

Southwark Community Risk Register



Introduction

The Southwark Community Risk Register provides information on the top risks that have the potential to cause disruption to the borough. This booklet explains the types of incidents that might occur due to these risks and how you can help to protect yourself.



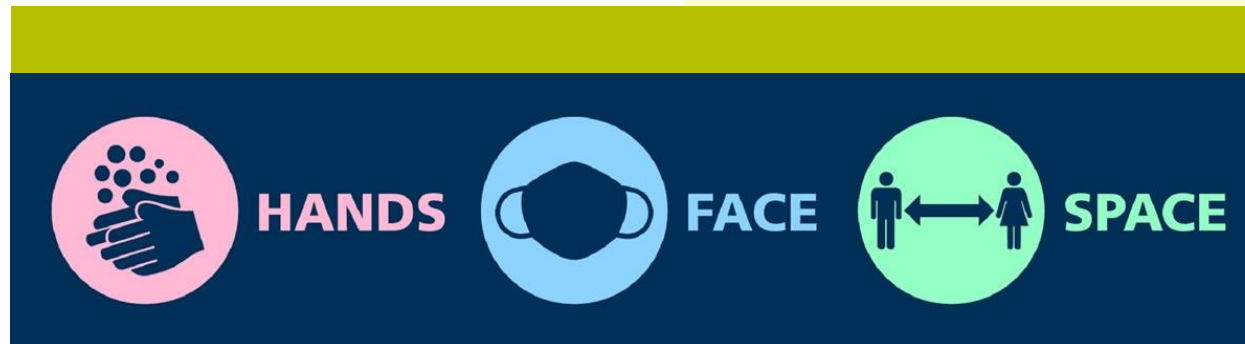
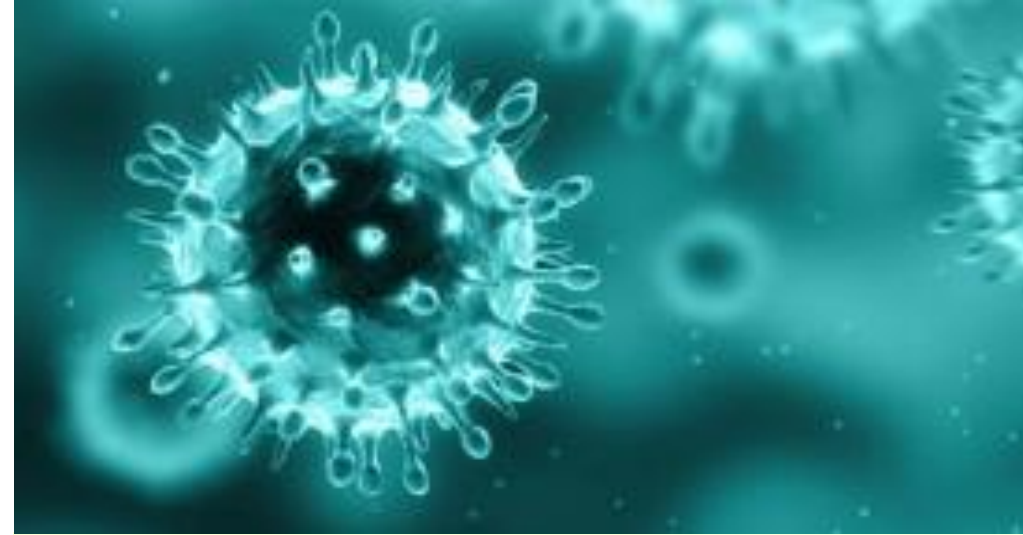
The list below is the assessment for Southwark of the top risks that have the potential to cause significant disruption to the borough:

- ⇒ Pandemic
- ⇒ Failure of National Electricity Network
- ⇒ Discovery of an Unexploded Ordnance
- ⇒ Cyber Threat
- ⇒ Malicious Attack on Crowded Place
- ⇒ Flooding
- ⇒ Fire
- ⇒ Severe Weather

Pandemic

Background

A Pandemic is a rapidly spreading epidemic and will cause serious illness in a large proportion of the population. Pandemics are natural events that happen when a unique virus evolves that few people are immune to.



The symptoms of a pandemic could be similar to those of ordinary flu but are usually more severe. It can occur at any time of the year and is a more serious infection for everyone of all ages, not just those who are vulnerable and in the high risk category.

