



Summary of the Main Changes to the National Risk Register

1. The Government committed to publishing a National Risk Register (NRR) in its first National Security Strategy, and has undertaken to update it regularly. The first NRR was published in August 2008, and was based on the classified National Risk Assessment for that year; this updated version is based on the 2011 iteration of the National Risk Assessment.
2. The Civil Contingencies Secretariat has consulted widely with cross-Government stakeholders on the 2012 update.
3. There are no major changes in terms of style, format or the scope of the document, the core function remains to raise public awareness of the risks that the UK faces and provide information on Government preparedness for those risks.
4. The main changes to the 2012 edition of the NRR are as follows:

NRR Risk Matrices

5. The 2012 NRR includes two risk matrices, one detailing the risk of various terrorist and other malicious attacks, the other detailing the risk of natural hazards, major accidents and other non-malicious attacks. The use of two matrices better reflects that a different methodology is employed when assessing the likelihood for these two categories of risk.

Risks

6. The text in chapter 3 has been updated to reflect new evidence since the 2010 edition of the NRR. Key updates include:
 - the text on the pandemic influenza risk has been updated to reflect lessons learnt from the 2009 H1N1 pandemic (commonly referred to as swine flu);
 - the text on national planning for high impact terrorism has been updated to reflect the more explicit reference to this work in the 2011 edition of the Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy (CONTEST);
 - severe space weather and volcanic hazard risks (explosive ash rich and effusive gas rich eruption styles) have been added; and
 - new social disruption and industrial action risk categories have been added to reflect the fact that the consequences of these events are captured by a number of NRA risks and in reflection of recent events

Considerations for the public and Businesses

7. The 2012 NRR does not include guidance on how people or businesses can prepare for risks. How best to present this guidance will be reviewed as part of a wider risk communications review to be conducted by the Cabinet Office during the Spring. Whilst this review is underway, the 2010 NRR chapters, which provide guidance on how people or businesses can prepare for risks, will continue as the relevant guidance. There are hyperlinks to these chapters in the 2012 NRR.