to have or receive medical treatment

## What are we doing in NPTCBC?

- Work with the utilities companies to manage supply interruptions
- Production of multi-agency plans to manage long-term utilities outages
- Identification of vulnerable people who will need special treatment in the event of a utilities outage

## What can you do?

- Know where the cut off points are for your utilities, in case of gas and water emergencies
- Keep an emergency kit in your home containing items such as a wind-up torch, battery or wind-up radio and supplies of tinned food and drinking water
- Outages may come with forewarning. If this is the case consider how you can be prepared e.g. fill the bath with drinking water
- Be on alert for bogus callers posing as utilities company workers
- Make sure you can make telephone calls by having at least one fixed phone connect directly into the phone socket

# COASTAL POLLUTION

**The Bristol Channel is a major international shipping route for many products, including a large amount of oil, and passenger vessels. Port Talbot Dock and tidal harbour, and Neath port receive large bulk carrying vessels.**

An incident with vessels may cause hazardous cargo/substances to be released into the sea and washing up on the shoreline causing pollution and damage to the environment, wildlife, and economy. To counter this threat Swansea Bay Counter Group, consisting of Neath Port Talbot, Swansea and Bridgend Local Authorities, have collaborated together to write a response plan.

## History

The last major marine pollution incident in Wales was the Sea Empress disaster in 1996, which resulted in over 70,000 tonnes of crude oil being spilt off the coast of Milford Haven. This spill resulted in a large scale clean up operation and caused major environmental damage to the South West Wales coastline including the cockle beds of the North Gower Peninsula.

## Risk impacts:

- Pollution of sea water
- Pollution of the beaches and shoreline
- Damage to various Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Damage to wildlife and environment
- Health risk to coastal residents and holiday makers

## What are we doing in NPTCBC?

- Production of multi-agency plans to effectively clean up any oil spills in order to minimise pollution and impacts on coastal communities and safely dispose of hazardous materials
- Completing multi-agency response plan

## What can you do?

- When travelling make yourself aware of the emergency procedures issued by the operators
- Co-operate with organisations during any clean up operation
- Stay away from any area where wreckage or cargo from an incident may be washed ashore until declared safe

# LAND MOVEMENT

**Land movement, also referred to as land sliding, is the movement of a mass of rock, earth or debris down a slope.**

The density of landslides in the South Wales coalfield is one of the highest within the UK. Many of the landslides in the area originated under periglacial conditions thousands of years ago, recently re-activating due to human activities such as coal mining. South Wales is prone to land sliding due to the geology of the area, its steep sided valleys and its history of coal mining.

## History

Numerous landslides have occurred within South Wales over the last few decades. The most well-known is the 1966 Aberfan Disaster, which killed 146 people in the village of Aberfan when a colliery spoil tip collapsed after a period of heavy rain fall.

Smaller landslides have occurred within the Neath Port Talbot area over recent years, due to the re-activation of two ancient landslides in the north of the county (Pantteg and Godre'r Graig landslides). Recently, there has been land movement at Ystalyfera in February 2017 and December 2012.

## Risk impacts:

- Risk to life (people and animals)
- Damage to property, businesses, agricultural land, roads, structures and infrastructure
- Pollution of the local environment and water courses

## What are we doing in NPTCBC?

- Production of multi-agency plan to manage the response to land movement events

## What can you do?

- Evacuate if asked to do so by the emergencies services
- Plan where you will go if you have to evacuate and how you will get there
- If your property has been affected, stay away until you are told it is safe by the emergency services

# PANDEMIC FLU

An influenza (flu) pandemic is a worldwide event in which many people are infected with a flu virus in a short time and is one of the highest risks we face.

An influenza pandemic occurs when a new influenza virus emerges and spreads around the world, and most people do not have immunity. Large numbers of the public may become infected by the new virus over a relatively short period of time. Unlike a normal flu virus, which has a 'season', a flu pandemic can occur at any time. Based on what has happened during previous pandemics, it is likely to occur in one or more waves, possibly weeks or months apart.

