

2026

Emergency Information
for Local Residents
Springfields



Introduction

You have received this information because your residential/business premises lies within the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone (DEPZ) of Springfields Fuels Ltd. The information describes how a chemical and/or radiation emergency at Springfields might affect you as a local resident, visitor, or worker and has been issued by Lancashire County Council and Springfields Fuels Ltd in accordance with the Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations (COMAH) 2015, and the Radiation Emergency Preparedness and Public Information Regulations (REPPiR) 2019.

Public Safety

Springfields is an industrial chemical site which produces and supplies nuclear fuel and intermediates for civil nuclear programmes at home and abroad.

From 1946, when operations began at Springfields, there has never been a release which has affected people off-site and it is important to understand that the possibility of such an incident is very remote.

The plant is designed and operated to the highest safety standards. However, it is still important that local residents understand the potential hazard associated with the materials handled at Springfields and know what to do in an emergency, no matter how remote. You are therefore asked to read this information carefully and keep it in a safe place in your home/business.

This information updates the previous issue, prepared by Springfields Emergency Planning and Lancashire County Council, and in close liaison with the site's Environmental Health, Safety & Quality Department, and endorsed by the Springfields Site Stakeholder Group (SSSG). The Group is chaired by an independent person and includes senior managers from Springfields, local authorities, emergency services, regulatory authorities, and elected councillors.

If you have any questions or enquiries regarding the Site Stakeholder Group, you can contact them at:
westinghouseukcommunityrelations@westinghouse.com

What are the risks?

The Springfields site consists of Springfields Fuels Ltd, with United Kingdom National Nuclear Laboratory (UKNNL) as major tenants. Adjacent to the Springfields site East perimeter fence is F2 Chemicals Ltd.

The Springfields site is an upper tier establishment, as defined in the Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations (COMAH) 2015, and is also covered by the provisions under the Radiation Emergency Preparedness and Public Information Regulations (REPPiR) 2019.

Under COMAH Regulations it is identified that the Springfields site and F2 Chemicals are a Domino Group whereby the risk or consequences of a major accident may be increased due to the:

- a. Geographical position of establishments,
- b. Proximity of establishments to each other, or
- c. Inventories of dangerous substances held by establishments.

The Safety Report (COMAH) and the Consequence Report (REPPiR) have to be submitted by Springfields Fuels to the Competent Authority to comply with these Regulations, e.g. Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR), Environment Agency (EA).

Radiological

The main potential radiological hazard is a Criticality; this is associated with any plants storing or processing enriched uranium and involves a pulse of radiation that diminishes with distance. There is no other indication (smell, colour, etc) that this has occurred. The arrangements described in this calendar are applicable to this event and any other radiological or non-radiological chemical release. It must be stressed that the likelihood of a Criticality is extremely remote.

Chemical

Under the COMAH Regulations we must also assess our non-radioactive chemical hazards. Springfields produces a chemical called concentrated hydrofluoric acid in the production of nuclear fuel which is not radioactive but has an extremely pungent odour and can affect the respiratory system if inhaled.

The Classification Labelling & Packaging (CLP) hazard classification is Acute Toxic and these activities are covered under the COMAH Regulations 2015.

Nitrous fume (CLP hazard classification Acute Toxic) is also a by-product of our processes which, under normal operating conditions, is absorbed into liquid. The consequences of an accidental release of the brown fume would be similar to those described above for hydrogen fluoride, and the same avoidance measures are applicable.

A release could also damage fauna and flora and may result in the imposition of food bans. The Environment Agency (EA) and Food Standards Agency (FSA) will be available to give further advice if necessary. The safety measures used to protect the local population will also serve to protect the environment.

Hydrogen

Hydrogen is also used in the production and operation process, it is a colourless odourless gas with flammable and explosive properties.

Again, safety is built into the design of the plant and equipment and the small potential risk has been reduced even further by significantly reducing the storage quantity of this material.



What emergency arrangements are in place?

Comprehensive emergency arrangements are in place. This includes an On-Site Emergency Plan*, which has been approved by the ONR. An Off-Site Emergency Plan*, which addresses the emergency response to an event with off-site implications, has been prepared by Lancashire County Council Emergency Planning in close liaison with all of the various agencies (including the Emergency Services) involved and, with the co-operation of the ONR / EA and the site. These plans are a requirement of REPPiR 2019 and COMAH 2015 Regulations.

