



Wales Resilience Forum Business Plan 2016-2019

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Review Version Control

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Introduction

1. The Wales Resilience Forum (WRF) promotes good communication and the enhancement of emergency planning across agencies and services in Wales by providing a forum for Chief Officers to discuss with Welsh Ministers strategic issues of emergency preparedness. The WRF is not a statutory body nor does it have powers to direct its members, Local Resilience Forums or individual Category 1 or 2 Responders as defined under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004. The WRF provides collective strategic direction to the Wales Resilience Partnership Team (WRPT).
2. The WRPT supports the WRF and acts as a mechanism for taking forward initiatives at the all-Wales level to support the work being taken forward at the local level. The WRPT also assesses the implications for Wales of the resilience work produced at the UK level. The WRPT establishes individual sub-groups or task and finish groups to develop resilience on a pan-Wales level.
3. On behalf of the WRF, the WRPT address priorities on a pan-Wales level. These priorities are based on those areas of work identified as of the highest concerns in which pan-Wales planning would add value. The WRPT is responsible for the review of the Pan-Wales Response Plan every three years and other risk-specific plans which link into it. The WRPT ensures that:
 - a. Pan-Wales response arrangements are reflected within LRF and individual responders' emergency response plans; and
 - b. that an appropriate training, exercising and de-briefing programme is agreed and delivered at the all-Wales level.
4. This WRF Business Plan details:
 - a. The framework for developing pan-Wales resilience and its linkages with the LRF level.
 - b. The plans produced at the pan-Wales level to strengthen resilience in Wales and to support local level planning.
 - c. The performance management mechanism for the monitoring the achievement of strategic priorities and lessons learnt from exercises and real incidents.
5. The Business Plan is a live document that will be reviewed and amended, where required.

SECTION 1 – WALES RISKS

The following is a summary of the risks which currently exist in Wales which informs the priorities of the Business Plan for the Wales Resilience Forum.

Human Diseases - Pandemic Influenza is one of the highest risks that face us. It emerges as a result of a new flu virus which is markedly different from recently circulating strains. Up to one half of the 3 million population of Wales may become infected and up to 37,000 additional deaths (that is deaths that would not have happened over the same period of time had a pandemic not taken place) may have occurred by the end of a pandemic in Wales the UK.

Natural Events - Severe weather can take many different forms and occasionally can cause significant disruption to normal life. Coastal, inland and surface water flooding is one of the main risk facing Wales as well as other severe weather incidents that could have a pan Wales impact include such as low temperatures, snow, storms and gales.

Major accidents - Because of their wide variety of forms, transport, infrastructure and industrial accidents and their impacts can vary considerably in scale and nature but always remain a risk.

Animal Disease - There have been a number of cases of significant animal disease in Wales with Foot and Mouth disease being the most noticeable example. Recent years have seen a number of small-scale examples of animal disease including bluetongue, avian influenza and Bovine Tuberculosis.

Pollution – Marine or land pollution incidents are a risk to Wales with the Sea Empress oil incident and the nuclear pollution from Chernobyl being examples of where such risks have been realised.

Malicious Attacks - As with other areas of the UK Wales also faces a serious and sustained threat from terrorism with a current threat assessment standing at 'severe'. The terrorist attack on Glasgow Airport on 30th June 2007 demonstrated that such attacks could be possible anywhere in the UK. Such attacks could take many forms. These risks come in many forms such as attacks on crowded places, attacks on critical infrastructure, attacks on the transport system, electronic attacks and non-conventional attacks such as chemical, biological, radioactivity and nuclear means. Such attacks have the potential for widespread impact.

SECTION 2 - TERMS OF REFERENCE

Wales Resilience Forum

Aim of Group:

To promote good communication and the enhancement of resilience across agencies and services in Wales by providing a forum for Chief Officers to discuss with Welsh Ministers strategic issues of emergency preparedness.

Chair: First Minister for Wales

Deputy Chair: Minister for Public Services

Secretariat: Welsh Government

Communication: The proceedings of the Forum will be shared with, and considered by, Local Resilience Forums. All minutes will be recorded on Resilience Direct.

Location of meetings: Welsh Government

Frequency of meetings: Six monthly

Specific Terms of Reference for the group:-

- To create a forum for strategic guidance on resilience issues affecting Wales
- To consider UK Government/Welsh Government policy guidance and to advise on the implementation in Wales where appropriate
- To facilitate mutual aid arrangements and joined up working
- To provide direction and strategic leadership to the Wales Resilience Partnership Team and its sub-groups
- To map resilience at the pan-Wales level, identify gaps and facilitate preparedness activity.
- To raise, consider and discuss issues of resilience in Wales with the UK Government.
- To support cross-boundary working and information sharing.

