

Scottish Risk Assessment 2018



Safer
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Government

An assessment of risks and their impact on Scotland



We all want to live in a Scotland that is safe, secure and that can cope with and recover from the periodic emergencies that are bound to occur. We are lucky that, compared to other parts of the world, Scotland's risk environment is relatively stable. However, despite our best efforts, we will continue to be affected by disruptive events and we need to be ready when they happen.



Our ability to effectively plan for, mitigate against, respond to and recover from disruptive events is based on an understanding of the risk that we may face here in Scotland. It is important that we are aware of our own cognitive

bias and that we don't simply plan for the last emergency to have affected us. We must therefore take into account what the evidence base tells us as well as learning effectively from our own experiences.

This initial iteration of a Scottish Risk Assessment (SRA) is the first step in building that evidence base to enhance our understanding of the risks we face. It is important that we continue to develop this evidence base to remain resilient to current and emergent risks.

The SRA has been designed to complement the UK National Risk Assessment by providing the level of detail required for Scotland in those areas where that is different from the rest of the UK.

I feel very strongly that resilience is everyone's business. Our combined efforts to protect our society are the test of our resilience; the on-going safety and security of our communities is the measure of our success. Building a shared understanding of the risks we face in Scotland is vital if we are to do this successfully.

I am grateful to the wide range of stakeholders from across the resilience community that have been involved in the development of the SRA.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Swinney'.

John Swinney MSP
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary
for Education and Skills