The site has its own full time Fire and Rescue Service and operates a 24/7 emergency control centre. Arrangements also exist for call up of assistance from Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service, North West Ambulance Service, and Lancashire Constabulary. The emergency arrangements are based upon an assessment of potential accidents which include worst case weather conditions and consequences.

** These plans, under COMAH Regulations 2015, are known as internal and external plans.*



How often do we test these arrangements?

Emergency exercises to rehearse building responses are tested on a regular basis and site exercises are carried out annually. An Off-Site Emergency Exercise is held every three years at the request of the ONR to test arrangements in the Off-Site Emergency Plan prepared by Lancashire County Council.

How will I know there is an off-site emergency?

In the unlikely event of an incident you will hear a siren, which can be heard in the potentially affected area, and is recognisable by its loud continuous tone (like an air raid siren).

If you hear this siren or smell unusually strong, irritating fumes which cause you discomfort, you should take the action outlined on each page of this calendar titled 'Action in Emergency'. **The siren is tested quarterly on the first Tuesday of every February, May, August and November at 1400 hours.** It is recognisable by a loud continuous tone and will last for 2 minutes (no action needs to be taken during a test).

Further information is also available at:

www.lancashire.gov.uk/council/strategies-policies-plans/corporate/emergency-planning/emergency-plans/

How is the site regulated?

Springfields Fuels is a complex industrial site with many processes that take place, which to the public may look as though an incident is occurring. This may include, but not be limited to, occasional releases of large amounts of steam, and loud noises. In addition, emergencies could take place on the site, such as fires, or industrial incidents that could generate smoke or require the attendance of large numbers of emergency services vehicles. These would not necessarily involve a radiological or chemical hazard, therefore you should not take any protective actions unless you are advised to do so. All protective actions carry with them a risk of harm, therefore taking unnecessary action, such as evacuating, unless you have been instructed by the emergency services, is not justified.

Springfields site is regulated by the ONR in relation to both REPPiR and COMAH. Reports for any regulator interventions can be found at Regulatory REPPiR inspections can be found at: **www.onr.org.uk/sites/springfields-fuels-limited.htm**

Regulatory COMAH inspections can be found at: **www.hse.gov.uk/COMAH**

JANUARY



A scenic path winding through Shropshire's rural countryside

1	Thurs	BANK HOLIDAY			
2	Fri				
3	Sat				
4	Sun				
5	Mon				
6	Tues				
7	Wed	0830 HOURS ON-SITE SIREN TEST			
8	Thurs				
9	Fri				
10	Sat				
11	Sun				
12	Mon				
13	Tues				
14	Wed				
15	Thurs				
16	Fri				

ACTION IN EMERGENCY

SHELTERING / STAYING INDOORS

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- Remain indoors until you are told by a police officer or other official that the danger has passed
- Tune in to your local radio station, TV channel, or social media for announcements telling you what to do
- Do not use telephones unless you need urgent help

PEOPLE OUTSIDE THE AFFECTED AREA

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EVACUATION / LEAVING THE AREA

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PLEASE CO-OPERATE WITH ANY REQUESTS MADE BY THE EMERGENCY SERVICES

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If you feel any ill health effects contact: NHS 111 service.

If you can give shelter to anyone caught in the open please do so.

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17 Sat					
18 Sun					
19 Mon					
20 Tues					
21 Wed					
22 Thurs					
23 Fri					
24 Sat					
25 Sun					
26 Mon					
27 Tues					
28 Wed					
29 Thurs					
30 Fri					
31 Sat					



Westinghouse

Lancashire
County
Council



FEBRUARY



Evening sun through the trees in winter at Cartmel

1	Sun				
2	Mon				
3	Tues	1400 HOURS EMERGENCY SIREN TEST			
4	Wed	0830 HOURS ON-SITE SIREN TEST			
5	Thurs				
6	Fri				
7	Sat				
8	Sun				
9	Mon				
10	Tues				
11	Wed				
12	Thurs				
13	Fri				
14	Sat				
15	Sun				
16	Mon				

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20 Fri					
21 Sat					
22 Sun					
23 Mon					
24 Tues					
25 Wed					
26 Thurs					
27 Fri					
28 Sat					



MARCH



Widemouth Bay, Devon

1 Sun					
2 Mon					
3 Tues					
4 Wed	0830 HOURS ON-SITE SIREN TEST				
5 Thurs					
6 Fri					
7 Sat					
8 Sun					
9 Mon					
10 Tues					
11 Wed					
12 Thurs					
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14 Sat					
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16 Mon					

