

RESEARCH RISK ASSESSMENT: Risk Estimation Tool

ASSESSING LIKELIHOOD OF EVENT

| Likelihood Score | | | | |
|------------------|----------|---------------|--------|-------------|
| VERY UNLIKELY | UNLIKELY | FAIRLY LIKELY | LIKELY | VERY LIKELY |

ASSESSING CONSEQUENCE

| Consequence / Impact | General risk description | Physical / mental harm description |
|----------------------|--|---|
| INSIGNIFICANT | Annoyance but does not disrupt service: Financial loss to institution under £5k; Isolated service user complaints contained within unit/section• Litigation claim or fine less than £5k• Failure to achieve a core research objective | No significant harm to health Minor injuries not requiring first aid |
| MINOR | Minor impact on service• Minor injuries to several people• Financial loss in excess of £5k but less than £50K• Isolated service user complaints contained within department• Litigation claim or fine in excess of £5k but less than £50K• Failure to achieve several research objectives including a core objective | Nuisance and irritation; temporary ill-health leading to discomfort, stress / distress. Minor injuries requiring first aid. Superficial injuries, minor cuts and bruises; eye irritation from dust. |
| MODERATE | Service disruption• Financial loss in excess of £50k but less than £500K• Adverse local media coverage • Lots of service user complaints• Litigation claims or fine in excess of £50k but less than £500K• Failure to achieve one or more supporting strategy objective/s | Short term sickness absence, dermatitis; asthma; work-related upper limb disorders; diagnosable mental health condition (e.g. post traumatic stress). Injury resulting in person incapacitated or absent from work for less than 7 days. Lacerations; minor burns; sprains. |
| MAJOR | Significant service disruption• financial loss in excess of £500k but less than £5million• adverse national media coverage• Litigation claim or fine in excess of £500,000 but less than £5million• Failure to achieve one or more strategic plan objective/s | Ill- health leading to permanent minor disability. Partial hearing lost; Long term sickness absence (7+ days). Diagnosable mental health condition significantly affecting day to day life; Self harm or harm to others due to mental health condition. Incapacitated or absent from work for more than 7+ days. Lacerations; burns; concussion; serious sprains; minor fractures. |
| CATASTROPHIC | Total service loss for a significant period• Financial loss in excess of £5million• National publicity more than 3 days. Possible resignation of leading member or chief officer• Multiple civil or criminal suits. Litigation claim or fine above £5million• Failure to achieve a major corporate objective in the Strategic Plan | Acute fatal diseases; severe life shortening diseases; permanent substantial disability (life changing), Ill health retirement. Suicide or serious harm to others due to mental ill health. Fatal injuries; permanent substantial physical disability (life changing)); Amputations. Multiple serious injuries; serious burns; loss of sight; major fractures. Loss of consciousness caused by head injury, inhalation of substance or asphyxia. |

RISK MATRIX

| | | | | | | |
|---|---------------|---------------|----------|---------------|-----------|-------------|
| Likely Consequence | Catastrophic | Medium | High | Very High | Very high | Very High |
| | Major | Low | Medium | High | High | Very High |
| | Moderate | Very low | Low | Medium | Medium | High |
| | Minor | Very low | Low | Low | Medium | Medium |
| | Insignificant | Very low | Very low | Low | Low | Low |
| | | Very unlikely | Unlikely | Fairly likely | Likely | Very likely |
| Likelihood of identified event / hazardous event occurring | | | | | | |

research risk estimation tool V1 August 2019

Note: General risk descriptor is based on the descriptor used in the University's risk register