

## Risk Management Policy Appendix I: Risk Scoring Guide

To be used when assessing risks that are recorded on the Trust risk register (Datix).

Severity score & descriptor (with examples)					
Risk type	1 Very low	2 Low	3 Medium	4 High	5 Very high
<b>Harm (physical or psychological)</b>	Low level of harm affecting a small number of patients, staff or visitors within a single location.	Low level of harm affecting a large number of patients, staff or visitors within a single location.	Significant but not permanent harm affecting multiple patients, staff or visitors within a single directorate.	Significant long-term or permanent harm affecting multiple patients, staff or visitors within one or more directorates.	Significant long-term or permanent harm affecting a large number of patients, staff or visitors throughout the Trust.
<b>Service disruption</b>	Manageable, temporary disruption to peripheral aspects of service provision affecting one or more services.	Noticeable, temporary disruption to essential aspects of service provision reducing the efficiency & effectiveness of one or more services.	Temporary, unplanned service closure affecting one or more services or significant disruption to efficiency & effectiveness across multiple services.	Extended, unplanned service closure affecting one or more services; prolonged disruption to services across multiple directorates / sites.	Indefinite, unplanned general hospital or site closure.
<b>Compliance &amp; reputation</b>	Limited impact on public, commissioner or regulator confidence. e.g.: Small number of individual complaints / concerns received.	Noticeable, short term reduction in public, commissioner and / or regulator confidence. e.g.: Recommendations for improvement for one or more services; concerns expressed in local / social media; multiple complaints received.	Significant, short term reduction in public, commissioner and / or regulator confidence. e.g.: Improvement / warning notice for one or more services; independent review; adverse local / social media coverage; multiple serious complaints received.	Significant, long-term reduction in public, commissioner and / or regulator confidence. e.g.: Special Measures; prohibition notice for one or more services; prosecution; sustained adverse national / social media coverage.	Fundamental loss of public, commissioner and / or regulator confidence. e.g.: Suspension of CQC Registration; Parliamentary intervention; vitriolic national / social media coverage.
<b>Finances</b>	Some adverse financial impact (unplanned cost / reduced income / loss) but not sufficient to affect the ability of the service / department to operate within its annual budget.	Noticeable adverse financial impact (unplanned cost / reduced income / loss) affecting the ability of one or more services / departments to operate within their annual budget.	Significant adverse financial impact (unplanned cost / reduced income / loss) affecting the ability of one or more directorates to operate within their annual budget.	Significant adverse financial impact (unplanned cost / reduced income / loss) affecting the organisation to achieve its annual financial control total.	Significant aggregated financial impact (unplanned cost / reduced income / loss) affecting the long-term financial sustainability of the organisation.

Likelihood score & descriptor (with examples)				
1 Extremely unlikely	2 Quite unlikely	3 Reasonably likely	4 Quite likely	5 Extremely likely
Unlikely to happen except in very rare circumstances. Less than 1 chance in 1,000 (< 0.1% probability). No gaps in control. Well managed.	Unlikely to happen except in specific circumstances. Between 1 chance in 1,000 & 1 in 100 (0.1 - 1% probability). Some gaps in control; no substantial threats identified.	Likely to happen in a relatively small number of circumstances. Between 1 chance in 100 & 1 in 10 (1- 10% probability). Evidence of potential threats with some gaps in control.	Likely to happen in many but not the majority of circumstances. Between 1 chance in 10 & 1 in 2 (10 - 50% probability). Evidence of substantial threats with some gaps in control.	More likely to happen than not. Greater than 1 chance in 2 (>50% probability). Evidence of substantial threats with significant gaps in control.

Risk scoring matrix						
Severity	5	5	10	15	20	25
	4	4	8	12	16	20
	3	3	6	9	12	15
	2	2	4	6	8	10
	1	1	2	3	4	5
	1	2	3	4	5	
						Likelihood
Risk rating	Very low (1-3)	Low (4-6)	Moderate (8-10)	High (12-16)	Very high (20-25)	