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29 Sun					
30 Mon					
31 Tues					



APRIL



Sourton Tor, Dartmoor National Park, Devon

1	Wed	0830 HOURS ON-SITE SIREN TEST			
2	Thurs				
3	Fri	BANK HOLIDAY			
4	Sat				
5	Sun				
6	Mon	BANK HOLIDAY			
7	Tues				
8	Wed				
9	Thurs				
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29 Wed					
30 Thurs					



MAY



Bluebell Woods at the Springfields site

1	Fri				
2	Sat				
3	Sun				
4	Mon	BANK HOLIDAY			
5	Tues	1400 HOURS EMERGENCY SIREN TEST			
6	Wed	0830 HOURS ON-SITE SIREN TEST			
7	Thurs				
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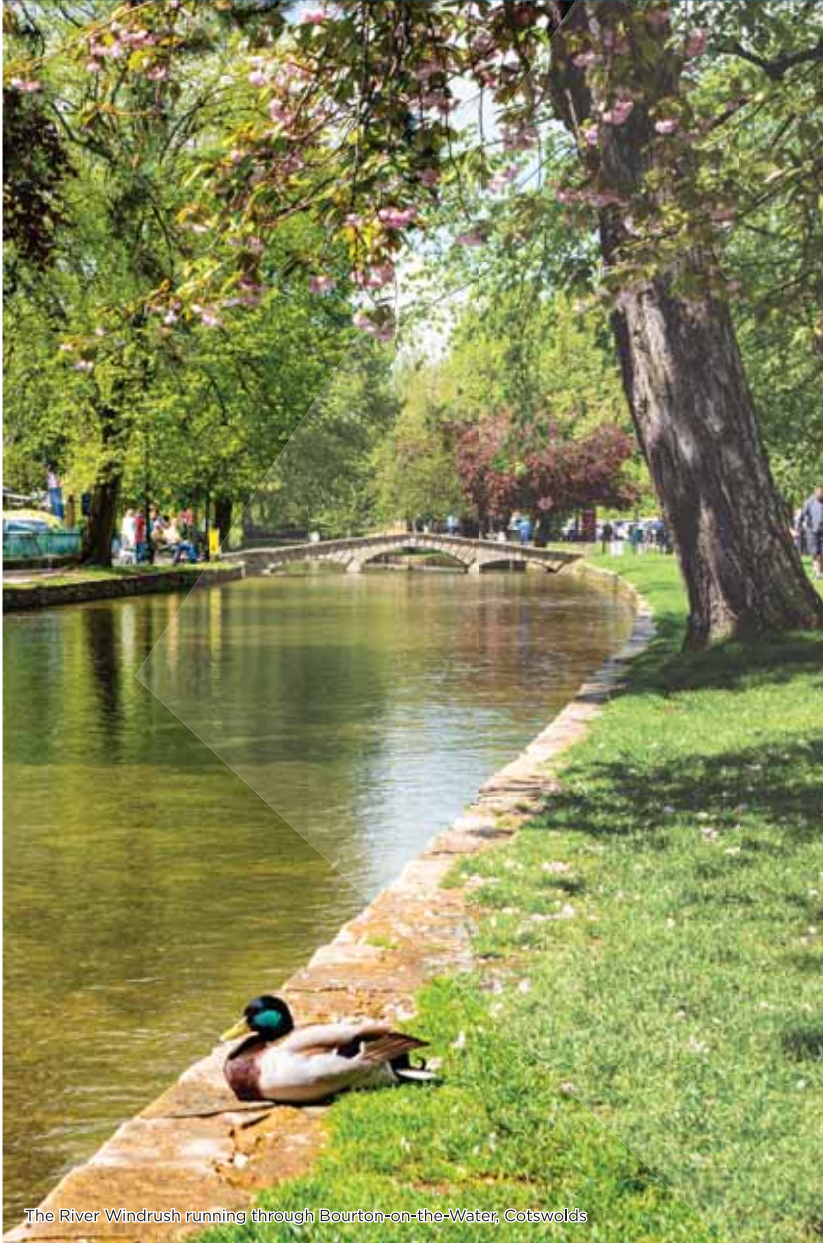
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28 Thurs					
29 Fri					
30 Sat					
31 Sun					