## History

The most notable influenza pandemic of the last century occurred in 1918, and is often referred to as 'Spanish flu' and caused an estimated 20 to 40 million deaths worldwide. In the UK alone there were an estimated 228,000 additional deaths. The emergence of the H1N1 (2009) influenza pandemic demonstrated the unpredictability of influenza pandemics. Most people experienced relatively mild illness.

## Other health issues

In 2012/2013 a widespread vaccination programme was carried out to increase immunisation against a measles outbreak in the area. The outbreak resulted in 1,219 notifications of measles cases in the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg, Hywel Dda and Powys health board areas.



### EI DDAL

Mae germau'n lledaenu'n hawdd. Cariwch hances bapur a defnyddiwch hi wrth beswch neu disian.



### CATCH IT

Germs spread easily. Always carry tissues and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.

### EI DAFLU

Gall germau fyw am oriau ar hances. Taflwch hi cyn gynted â phosib.



### BIN IT

Germs can live for hours on tissues. Dispose of your tissue as soon as possible.

### EI DDIFA

Gall dwylo drosglwyddo germau i bob arwyneb rydych yn ei gyffwrdd. Glanhewch eich dwylo cyn gynted ag y gallwch.



### KILL IT

Hands can transfer germs to every surface you touch. Clean your hands as soon as you can.

NHS Wales, 2016

## Risk impacts:

- Many millions of people around the world may become infected causing global disruption and a potential humanitarian crisis
- Up to half the UK population may become infected and between 50,000 and 750,000 additional deaths may have occurred by the end of a pandemic
- Health care and local authority social care systems become overloaded
- Normal life is likely to face wide disruption, particularly due to staff shortages affecting the provision of essential services, including production and transport of goods

## What are we doing in NPTCBC?

- Management of the demand on the NHS and social care
- Distribution of anti viral medication to the public
- Vaccinations
- Public awareness and media management
- Managing excessive levels of death
- Monitoring the health of passengers and crews using our ports

## What can you do?

- Keep healthy – a healthy lifestyle will be a great defence against flu and other illnesses
- Identify a flu friend – somebody who would collect your medication, food and other supplies allowing you to be isolated from the public
- Keep personal stocks of “over the counter” cold and flu medication to help relieve your symptoms
- Know the arrangements for your child’s school
- Look out for and observe advice and guidance from the NHS
- Get a vaccination

# MALICIOUS ATTACKS

As with other areas of the UK, Wales also faces a serious and sustained threat from terrorism.

## What is meant by attacks in Crowded Places?

Much work has been done to identify and mitigate against attacks in crowded places in the UK. Events in Europe and Tunisia in recent times gives a clear picture as to the terrorist's methodology and work under the 'CONTEST Strategy' is undertaken locally with partner organisations.

## Attacks on Transport Systems

Public transport systems are accessible and vulnerable to terrorists. Enhanced security is now commonplace within airports and major rail hubs however attacks are still undertaken, with the airport in Brussels a recent terrorist target.

## Non-conventional Attacks

Although very few examples exist of attacks of this kind the risk from chemical, biological, radioactivity and nuclear (CBRN) attacks do exist. Such attacks have the potential for widespread impact.

## What is an electronic Attack?

The growing reliance on information technology for government, business and social purposes make it a target for attack.

## What action is being taken?

The UK Government's counter terrorism strategy, CONTEST is an integrated approach based on four main work streams, each with a clear objective to try and stop terrorist attacks occurring or, when they do, to mitigate their impact:

- **Pursue:** stopping terrorist attacks
- **Protect:** strengthening our protection against attack
- **Prepare:** mitigating the impact of attacks
- **Prevent:** stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting violent Extremism



Each Welsh region has a Contest Board which reports into the All Wales CONTEST Board. Locally, Swansea and Neath Port Talbot local authorities link into neighbours at the Bridgend Local Authority.

Counter-Terrorist Security Advisors in each Police Force area in Wales are working with local partnerships to reduce the vulnerability of crowded places.

There is also work being undertaken to protect infrastructure and transport; provide specialist equipment and training for emergency services in Wales in response to the CBRN threat; and all public services and utility companies are developing robust business continuity plans against electronic attack.