Membership:

- First Minister for Wales
- Minister for Public Services
- Chief Executive, Welsh Local Government Association
- Society of Local Authority Chief Executives and Senior Managers (SOLACE)
- Chief Fire Officer (representing the three Fire Brigades)
- Chief Constable (representing the four Police Forces and the four LRF Chairs)
- Chief Executive, Wales Ambulance Service Trust
- Executive Director of Public Health Services and Medical Director, Public Health Wales
- Director General, Health and Social Services, Welsh Government
- Chief Veterinary Officer, Welsh Government
- Commander 160 (Wales) Brigade
- Naval Regional Commander (Wales and Western England)
- Air Officer Wales
- Chief Executive, Natural Resources Wales
- Maritime and Coastguard Agency
- Director General, Local Government and Communities, Welsh Government
- Civil Contingencies Secretariat
- Regional Manager, HSE
- Director of Communications, Welsh Government
- Director, British Red Cross
- Chief Executive, Wales Council for Voluntary Action

Wales Resilience Partnership Team

Aim of Group:

To take strategic direction from the Wales Resilience Forum in delivering specific aims, objectives and targets in resilience work on an all-Wales basis. To work in partnership with Local Resilience Forums and Category 1 and 2 responders - as defined by the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 - in delivering these actions effectively.

Chair: Deputy Head, Community Safety Division, Welsh Government

Deputy Chair: Head of Resilience Branch, Welsh Government

Secretariat: Resilience Team, Welsh Government

Administrative Support: Resilience Team, Welsh Government

Communication: The proceedings of the WRPT will be shared with Local Resilience Forums Co-ordinating Groups and individual Category 1 and 2 responders. Minutes of meetings will be posted to Resilience Direct

Location of meetings: The Emergency Co-ordination Centre (Wales), Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff

Frequency of meetings: Four times a year

Specific Terms of Reference for the group:-

- To take forward a programme of work to address priorities on a pan-Wales level. These priorities are based on those areas of work identified as of the highest concerns in which pan-Wales planning would add value.
- To establish, where appropriate, multi-agency Capability Sub-Groups or Task and Finish Groups with a specific remit (for example, CBRN).
- To establish and maintain pan-Wales response structures through the Pan-Wales Response Plan and to ensure effective and appropriate arrangements are in place for responding to the full range of emergency scenarios.
- To produce a core framework for capability development in Wales and to advise the WRF on progress.
- To horizon scan and risk assess possible threats to Wales and advise the WRF.
- To act as a mechanism for assessing the implications for Wales of the resilience work produced at the UK level.
- To maintain the *Wales Resilience* website

Members of Core Group

- Welsh Government, Deputy Head, Community Safety Division
- Head of Resilience, Welsh Government
- Welsh Local Government Association
- Fire and Rescue Service
- Health Emergency Planning Adviser, Welsh Government
- Joint Regional Liaison Officer, 160 (Wales) Brigade
- Royal Navy Regional Liaison Officer (Wales and Western England)
- RAF Regional Liaison Officer
- Natural Resources Wales
- Communications Division, Welsh Government
- Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer, Welsh Government
- Emergency Services Civil Contingencies Co-ordinator
- Welsh Ambulance Service (NHS) Trust
- Maritime and Coastguard Agency
- Head of Flood and Coastal Risk Management Branch, Welsh Government
- Public Health Wales
- Local Resilience Forum Co-ordinators

Secretariat – Resilience Team, Welsh Government

SECTION 3 – OBJECTIVES

Priorities

The priorities for the Wales Resilience Partnership Team for 2016-19 through the sub-groups will be:

Wales Learning and Development Group

- To design a new Wales Gold course to be delivered 2016-2019. To work with the National College of Policing on producing the course and to further develop and provide accreditation opportunities for delegates.
- To deliver 4 multi-agency Wales Gold courses (South Wales, North Wales, Dyfed Powys and Gwent) each year
- To deliver a Wales Civil Contingencies Conference each year.
- To produce a learning and development programme each year for training at an all-Wales level to be funded by the fund established by the WRF
- To develop and implement an all-Wales system for capturing and monitoring lessons learnt based on the system used by Dyfed-Powys.

Wales Flood Group

- To oversee the implementation of the recommendations from Exercise Megacyma
- To consider the development of a Wales Flood Response Framework

Wales Recovery Group

- To review the Wales Recovery Framework to examine the feasibility of wide-area Recovery Co-ordinating Groups

Wales Evacuation Group

- To review and revise wide-area evacuation plans

Wales Warning and Informing Group

- To review and revise wide-area warning and informing plans

Task and Finish Groups

- To formally review and amend the Pan-Wales Response Plan in 2016 and 2019

- To support the delivery of a live marauding terrorist firearm exercise.
- Take forward the recommendations of Exercise Cygnus to improve preparedness for an influenza pandemic.
- To work with the Cabinet Office in their review of Scientific and Technical Advice Cell arrangements and through consultation with all agencies.
- To monitor the implementation of the Simpson Recommendations and further work on collaboration on behalf of the Wales Resilience Forum.
- Horizon scanning and risk assessment/recognition
- To assess the feasibility of joint-SCG response/collaborative SCG arrangements
- To work with Cabinet Office to explore the arrangements for the prioritisation of national assets during emergencies
- To take forward local planning for Critical National Infrastructure assets in line with the work being undertaken at the UK level.
- To develop effective arrangements for the managed use of Third Sector support in Wales
- To co-ordinate work on identifying and supporting vulnerable people during emergencies

SECTION 4 – PLAN REVIEW PROCESS

All pan-Wales plans will be reviewed by the sub-groups and WRPT on a two-year basis and cover:

- Consideration of a continuing need for having a Wales level Plan;
- Clarity on accountability and governance for Plan implementation.
- Feedback from individual agencies on the current version of the plan
- Feedback from LRFs on the current version of the plan
- Changing circumstances which make details in the current plan moribund
- Changes required as a consequence of recommendations made in the light of exercises held to validate the plan
- Changes required as a consequence of recommendations made in the light of real incidents where the plan was used.

