

Risk Matrix and Tolerance Levels

Impact Likelihood	Extreme 5	Major 4	Moderate 3	Minor 2	Insignificant 1
Almost Certain 5	25	20	15	10	5
Likely 4	20	16	12	8	4
Possible 3	15	12	9	6	3
Unlikely 2	10	8	6	4	2
Rare 1	5	4	3	2	1

Tolerance Level	Risk Treatment
High Risk (16-25)	Risks at this level are so significant that risk treatment is mandatory
Medium Risk (6-15)	Risks at this level require consideration of costs and benefits in order to determine what if any treatment is appropriate
Low Risk (1-5)	Risks at this level can be regarded as negligible or so small that no risk treatment is needed

The Council's risk scoring methodology

Each risk score is expressed as a multiple of the impact and the likelihood of the event occurring:

- a) Original risk score – the level of risk exposure before any action is taken to reduce the risk when the risk was entered on the risk register
- b) Current risk score – the level of risk exposure at the time the risk is reviewed by the risk owner, taking into consideration the progress of the mitigation tasks
- c) Target risk score – the level of risk exposure that we are prepared to tolerate following completion of all the mitigation tasks

In accordance with the Risk Matrix and Risk Tolerance Level set out within the current Norfolk County Council “Well Managed Risk - Management of Risk Framework”, three risks are reported as “High” (risk score 16–25) and 11 as “Medium” (risk score 6–15).

The prospects of meeting target scores by the target dates are a reflection of how well mitigation tasks are controlling the risk. It is also an early indication that additional resources and tasks or escalation may be required to ensure that the risk can meet the target score by the target date. The position is visually displayed for ease in the “Prospects of meeting the target score by the target date” column as follows:

- a) Green – the mitigation tasks are on schedule and the risk owner considers that the target score is achievable by the target date
- b) Amber – one or more of the mitigation tasks are falling behind and there are some concerns that the target score may not be achievable by the target date unless the shortcomings are addressed
- c) Red – significant mitigation tasks are falling behind and there are serious concerns that the target score will not be achieved by the target date and the shortcomings must be addressed and/or new tasks are introduced