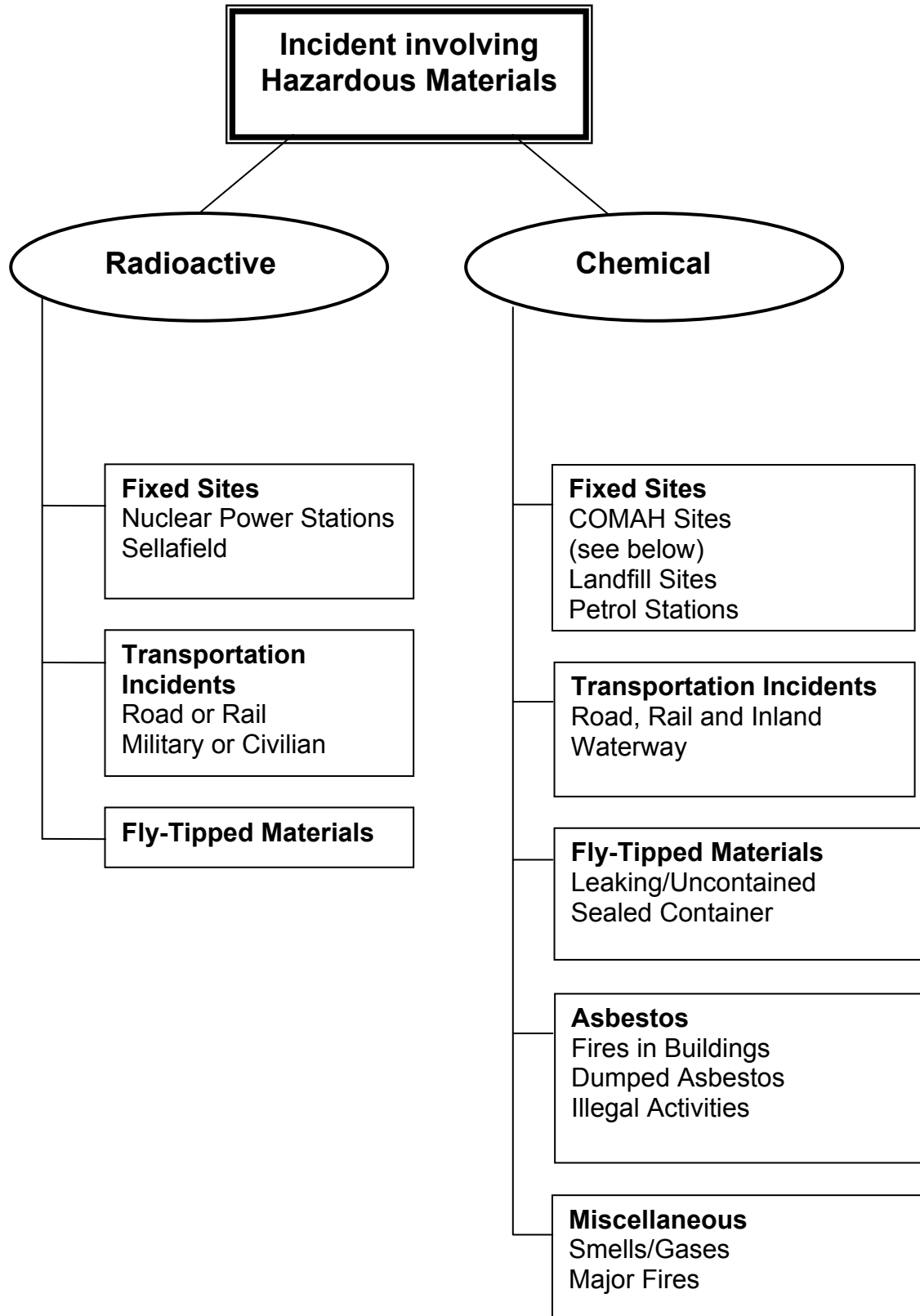


**Possible scenarios that may result in release of hazardous material**



## Control Of Major Accident Hazard (COMAH) Sites

Within the Leeds district there are a number of sites where hazardous substances are stored or processed. The COMAH (Control of Major Accident Hazard) Regulations 1999 provide a framework for the regulation of such sites. The protection of the environment is also covered by these regulations.

The Environment Agency and the Health and Safety Executive act jointly as the 'Competent Authority' in enforcing the legislation.

The regulations define two categories of premises – top-tier and lower-tier.

### **Top-Tier**

- The 'higher risk' top-tier sites hold greater quantities of dangerous substances and are required, amongst other things, to have both an on-site and off-site emergency plan.
- The on-site plans are drawn up by the site owners.
- The off-site plans for top-tier sites are drawn up by West Yorkshire Fire Service in consultation with the Police and Ambulance Service, the Health and Safety Executive, the Environment Agency, the utilities, the local council, and the site operator.
- There is 1 top-tier site in, or affecting, the Leeds district.

### **Lower-Tier**

- Lower-tier sites are only required to have an on-site plan, but must have a Major Accident Prevention Policy.
- There are 12 lower-tier sites in Leeds.

For more information on the Top-Tier or Lower-Tier COMAH sites in, or affecting, the Leeds district, please contact the Environment Agency or the Health and Safety Executive.