Plans submitted to the Wales Resilience Forum for approval following review must firstly be approved by the relevant sub-group and the WRPT.

Plans submitted for review will be required to provide a summary of the changes in a covering paper and an explanation of why these changes have been made.

Where no amendments are required following a review process the WRF should be notified that the review process has been completed and no amendments are required. This should be captured in a formal process to the WRF.

The following sets out the programme for submission of reviewed plans to the WRF. The review process needs to be completed in its entirety ahead of these dates:

Plan	Lead	Completion Year
Pan-Wales Response Plan	Wyn Price	2016
Wales Fatalities Plan – Sudden Impact	Name Redacted	2016
Wales Fatalities Plan – Emerging Incident		2016
UK/Wales Scientific and Technical Cell Arrangements	Wyn Price	2016
Wales Evacuation & In-Migration Framework	Name Redacted	2017
Wales Flood Response Framework		2017
Community Risks in Wales		2017
Wales Utilities Handbook & Activation Arrangements	Wyn Price	TBC
Wales Logistical Preparedness Framework	TBC	TBC
Wales Resilient Telecommunications Plan	Name Redacted	TBC
Wales Framework for Managing Infectious Diseases Emergencies	David Goulding	TBC
WAG Framework Response Plan for Exotic Animal Diseases	Name Redacted	TBC
Pan Wales Major Incident Communications Framework		TBC
Wales CBRNE Framework		TBC

SECTION 5 – MANAGEMENT PROCESS

The Wales Resilience Partnership Team will oversee the development of documents and plans produced by its sub-groups on an all-Wales basis. Once agreed by the WRPT all documents and plans of this nature will be submitted to the Wales Resilience Forum for formal approval.

Pan-Wales Sub-Groups/Task and Finish Groups will be established by the WRPT where it is agreed that such a group will add value to local level planning and which has a specific purpose. The Chair of these groups will be appointed by the WRPT either from existing WRPT membership or appointed from outside on an ad hoc basis.

The Chair of the group will be responsible for determining the membership of the sub-group and will work with that membership to agree its strategic objectives. The group will also develop its own terms of reference.

The agreed terms of reference and strategic objectives will be submitted to the WRPT for approval.

Any item put forward by the sub-group for consideration by the WRF must firstly be agreed by the WRPT.

All plans or documents produced by the sub-groups must be approved by the WRF before they are adopted and implemented. All plans or documents must be considered by the WRPT before they are put forward to the WRF for approval.

The WRPT will agree the agenda for the WRF at the WRPT meetings which precede the WRF meeting. This is to permit appropriate briefing to be provided for all WRF members ahead of the discussion of the item.

The minutes of the WRPT and WRF will be circulated to all responders in Wales via the Local Resilience Forums and posted on Resilience Direct.

Issues discussed at the WRPT and WRF which need to be brought to the attention of the LRFs will be tabled for discussion at LRF and LRF Co-ordinating Group meetings by the LRF Co-ordinators.

SECTION 6 – LINKS WITH LOCAL AND UK RESILIENCE

The Wales Resilience Forum will maintain links with the development of resilience at the UK Government level and the local level in Wales by the following means:

- **UK Government** – The Director/Deputy Director of the Civil Contingencies Secretariat will be a permanent member of the WRF and will report at every meeting on initiatives being taken forward at the UK level.
- **Local Resilience Forums Co-ordinators** – A nominated Chair from one of the four Local Resilience Forums in Wales will represent the others as a permanent member of the WRF and will report at every meeting on initiatives being taken forward at the LRF level in Wales.
- **Joint Emergencies Services Group (JESG)** – The Chair of JESG will be a permanent member of the WRF and will report at every meeting on initiatives being taken forward by the Group. The Chair will also maintain direct links with the LRFs.
- **CONTEST** – The Director General for Local Government and Communities at the Welsh Government and Joint-Chair of CONTEST Board Wales will be a permanent member of the WRF. The Director General will also be a permanent member of JESG and Chair the Civil Contingencies Group
- **Welsh Government Civil Contingencies Group (CCG)** - The Director General for Public Services and Local Government Delivery at the Welsh Government and Chair of the CCG will act as a link between the group and the WRF.

The Welsh Government will provide representation on the UK Capabilities Programme, all LRFs, JESG and the Wales CONTEST Board to reinforce these links.