JUNE



The River Windrush running through Bourton-on-the-Water, Cotswolds

1	Mon				
2	Tues				
3	Wed	0830 HOURS ON-SITE SIREN TEST			
4	Thurs				
5	Fri				
6	Sat				
7	Sun				
8	Mon				
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30 Tues					



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JULY



Beach huts in the sand dunes at Southwold

1	Wed	0830 HOURS ON-SITE SIREN TEST			
2	Thurs				
3	Fri				
4	Sat				
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18 Sat					
19 Sun					
20 Mon					
21 Tues					
22 Wed					
23 Thurs					
24 Fri					
25 Sat					
26 Sun					
27 Mon					
28 Tues					
29 Wed					
30 Thurs					
31 Fri					



AUGUST



Hyde Park, London

1 Sat					
2 Sun					
3 Mon					
4 Tues	1400 HOURS EMERGENCY SIREN TEST				
5 Wed	0830 HOURS ON-SITE SIREN TEST				
6 Thurs					
7 Fri					
8 Sat					
9 Sun					
10 Mon					
11 Tues					
12 Wed					
13 Thurs					
14 Fri					
15 Sat					
16 Sun					

ACTION IN EMERGENCY

SHELTERING / STAYING INDOORS

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23 Sun					
24 Mon					
25 Tues					
26 Wed					
27 Thurs					
28 Fri					
29 Sat					
30 Sun					
31 Mon	BANK HOLIDAY				



Westinghouse

Lancashire
County
Council



SEPTEMBER



Cotswolds during spring, Gloucestershire

1	Tues				
2	Wed	0830 HOURS ON-SITE SIREN TEST			
3	Thurs				
4	Fri				
5	Sat				
6	Sun				
7	Mon				
8	Tues				
9	Wed				
10	Thurs				
11	Fri				
12	Sat				
13	Sun				
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16	Wed				

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23 Wed					
24 Thurs					
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26 Sat					
27 Sun					
28 Mon					
29 Tues					
30 Wed					



OCTOBER



Delamere Forest, Cheshire

1	Thurs				
2	Fri				
3	Sat				
4	Sun				
5	Mon				
6	Tues				
7	Wed	0830 HOURS ON-SITE SIREN TEST			
8	Thurs				
9	Fri				
10	Sat				
11	Sun				
12	Mon				
13	Tues				
14	Wed				
15	Thurs				
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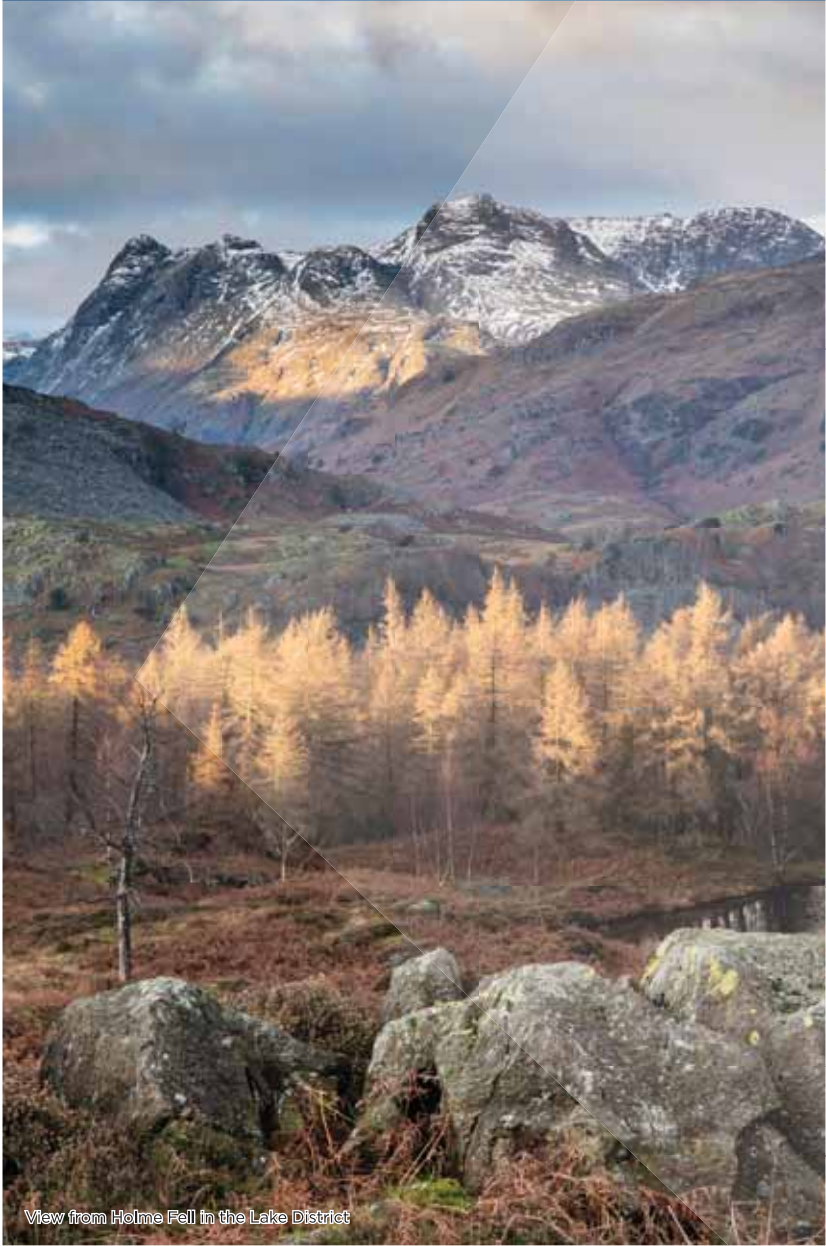
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23 Fri					
24 Sat					
25 Sun					
26 Mon					
27 Tues					
28 Wed					
29 Thurs					
30 Fri					
31 Sat					



