

COMMITTED TO QUALITY – THE BUCKINGHAMSHIRE APPROACH TO BEST VALUE

Service Plans 2001-2002: Template

Name of Service Plan Area: EMERGENCY PLANNING Service Plan Ref: CS4

Part 1 Description of service

Purpose of service

Emergency planning's aim is to ensure that a major emergency in Buckinghamshire is met by a co-ordinated and effective response.

What are the statutory parameters that regulate how the service operates?

The County Council is the emergency planning authority in Buckinghamshire. It must carry out functions and duties laid on it by regulations and develop aspects of planning in step with guidance issued by the Home Office.

Chairman of Policy & Resources 2001/02 Policy Steer(s) relevant to the service

3% savings and efficiency gains

Show how required savings or growth for next year will be delivered

	£'000
Current net budget	£66.5
Spending pressures	£6.5
Other growth items (specify) A reduction in central government grant of £30,000	£30.3
Total	<u>£103.3</u>
Cash allocation	£93.3
Gap (or Available Growth)	<u>£93.3</u>

Show how the gap will be covered by the following actions (or how available growth will be targeted):

Early indications from the Home Office are that extra resources will be given to Buckinghamshire Emergency Planning Unit. It is likely that Central Government grant will cover the £30,000 gap and could possibly cover more than that. There are no indications of grant levels for 2002/2003.

Resource summary	Actual (when known)	Indicative only	Indicative only
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Budget £m	0.09	0.09	0.09

Volume of service (2001/2)

Planning: Write, update or review 10 key emergency plans/procedures

Training: Train 200 local authority officers, 100 volunteers

Liaison: Liaise with emergency services, local authorities, health authorities, voluntary groups, public utilities.

Number of staff (FTE): 4.

Special Factors

The Joint Best Value Review of Emergency Planning reported to the County and District Councils on the organisation and future direction of emergency planning in Buckinghamshire. Areas for improvement have been identified.

Part 2 Performance of Service**Current performance (in relation to 2000-01 Service Plan outcomes and targets)**

- A “Co-ordinated contingency planning for major emergencies between authorities, services and agencies and Buckinghamshire” and “Officers with specific responsibilities in a major emergency in both County and District councils are aware of their responsibilities and training”.
- 1 A joint training programme with District Councils was agreed and was carried out on schedule.
 - 2 National Standards of Civil Protection (issued in October 1999) are being exceeded.
- B “In the event of a major emergency all key authorities, services and agencies will be alerted promptly in the correct order and in accordance with agreed procedures”:
- 1 160 Severe weather and flood warnings passed on time.
 - 2 Fuel crisis alerting and advice 11-16 September 2000 met required standards – see TVP and BCC debriefs; flooding over the autumn and winter 2000/01 was monitored and responded to when the scale of its effects overwhelmed local communities.
- C “Options considered for future delivery of services in the light of changed government funding arrangements”:
- 1 A Root and Branch Review of Emergency Planning completed in June 2000.
 - 2 A Best Value Review of Emergency Planning completed in March 2001.

THREE YEAR OUTCOME	MEASURE OR INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE 2000/1	TARGET 2001/2	TARGET 2004/5
An immediate and co-ordinated response to real major emergencies.	1 Actual response. 2 Test exercises.	Number of calls by the “single point of contact” during the year 2000 was over 10. The Fuel Crisis of 11-16 September was well co-ordinated by Bucks County Council.	6-10	6-10

Part 3 For more information**Associated County Council Business Plans, and links with other Service Plans or Statutory Plans**

Bucks County Council Disaster Recovery Plan

Emergency Planning Business Plan for Bucks

When is the service due for a Best Value Root and Branch Review?

Root and Branch completed June 2000

Best Value completed March 2001

VALIDATION SHEET *(Please read the accompanying guidance notes)*

Service Plan Ref

Draft Outcome No.

(Separate ‘validation sheets’ should be completed for each draft outcome. The validation sheets should then be attached to the worksheet as background information, and as an audit trail.)

Draft Three Year Outcome

An immediate and co-ordinated response to major emergencies.

Who will the outcome be delivered to, who will it be delivered for, and what are the needs/wants of these ‘stakeholders’?

The response will be delivered by key authorities, services, agencies in Buckinghamshire and will benefit the public by ensuring Bucks County Council essential services are maintained and the key authorities, services and agencies act in a co-ordinated and effective way in the event of a major emergency.

What, if any, is the feedback from consultation?

Regular formal liaison meetings take place with volunteers, public utilities, emergency services and the military.
Best Value included a consultation questionnaire.
Operational responses will always have a debriefing process, often formal and in more serious events accompanied by a report to committee/portfolio holder.

What are the policy implications of this outcome, ie. are any policy changes by Members required?

Nil.

What, if any, is the link with the Chairman of P&R’s policy steer?

Nil.

What are the financial implications next year and in the following two years?

Nil.

Are there any significant human resource implications, eg. training/redeployment programmes/redundancy?

Regular training and exercising has to take place for officers of the County Council and District Councils. This is part of a structured training programme agreed between emergency planners of the County and District Councils.

Are there any other significant resource implications, eg investment needs, information technology or property/accommodation?

No.

What reprioritisation of existing resources is required?

See Best Value Review.

Describe any significant risk factors.

Nil.

TARGETS

Set out below any specific qualitative or quantitative targets for 2001-02 (and if appropriate the next three years) relevant to the achievement of this outcome. (The targets should themselves be outcome based.) Include all relevant statutory PIs. A separate guide to target setting is available on the Council's Best Value Website.

2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
An immediate response to calls on the 24 hour a day "single point of contact" – at least 6-10 calls per year.	An immediate response to calls on the 24 hour a day "single point of contact" – at least 6-10 calls per year.	An immediate response to calls on the 24 hour a day "single point of contact" – at least 6-10 calls per year.

