

**CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE
ON SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT RESILIENCE
(LESSONS LEARNED)**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN SGoR MEETING ROOM,
ST ANDREW'S HOUSE, EDINBURGH
AT 12.30 PM ON WEDNESDAY, 14 APRIL 2010**

Present:	Nicola Sturgeon MSP	Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing (<i>Chair</i>)
	John Swinney MSP	Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Sustainable Growth
	Kenny MacAskill MSP	Cabinet Secretary for Justice
	Richard Lochhead MSP	Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and the Environment
	Michael Russell MSP	Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning
	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
	Roseanna Cunningham MSP	Minister for Environment
In Attendance:	[NR]	Head of Scottish Resilience
	Dr Andrew Riley	Head of Strategy Unit, Scottish Resilience
	Jonathan Pryce	Senior Medical Officer
	Joe Griffin	Director of Transport
	[NR]	Deputy Director, Pandemic Flu Co-ordination
	[NR]	Acting Deputy Director, Pandemic Flu Division
	Jim Barton	Chief Road Engineer and Director, Transport Scotland
	[NR]	Head of Network Operations
		Head of News
		Cabinet Secretariat

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(f) Future consideration and analysis would be required for planning assumptions, in particular the pandemic response had at times focused on the worst case scenarios, which may not have been essential at all times.

10. **The Cabinet Sub-Committee noted the paper. (Action: Scottish Resilience)**

Developing the Scottish Government's Role in Coordinating the National Emergency Response (Paper CSC-SGoR(10)11)

11. NR introduced paper CSC-SGoR(10)11) which analysed the implications of the lessons identified from the recent emergencies for the Scottish Government's role in coordinating national emergency responses. He said that the requirement for SGoRR to be activated had greatly increased over the last 3 years, which included activation for the fuel shortages in 2008, the flu pandemic and an increasing number of weather related incidents. Scottish Resilience would shortly undertake a significant review of SGoRR's capacity and its capability to support enhanced national decision making in the light of the lessons learned and this would include options for improvements in accommodation, IT, training, and staffing.

12. He said that the lessons learned would also provide an opportunity to develop SGoRR as a national emergency information analysis and decision-making hub, which was in line with the shared services agenda and National Performance Framework. It was planned to have discussions with COSLA, ACPOS, and the Chief Fire Officers' Association Scotland on the option of co-locating mutual aid

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coordination centres for police, fire and local authorities with SGoRR. Such coordination would enable organisations to share resources and allow for a more streamlined approach to the collection and analysis of information. It would also provide greater clarity to the SCGs, as to where responsibilities lay in an emergency and would assist in swifter, joined-up decision-making, including on issues such as national mutual aid, public communications and engagement with the UK Government.

13. In discussion the following points were made:

(a) It would be important to ensure key stakeholder buy-in to any proposed changes to the coordination of national emergency responses. To assist with this it was planned to have an event at the end of summer to which relevant stakeholders would be invited to share their views on the proposed changes;

(b) It would be helpful if the organisation developed communications with the aim of providing a better understanding of emergency stakeholders, and other relevant agencies roles.

14. **The Cabinet Sub-Committee agreed** that plans should be developed for enhancing the SGoRR response function in collaboration with key stakeholders.

(Action: Scottish Resilience)

Any Other Business