NOVEMBER



View from Holme Fell in the Lake District

1 Sun					
2 Mon					
3 Tues	1400 HOURS EMERGENCY SIREN TEST				
4 Wed	0830 HOURS ON-SITE SIREN TEST				
5 Thurs					
6 Fri					
7 Sat					
8 Sun					
9 Mon					
10 Tues					
11 Wed					
12 Thurs					
13 Fri					
14 Sat					
15 Sun					
16 Mon					

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27 Fri					
28 Sat					
29 Sun					
30 Mon					



DECEMBER



Winter scene in East Grinstead

1	Tues				
2	Wed	0830 HOURS ON-SITE SIREN TEST			
3	Thurs				
4	Fri				
5	Sat				
6	Sun				
7	Mon				
8	Tues				
9	Wed				
10	Thurs				
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29 Tues					
30 Wed					
31 Thurs					



Notes

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Blank lined area for writing.

ACTION IN EMERGENCY

IN PREPARATION FOR LEAVING THE AREA

- tune into the public broadcast information and listen out for instructions on leaving the area
- get together the people in your household/place of work (excluding children at school)
- pack a supply of appropriate clothing
- pack any special food that anyone needs
- pack any medicines that anyone needs
- take personal documents and valuables
- pack some books and toys for children

IF YOU ARE ASKED TO LEAVE THE AREA

- listen to the public broadcast information for news on which rest centres have been designated as the most appropriate for immediate use
- make sure fires are out and that cookers, ventilation fans, TVs, etc., are turned off and unplugged
- close all internal doors
- lock up your property
- leave using your own transport, keeping windows and ventilation closed. If this is not possible, you will be told where transport will be provided

SCHOOL CHILDREN

We understand that you might want to collect your children from school or nursery but it might not be safe to do so. The local authority will make special arrangements for children at school and for reuniting them with their families. Do not go and collect children from school unless otherwise instructed by the police, local authority, or relevant school.

PETS

If you are advised to leave and circumstances permit, take your pets with you.

If possible, bring pets in a transporter such as a cage or basket and leave them in the car during registration. If they are left behind, seek advice at the evacuation assembly points.

VULNERABLE PEOPLE

Persons being cared for in premises known to the local authority or health authority and who would have difficulty leaving the area will have special arrangements made for them. If you have any form of impairment (e.g. you have difficulty in reading, hearing or mobility) and feel you may need assistance in an emergency situation, please contact Lancashire County Council by email: **emergencyplanning@lancashire.gov.uk**.

We will contact you to discuss the matter further to enable us to provide the correct level of assistance should it be needed in an emergency situation. The matter will be dealt with in confidence.

VISITORS / TRADESPEOPLE

You should ensure that any visitors/tradespeople are made aware of these emergency arrangements. This should include guests or people working at/on your premises.

AVOIDING CONSUMPTION OF CONTAMINATED FOOD/DRINK

In the event of a radiation emergency, radioactive material could be deposited on uncovered food/drink, which could then be ingested. It could also find its way into foods through crops and animals.