# BEING MORE PREPARED AT HOME

## How can you be better prepared at home?

Before an emergency occurs, there are several steps you can take to ensure your household is better prepared, such as knowing:

- the risks in your local area e.g. is your property at risk of flooding
- the location of your water, gas and electricity supplies and how to turn them off in your home
- the emergency procedures for your children at school
- the emergency procedures at your workplace
- how your family will stay in contact with each other in the event of an emergency
- if any vulnerable or elderly neighbours might need your help
- how to tune in to your local radio station
- the location of items you may need during an emergency e.g. medication, a torch etc. You may wish to consider making an emergency kit (see page 24)

## Go in, stay in and tune in - staying home in an emergency

In most emergencies, staying indoors is the safest action to take unless told otherwise by the emergency services. If you are prepared correctly, you should be able to stay inside safely for some time.

In the event of an emergency, local radio is used to broadcast emergency warnings and information, as it is the most accessible means of communication. Radio can still be broadcast and received during a power cut.

Local emergency response organisations work together with the media during an emergency to ensure the most up-to-date and accurate information is available to the public. This information will typically inform the public on what actions they should take to remain safe.

### If you are at home during an emergency, ensure you gather the following:

- Your emergency kit
- Your house and car keys, your mobile phone and charger, cash and credit cards
- Toiletries, sanitary supplies and any regularly prescribed medication
- Spare clothes and blankets



## Leaving your home in an emergency

In some situations, you may be asked to leave your home by the emergency services. If you are asked to leave, please do so quickly and as calmly as possible.

### If you have time before you leave:

- Turn off water, gas and electricity supplies, and unplug appliances
- Lock all doors and windows
- Take the items you require (see below section on preparing an emergency kit for your home)
- Take your pets
- If you leave by car, ensure you take blankets and bottled water
- Tune in to local radio for emergency advice and instructions
- Inform the emergency services of where you have gone, and how you can be contacted - via the hotline number provided by the emergency services or by calling the Police on 101

Listen to the advice from emergency services or local authorities about any specific actions which you must follow when it is safe to return home.

**Call 999 if anyone is in danger, injured or if there is a threat to life, and wait for instructions from the emergency services.**

**Do not put yourself or others in danger.**

## Preparing an emergency kit for your home

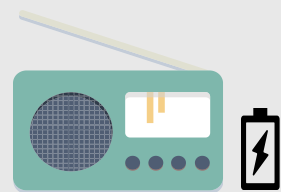
You may wish to prepare an emergency kit containing the following:



A First aid kit



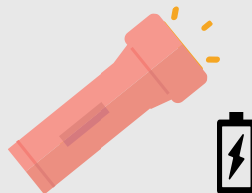
A list of useful phone numbers  
e.g. your doctor, family etc



A battery or wind-up radio  
(with spare batteries)



Bottled water and ready to eat  
food e.g. tinned food



A battery or wind-up torch  
(with spare batteries)



Do not forget other  
necessities (see page 23)

# BEING MORE PREPARED AS A COMMUNITY

## Community resilience

Communities that are resilient use their local resources and knowledge during an emergency to support themselves, whilst complementing the efforts of the local emergency services.

Emergencies that affect communities do happen, such as flooding or severe weather events. Communities from across the UK have taught us that communities who were resilient and better prepared, were able to cope with an emergency and recover better as they understood their local risks, and were able to plan better for emergencies. Such communities were also aware of the support vulnerable people within their community may need during an emergency, such as the elderly or disabled.

One such way communities can be more prepared for emergency situations is through community emergency planning.

## What is a community emergency plan?

Community emergency plans provide advice and information to local communities before, during and after an emergency. Community emergency plans are developed by communities, and can include:

- A contact list of those involved with the plan, and contact details for the organisations involved in emergencies
- Risk assessments completed by the community
- A list of local skills and resources that would be useful in an emergency
- Actions to be taken by the community before, during and after an emergency

## What are the benefits of having a community emergency plan?

There are numerous benefits to communities from being more prepared to cope with emergencies, such as:

- Communities are able to recover quicker after an emergency
- A stronger feeling of community spirit
- Sharing of local skills, resources and knowledge
- Partnerships with local organisations involved in emergencies
- Communities know how to react to an emergency and what actions to take
- Improved understanding of the role of local organisations during an emergency

# MAKING YOUR BUSINESS MORE PREPARED

Emergencies can also have an affect on businesses from small to large scale. If you own a business, or are responsible for one, you will need to consider the affects an emergency could have on the operations of the business as part of your business continuity planning.