A pandemic could cause a large percentage of the population to experience symptoms, there is the potential for fatalities and high levels of absence from work.

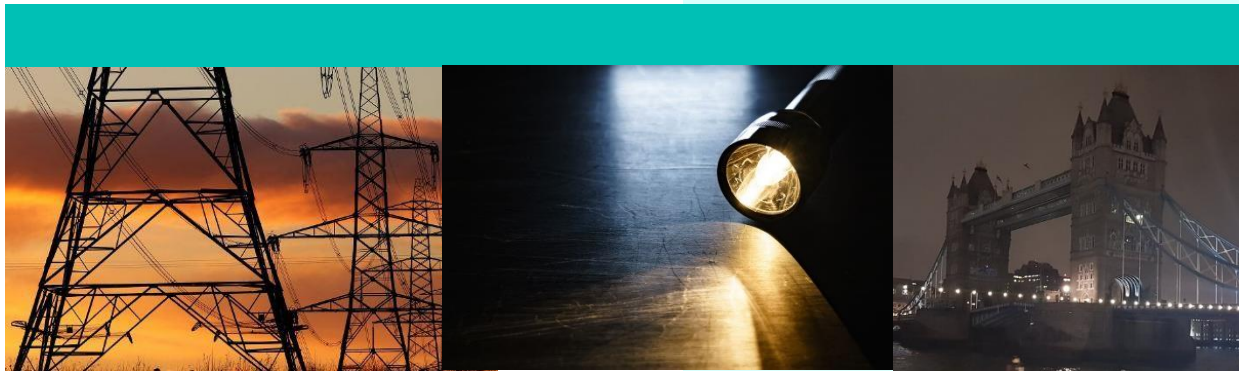
What you can do

- ⇒ Vaccination —vaccines can help reduce the risk and spread of pandemics
- ⇒ Maintain good hygiene to prevent the spread of germs
- ⇒ Keep healthy as a healthy lifestyle can be a great defence against pandemics
- ⇒ Identify someone who could collect your medication and other supplies if you are isolated
- ⇒ Check national government and NHS website
- ⇒ Keep a personal stock of over the counter medication, including hand sanitizer and spare face coverings
- ⇒ Antibiotics do not have any effect on viruses

Failure of Electricity Network

Background

Loss of utilities can happen at any time and with little warning. Loss of a single service can have direct and indirect wider impacts on other utilities that support normal day to day living. For example, electricity is required at water pumping stations, fuel filling stations and to allow cash machines to function.



A blackout can be caused by a range of things, such as severe weather including strong winds or lightning. A national outage would be very severe, causing significant disruption to critical sectors and overall society.

The recovery process from such an event is called 'Black Start'. However a full Black Start recovery could take several days with the potential for disruption to last longer than this if the damage to the network is significant.



What you can do

- ⇒ Have a wind up torch to hand
- ⇒ Keep electrical devices fully charged
- ⇒ Consider how you can be prepared, have a plan
- ⇒ Know where to turn off your utilities if required
- ⇒ If you are vulnerable, sign up to the Priorities Risk Register
- ⇒ If you experience a power cut, call 105

Discovery of Unexploded Ordnances

Background

Unexploded ordnances (UXO) are explosive weapons that did not explode when they were employed and they still pose a risk of detonation. Risk is greater in areas, such as London, that were heavily bombed during the Blitz. Items of ordnance tend to be discovered during construction work and on building sites.



It is not uncommon for residents to be evacuated temporarily when a UXO is discovered. This is to ensure that residents are kept safe. Residents may be accommodated in an Emergency Centre close to the incident.