If a radiation emergency occurs it is safe to continue to use food stored indoors, for example in homes or shops, medicines stored in their normal packaging, and mains tap water, unless told otherwise.

You should wait for official guidance before using private water supplies, consuming food stored outdoors, for example on open-air markets or stalls, and harvesting fresh produce to eat, for example from a garden or allotment.

The Food Standards Agency (FSA) is responsible for providing advice on food safety in the event of a release of radioactivity. The FSA's advice will protect those people who may consume this contaminated food on a regular basis and over a long period of time. The area covered by food advice is therefore likely to be larger than the area in which other protective actions are required.

CONTACT DETAILS / FURTHER INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND AT:

Lancashire County Council Health, Safety and Resilience Service, PO Box 78, County Hall, Fishergate, Preston, Lancashire PR1 8XJ

Email: emergencyplanning@lancashire.gov.uk

Springfields Fuels Ltd., Station Road, Lea Town, Preston PR4 0XJ Email: Springfields.enquiries@westinghouse.com 01772 762264

REFERENCES

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Further information on radiation, its effects and risks can be found online at www.gov.uk/topic/health-protection/radiation

Regulatory REPIR inspections can be found at: www.onr.org.uk/sites/springfields-fuels-limited.htm

Regulatory COMAH inspections can be found at: www.hse.gov.uk/COMAH

AFTER THE EVENT

After the initial phase of an emergency has concluded, recovery activities may continue for a significant period of time. You will be provided with information on any actions you need to take, but you should be aware that it may be necessary to place some restrictions on normal every day activities such as spending time outdoors. If you have been asked to leave the area during the incident then you will be told how and when it is safe for you to return. Information from the emergency authorities will continue to be given over media outlets until more formal community engagement channels are set up.

THE AUTHORITIES RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTING PROTECTIVE ACTIONS

On the advice of Springfields Fuels, and as the emergency response develops, a multi-agency group will convene and be responsible for the provision of protective actions for the public and ensure that all relevant information is provided. The following organisations are involved in the emergency arrangements for the Springfields site:

- Canal & River Trust
- Environment Agency
- Food Standards Agency
- Fylde Borough Council
- Lancashire Constabulary
- Lancashire County Council
- Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service
- Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)
- Network Rail
- NHS England
- NHS Lancashire & South Cumbria Integrated Care Board (ICB)
- North West Ambulance Service NHS Trust
- Office for Nuclear Regulation
- Preston City Council
- Springfields Fuels Ltd
- UK Health Security Agency
- United Utilities

THE DETAILED EMERGENCY PLANNING ZONE (DEPZ)

The Detailed Emergency Planning Zone is centred on the Springfields site and is defined as an area that varies up to 1.8km from the boundary of the site. It is defined by roads, footpaths, and has a total of 630 premises including residential, businesses, and vulnerable premises.

Lancashire County Council is responsible for determining the DEPZ on the basis of information supplied by Springfields Fuels Ltd, and this information can be found in the Springfields Consequences Report.

THE OUTLINE PLANNING ZONE (OPZ)

The Outline Planning Zone is centred on the Springfields site and extends 5km in all directions. The OPZ is an area within which a framework exists for the response to an extremely unlikely but higher consequence incident.

A map of the DEPZ, further information on the OPZ, and the Springfields Consequences Report can be viewed on the Lancashire County Council website: www.lancashire.gov.uk/council/strategies-policies-plans/corporate/emergency-planning/emergency-plans/reppir-plans/

SECURITY INFORMATION

Springfields has numerous security arrangements in place at the site in order to reduce the risk of physical and cyber threats to our operations. The site security control room is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week by Springfields security guards.

