



Individual Risk Assessments

Hazard/threat Category	
6. Structural hazards/collapse and subsidence	
Date of Revision	Next review date
01/07/2014	01/07/2017
Overview of hazard or threat:	
<p>Buildings or parts of buildings can and do collapse. There are a number of reasons why collapses occur including: Gas explosions, structural defects, subsidence, abnormal levels of snow (on roofs). Norwich has a number of large occupied buildings where the collapse of all or part of a building has the potential for injury, fatalities and evacuation. These buildings include high rise residential and commercial properties, Castle Mall and Chapelfield Shopping Centres, The Forum, Norwich Train Station, Cathedrals and churches, Norwich City Football Stadium. Norwich has a very large network of old chalk mines and known sub surface watercourses so there is the increased risk of collapse caused by subsidence . Norwich has a large number of ageing high rise residential and commercial properties.</p>	
Key historical evidence (last 5 years or of particular note):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2010 (Dec) - Finkelgate Norwich partial collapse of terrace property and road due to subsidence • 2009 - Normandie Tower high-rise residential accommodation had to be totally evacuated for a lengthy period due to concerns about subsidence. This was brought about by a burst water main that was leaking unnoticed for some considerable time and the possible proximity of chalk mines. 	
Likelihood:	
Hazard	Likelihood
6. Structural hazards/collapse and subsidence	Low
Impact:	
Summary:	
Hazard	Impact
6. Structural hazards/collapse and subsidence	Minor
Details:	
Impact associated with risk	
Primary:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fatalities • Casualties • Potential loss of utilities and other essential services • Possible road closures • Loss of essential buildings 	
Secondary	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structural integrity of surrounding buildings • Economic impact (dependent on type of building ie. If a business – loss of jobs even short term closure of businesses until such time as area can be proven safe) • Homelessness 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact on transport routes including public transport • Psychological impacts 		
Overall assessment:		
Category:		
6. Structural hazards/collapse and subsidence		
Likelihood	Impact	Risk Rating
Low	Overall	10
	Fatalities	1
	Casualties	2
	Economic	3
	Social Disruption	3
	Psychological	1
Low		
Controls in place		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councils have Risk Analysis and Risk Treatment Plan in place for subsidence. • Councils have team of structural engineers who can give specialised advice to the emergency services. • Councils have Business Continuity plans in place that should enable its functions to be continued if one of their buildings were to be affected in such a manner. • Emergency services have robust and well practiced emergency plans in place for the initial rescue and treatment of survivors. • Other category one and two responders to major incidents, especially Utility companies, have robust and well practiced emergency plans in place to withdraw or restore affected supplies. • Urban Search and Rescue Teams operated by Fire and Rescue Service. • NRF Emergency Response Guidance • NRF Recovery Guidance • Norfolk Emergency Media Plan • NRF Excess Deaths • Norfolk Resilience Mortuary Plan • Local Authority Housing Policies • Voluntary & Faith Sector Plans • Humanitarian Assistance Plan 		