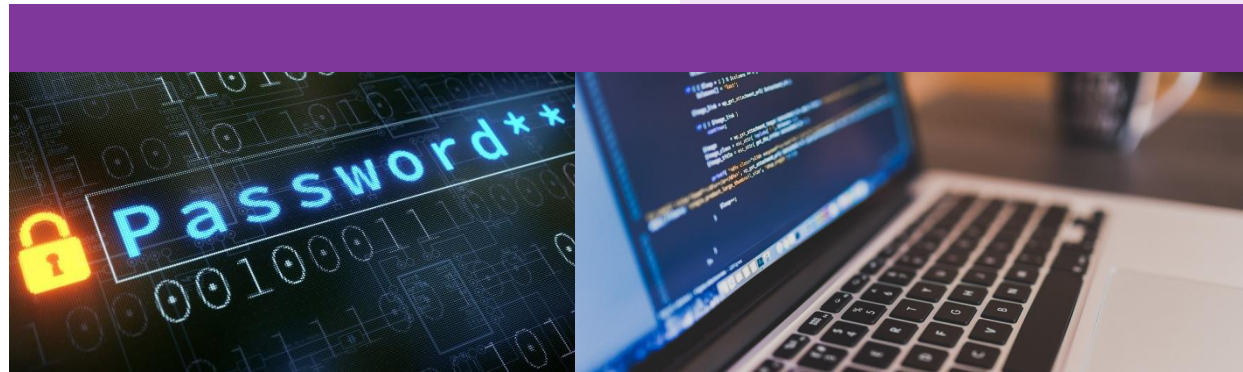
What you can do

- ⇒ Plan where you will go if you have to evacuate, such as family or friends nearby and plan how you will get there
- ⇒ Plan what to take with you if you have to evacuate your home, this may include the following:
 - Medication
 - Clothing
 - Phone and Charger

Cyber Security

Background

Cyber dependent crimes are offences that can only be committed using a form of information communications technology. This includes hacking, the spread of viruses and distributed denial of service attacks.



Cyber-enabled crimes are traditional crimes, such as fraud, which can be increased in their scale or reach through the use of ICT devices.

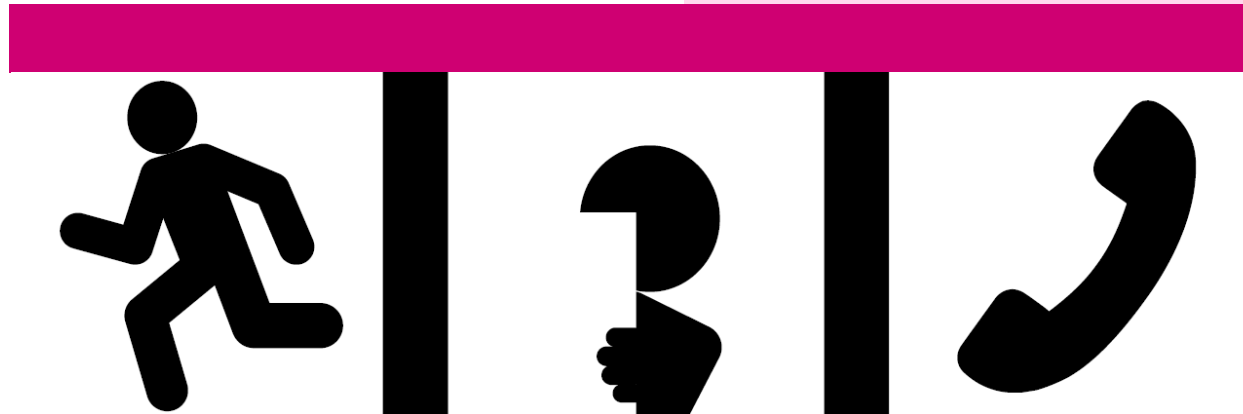
What you can do

- ⇒ Use a Firewall on your computer
- ⇒ Keep software updated, older software mat be redundant
- ⇒ Have a strong password
- ⇒ Use a Multi Factor Authenticator when possible
- ⇒ Know the signs of an active attack
- ⇒ Check the sender email address on an email
- ⇒ Use antivirus software
- ⇒ Back up your data regularly
- ⇒ Don't follow links or open attachments in emails unless from a trusted source
- ⇒ Be wary of what you post online
- ⇒ Have high security settings on social media sites
- ⇒ Be wary when using public Wi-Fi, if unsure use 3G or 4G data instead

Attack on Crowded Places

Background

The UK faces a serious and sustained threat from terrorism. This threat is from international groups, domestic extremists and Northern Ireland-related groups.



Many of the networks and individuals who pose a terrorist threat seek to harm large numbers of people. Attacks can potentially threaten both life and property.

RUN HIDE TELL

You must:

RUN - to a place of safety. This is a better option than to surrender or negotiate. If there's nowhere to go, then...

HIDE - Turn your phone to silent and turn off vibrate. Barricade yourself in if you can.

TELL - the police by calling 999 when it is safe to do so.

What you can do

⇒ [Download the free](#) app, CitizenAID ([citizen aid website](#)) which provides clear and simple actions on immediate actions in a shooting, stabbing or bomb incident.

⇒ Report suspicious activity on the following Confidential Hotline 0800 789 321.

