

COUNTY AND DISTRICT BEST VALUE REVIEW OF EMERGENCY PLANNING

BEST VALUE IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Following the presentation of the Best Value Review of the Emergency Planning Service to Cabinet on 19 February 2001 it was resolved:-

“That the Best Value Review Team Leader and the County Emergency Planning Officer, in consultation with other partner councils in the joint review, prepare an improvement plan for agreement by the Deputy Leader, on the following basis:

- 1 Until the outcomes of the Home Office Review are known, the present arrangements should be maintained but, at the same time, opportunities should be taken when they arise to explore alternative means of maintaining strong County/District links that ensure effective local responses.
- 2 Greater standardisation should be achieved between the county and district emergency plans and, if possible, of expectations of the role of District Emergency Planning Officers.
- 3 In reviewing the Business Plan for 2001/02 clear links to the Home Office Standards should be ensured.
- 4 The Media Plan should be reviewed.
- 5 Links across certain geographical boundaries and use of GIS should be developed.

The review outcomes, together with the improvement plan, will be formally approved by each District Council through their relevant decision making processes.

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| <p>2. Greater standardisation should be achieved between the county and district emergency plans and, if possible, of expectations of the role of the district Emergency Planning Officers</p> | <p>c) Revise the County Plan and adopt a standard approach to District Plans, linked to the County Plan.</p> <p>d) To ensure through the revision process that all plans are updated with latest contact numbers and resources available.</p> <p>e) As far as is practicable, to ensure district officer input to Emergency planning work is consistent, with a suggested minimum of 0.25 of total weekly hours. (This action will be affected by the progress made on Proposed Action (a) above</p> | <p>Draft County Plan by December 2001. Final plan to be adopted by April 2002. District Plans to follow standard format</p> <p>As timetable above</p> <p>As timetable above and for Proposed Action (a)</p> | <p>All Emergency Planning Officers</p> <p>All Emergency Planning Officers</p> <p>All Emergency Planning Officers</p> | <p>Ongoing monitoring through joint EP management meetings.</p> <p>Ongoing monitoring through joint EP management meetings</p> <p>To be reported in 2002/03 Performance Plans</p> |
| <p>3. In reviewing the Business Plan for 2001/02, clear links to the Home Office Standards should be ensured</p> | <p>f) The Business Plan will be revised to include cross references to the Home Office Standards (subject to any proposed changes from the Home Office Review)</p> | <p>Revised plan by June 2001</p> | <p>All Emergency Planning Officers</p> | <p>Performance against standards to be reported in 2002/03 local Performance Plans</p> |

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| <p>4. The Media Plan should be reviewed</p> | <p>g) Revise and publish the Media Plan with particular concentration on improving public information and 'helplines' in the event of a large scale emergency. Proposals to be discussed with the County and District Communications Group</p> | <p>Draft by December 2001. Final plan to be adopted and implemented by April 2002.</p> | <p>All Emergency Planning Officers in partnership with the County & District Communications Group.</p> | <p>Ongoing monitoring through joint EP management meetings</p> |
| <p>5. Links across certain geographical boundaries and use of GIS should be developed</p> | <p>h) To explore opportunities for improved liaison and co-ordination with Councils outside the 'Thames Valley' through a series of meetings with Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, Hertfordshire, Surrey and the London Borough of Hillingdon.</p> <p>i) To make the optimum use of Geographical Information Systems to assist in the event of an emergency, including an overlay of important data needed to manage an emergency situation, and where possible tied into aerial photographs of Buckinghamshire.</p> | <p>Meetings to be completed by March 2002</p> <p>Ongoing alongside the County's programme for developing GIS.</p> | <p>Peter Willdrige with relevant EPO.</p> <p>Leslie Manning</p> | <p>Strengthened arrangements to be reflected in County and (where relevant) District plans. Ongoing monitoring through joint EP management meetings.</p> <p>Ongoing monitoring through joint EP management meetings</p> |