Further information on security can be viewed through the UK Government National Risk Register using the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-risk-register-2025>

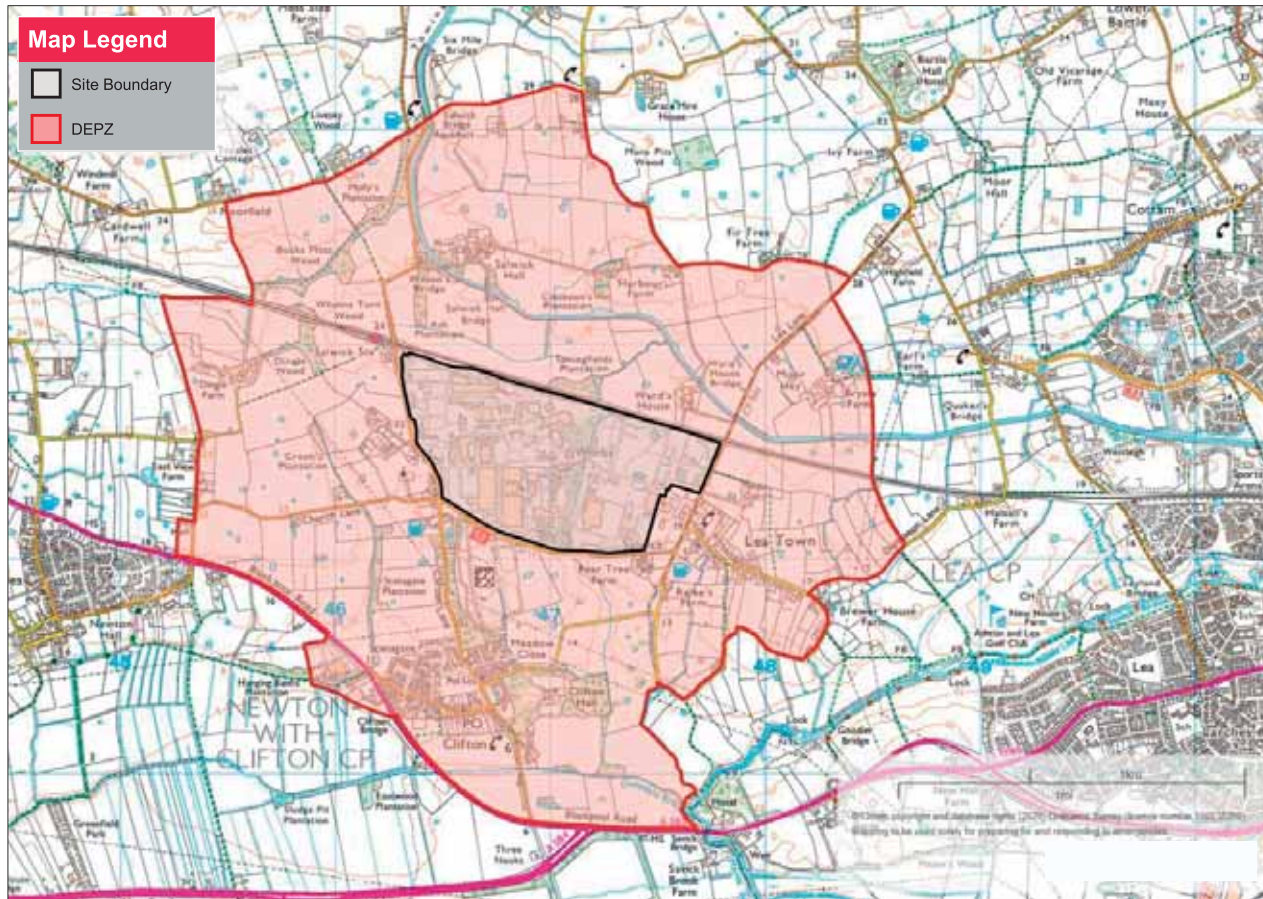
SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOUR

Examples of suspicious activity may include:

- people using recording equipment (such as mobile phones), or seen making notes or sketches of security details
- people loitering at or near premises for long periods and watching staff, visitors and deliveries for no apparent reason
- someone paying close attention to the perimeter fence line or entry and exit points
- people in stationary vehicles watching a building or structure, vehicles moving slowly near buildings or structures, or parked in suspicious circumstances
- people asking you unusual questions about the premises, such as business operations, facilities, security, or parking for no apparent reason

If you see any suspicious activity occurring in the vicinity of the Springfields Fuels site, please notify us immediately on the numbers provided within this calendar.

Emergency Response Maps – Springfields Fuels Limited Site Boundary & Detailed Emergency Planning Zone



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www.gov.uk/government/publications/nuclear-emergencies-information-for-the-public

Further information on radiation, its effects and risks can be found online at
www.gov.uk/topic/health-protection/radiation

The Lancashire Resilience Forum website is available via **www.lancashireprepared.org.uk** which holds a range of information from what the forum does, to what residents can do to prepare for an emergency, such as what to take with them in their emergency pack, and key risk information for the local area.