Flooding

Background

Flooding incidents in cities are often the result of surface water. This can be caused by sudden heavy downpours or burst water main where the drainage system is overwhelmed. Surface water flooding can be difficult to predict and often occurs in urban areas where there is limited ground to absorb water.



The Environment Agency maintains and operates flood defences and provide a free 24 hour flood warning service which you can register for. You can select to receive warnings by your preferred method of communication.

Always ensure you know how to turn off your gas, electricity and water mains supplies.

What you can do

There is much that can be done to protect against flooding and advice for those who have been affected:

- ⇒ Find out if your property is in a flood risk area and check your insurance cover
- ⇒ Plan where you will if you have to evacuate and how you will get there
- ⇒ Sign up for flood warnings— [Gov UK Flood Warnings](#)
- ⇒ Plan what you will take with you if you need to evacuate
- ⇒ Think about what you would want to move to safety during a flood
- ⇒ During a flood protect what you can, but evacuate when told to do so

Fire

Background

To help keep your family safe from fire, it is important to understand the common risks so that you can reduce them in your home.

“The most effective firefighting technique is prevention”



Home Fire Safety Visit

The London Fire Brigade operate a service where they can visit you, a loved one or someone you care for at home to provide personalized advice about fire safety. It is totally free, available 24/7 and they can even fit free smoke alarms during the visit if you need them.

Visit - london-fire.gov.uk/safety/the-home/home-fire-safety-visits/

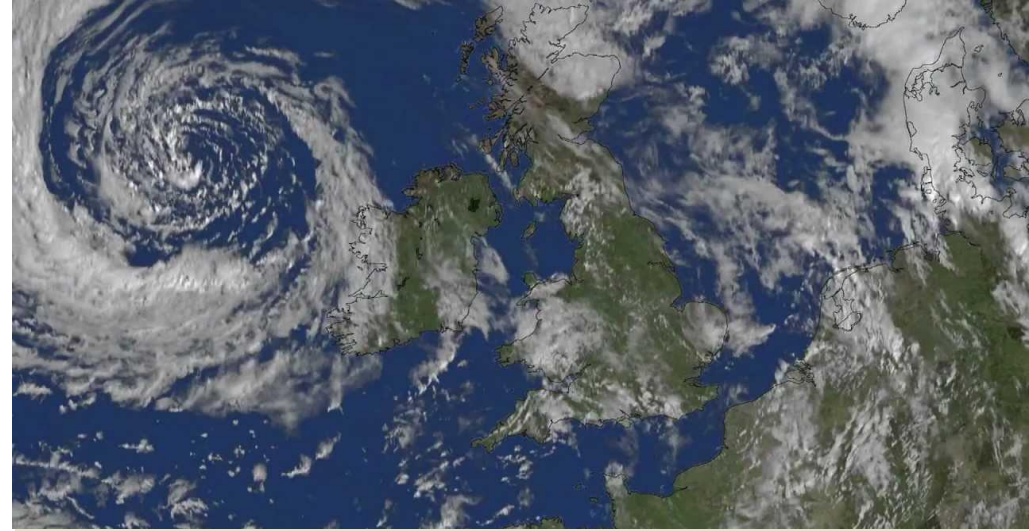
What you can do

- ⇒ Make an escape plan and practice how you will escape in a smoky atmosphere
- ⇒ Install smoke and heat alarms in your home in any room where a fire can start
- ⇒ Try not to leave cooking unattended on the hob or grill
- ⇒ Try to keep your oven, hob, cooker hood, extractor fan and grill clean
- ⇒ Check that the cooker and hob are turned off when you have finished cooking
- ⇒ Keep matches out of children's reach and buy children resistant lighters
- ⇒ At night close all internal doors to prevent smoke spreading if a fire starts
- ⇒ Don't leave washing machines, tumble driers or dishwashers on overnight

Severe Weather

Background

- Gales are the most common cause of damage and disruption in the UK.
- A prolonged spell of cold weather has a number of effects on people's health.
- Extreme heat is potentially dangerous to everyone.



The Met Office issues severe weather warnings which can be viewed on their website.

The Highway Code provides information on driving in adverse weather conditions.

What you can do

- ⇒ During a storm stay indoors as much as possible
- ⇒ Take care when driving or only drive if your journey is really necessary
- ⇒ Make sure that vulnerable neighbours or relatives are safe
- ⇒ Stay tuned to the weather forecast and plan ahead with supplies