## What is business continuity?

Business continuity ensures that your business can still operate in the event of an emergency. It asks the owner or responsible person to consider how the business would operate if an emergency affected certain aspects of the business, such as; how would the business cope if access to the building was lost, or if the telephone lines became unavailable for a period of time. Business continuity management enables a business to review the business as a whole by looking at:

- What is important to the running of your business
- Identifying the most important risks to your key activities, such as; a loss of staff, equipment, suppliers, premises, contractors, utilities etc.

Considering such factors can help a business plan how to reduce the impacts an emergency may have on its operations. Business continuity management also asks you to consider the time-frames by which you would require certain parts or all of your business to be back up and running.

## Get advice on being more prepared

If you would like more advice and information on being prepared at home or as a community, or if you would like more information on business continuity, please visit our website at:

[www.jointresilience.co.uk](http://www.jointresilience.co.uk)

# FURTHER INFORMATION

Call 999 in an  
emergency

## Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

☎ 01639 686868  
✉ [contactus@npt.gov.uk](mailto:contactus@npt.gov.uk)  
🌐 [www.npt.gov.uk](http://www.npt.gov.uk)

## South Wales Police

☎ 101 (non emergency / enquiries)  
🌐 [www.south-wales.police.uk](http://www.south-wales.police.uk)

## South Wales Fire and Rescue Service

☎ 01443 232000 (non emergency / enquiries)  
✉ [swfs@southwales-fire.gov.uk](mailto:swfs@southwales-fire.gov.uk)  
🌐 [www.southwales-fire.gov.uk](http://www.southwales-fire.gov.uk)

## Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service

☎ 03706 060699 (non emergency / enquiries)  
✉ [mail@mawwfire.gov.uk](mailto:mail@mawwfire.gov.uk)  
🌐 [www.mawwfire.gov.uk](http://www.mawwfire.gov.uk)

## Maritime and Coastguard Agency

☎ 02038 172000 (non emergency / enquiries)  
✉ [infoline@mcga.gov.uk](mailto:infoline@mcga.gov.uk)  
🌐 [www.dft.gov.uk/mca](http://www.dft.gov.uk/mca)

## Natural Resources Wales

☎ 0345 988 1188 - **Floodline** (24 hour service)  
☎ 03000 653000 (incident reporting / enquiries)  
✉ [enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk)  
🌐 [www.naturalresources.wales/splash](http://www.naturalresources.wales/splash)

## DEFRA - Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

☎ 03459 335577 (helpline)  
✉ [defra.helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:defra.helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk)  
🌐 [www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk)

## NPTCBC Emergency Planning Team

☎ 01639 686409  
✉ [ept@npt.gov.uk](mailto:ept@npt.gov.uk)  
🌐 [www.jointresilience.co.uk](http://www.jointresilience.co.uk)

## Welsh Ambulance Service (Central and West)

☎ 01792 562900 (general enquiries)  
🌐 [www.ambulance.wales.nhs.uk](http://www.ambulance.wales.nhs.uk)

## Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board

☎ 01656 752752 (general enquiries)  
✉ [abm.inquiries@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:abm.inquiries@wales.nhs.uk)  
🌐 [www.abm.wales.nhs.uk](http://www.abm.wales.nhs.uk)

## Public Health Wales

☎ 02920 227744 (general enquiries)  
✉ [general.enquiries@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:general.enquiries@wales.nhs.uk)  
🌐 [www.publichealthwales.wales.nhs.uk/](http://www.publichealthwales.wales.nhs.uk/)

## Met Office

🌐 [www.metoffice.gov.uk](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk)

## Wales Resilience

🌐 [www.walesresilience.gov.uk](http://www.walesresilience.gov.uk)

## GOV.UK - general information for the public

🌐 [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)