



Cabinet Office

Civil Contingencies Secretariat Q1 2019-20 update for Minister for Implementation

Civil Contingencies Secretariat
May 2019



Yellowhammer: Next steps

- Identify lessons to be learned (April-May)
- Mothball Yellowhammer structures and ready for reactivation (April-May)
- Revise planning assumptions (April-May)
- Revise contingency plans (May-July)
- Implement lessons learned (May-July)
- Grow C3 structures and train staff as required (Aug-Oct)

Key factors affecting the risks for end October

- Business readiness - was not robust in April and could be more challenging for the Autumn
- Some risks become more challenging in Autumn/Winter – for example energy margins and food production
- Staff retention and training - staff turnover across government in 6-month hiatus likely
- Procurement of major capabilities - such as medical stockpiles and ferry capacity

Dependencies

- Similar level of readiness required in October assumed - Cabinet steer expected 14 May



CCS prioritisation

- CCS is in the process of reassessing prioritisation following the Article 50 extension. This includes considering business need and resource to prioritise any further activity in the interim 6-month period, alongside ongoing essential activity and Yellowhammer next steps.
- The extent to which further activity will be prioritised will be dependent on the expected level of readiness required for a potential no-deal scenario in October 2019.

New activity to be prioritised

Yellowhammer mothballing to wind down programme and undertake appropriate planning for Oct

Yellowhammer lessons learned process to capture, evaluate, and implement lessons and good practice

Spending review preparatory work to determine priorities, and align bids, for National Resilience and National Security themes

Ongoing activity to be prioritised

Statutory obligations including FOI requests and Parliamentary correspondence and obligations

Operational response and recovery capacity concurrent with no-deal preparations (see slide 6)

COBR development including infrastructure and technical upgrades

Foreign Direct Investment casework and Investment Security Group process review



Ongoing activity to be prioritised
Emergency Planning College operations
National Resilience Standards – issue Tranche 3 for consultation and progress work on options for assurance of local resilience capabilities
National Security Risk Assessment (NSRA) finalisation and dissemination
2019-20 Critical Sector Security and Resilience Plans analysis to identify cross-government gaps and priorities
18-19 funded programmes to continue, including Capability Mapping and CNI Cyber programme
Mobile alerting need to be established with HO and follow through of 999/112 activities
NSCR commitments finalise those close to completion, including on support to victims, mutual aid, Community Resilience guidance, and assurance and standards
Pandemic Flu commitments work to complete draft Pandemic Flu Bill and guidance for managing excess deaths during a pandemic, which are close to completion
ResilienceDirect Upgrade to make improvements to enable increase usage for no deal reporting
Civil Protection Mechanism planning for successor programme or mandate for negotiated re-entry
CCS' International engagement strategy review in the pre- and post-Exit context
Horizon Scanning for potential disruptive challenges with a particular focus on the risk of protest, strikes, Ebola, extreme weather/wildfire
Enhancing preparedness key risks including work on a flooding exercise, working with DfT and HO to ensure a coordinated response to drones and supporting FCO ahead of the upcoming hurricane season in the Caribbean



Near-term risk update

Risk	Impact	Preparedness/Response	Next steps
<p>Ebola Outbreak – Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)</p> <p>Number of cases: 1,465 total (1,399 confirmed & 66 probable) as of 28/04/2019.</p> <p>Increasing numbers of cases, attacks on health workers and facilities and persistent issues with response management, all point to a concerning trajectory for the current Ebola outbreak. This is now the second largest Ebola outbreak in history.</p>	<p>WHO's risk assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional – very high; National – very high; Global – low. <p>Public Health England assess the risk for the UK population as <i>negligible-very low</i>.</p> <p>FCO Travel Advice for DRC has been updated. The advice is against all travel to the affected region.</p>	<p>DFID are leading the HMG response. The latest SitRep stated that a clear set of changes in the approach are required to turn the tide on the response.</p> <p>On 27 April, President Tshisekedi held a meeting on the current state of the response and it was agreed that the approach would shift to a multisectoral response and be coordinated by the Prime Minister's office.</p> <p>The UK is contributing £43.6 million, in addition to sending experts from Public Health England and armoured cars from the CHASE stockpile.</p>	<p>DfID continues to monitor the situation. The UK is stepping up activity across all areas of response including lobbying, programming and technical support.</p> <p>CCS are working with MOD, FCO and DHSC to update the existing MEDEVAC protocol to be suitable for Rwanda, Uganda and South Sudan.</p>
<p>Weather</p> <p>Benign and settled conditions are generally expected this week across the majority of the UK.</p> <p>There are no severe weather warnings in place.</p>	<p>No significant impacts currently forecast for the next reporting period.</p> <p>Flood Guidance Statement (FGS) is updated daily. Currently FGS is GREEN; overall flood risk is very low.</p>	<p>The Summer Resilience Network (SRN) is chaired by CCS and brings together resilience teams from across HMG and the DAs to discuss emerging issues, events and general preparedness activity.</p>	<p>CCS will chair the first SRN of 2019 on 14th May to assess preparedness activity being undertaken across the UK.</p> <p>The focus will be on the potential for risks such as flooding, wildfire, drought, heatwave and any possible water shortages the UK might face.</p>



Risk	Impact	Preparedness/Response	Next steps
<p>Industrial Relations</p> <p>Generally, the landscape is relatively calm. There are currently no major disputes or significant strikes on the horizon, although most of the disputes which affected the rail sector last year remain unresolved and are likely to resurface in the coming weeks.</p> <p>Tensions may start to build in public sector as we are now entering the annual trade union conference season and as pay negotiations start for parts of the public sector.</p> <p>The sense is that the risk of <u>widespread coordinated action</u> is low, but could rise post-Brexit as attention turns more towards the domestic agenda and public sector funding.</p>	<p>The current disputes are limited to individual organisations or workforces and impacts are not significant.</p>	<p>Contingency planning for the current strikes is effective.</p> <p>Contingency plans for disruption affecting the civil service were reviewed and refreshed in preparation for potential strike action by PCS members.</p>	<p>None at this stage, but CCS will continue to monitor industrial relations for signs of increasing risk.</p>
<p>Clinical waste collections from NHS Trusts</p> <p>The clinical waste disposal sector remains fragile after HES ceased collections of clinical waste from NHS Trusts, and the dominant operator in the market recently suffered a number of operational challenges.</p>	<p>Failure to collect clinical waste from a NHS site can result in NHS services at that site being suspended with significant consequences for healthcare provision there.</p>	<p>The NHS has comprehensive contingency arrangements in place to manage disruption to collections. However, a small number of hospitals have only limited capacity to store waste on site, and during disruptions, can be within a day or two of having to suspend services. NHS England alert to this risk and is managing the situation.</p>	<p>CCS continue to press DHSC to ensure the risk is being managed effectively. Cabinet Office Commercial are closely involved in managing the commercial aspects of the situation.</p>



Ministerial involvement forward look

There are a number of areas where your involvement, Minister for Implementation, would be particularly beneficial. This includes:

- Clearance of advice on community resilience framework and spontaneous volunteers guidance
- Follow up correspondence to Minister of State for School Standards on improving departmental join up on risk awareness in schools
- Decision, following forthcoming advice, on mobile alerting next steps