

JOINT RESILIENCE COMMITTEE

**Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council and
City and County of Swansea**

Friday 2nd May 2014

**UPDATE REPORT on Emergency Planning, Resilience and Business
Continuity matters**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an overview of the key resilience challenges currently facing both Councils, to explain how these challenges are currently being addressed and to provide an insight into the wider resilience framework which exists and is evolving at a local, regional and national level.

2. GUIDE TO THE ROLE OF AN ELECTED MEMBER DURING AN EMERGENCY

A new smaller Guide to the role of an Elected Member during an emergency has been published.

A copy is enclosed with this report.

The role of Elected Members in an emergency is essential. Many people, including JRU team members, rely on the skills, resources and knowledge of an Elected Member as they provide an invaluable resource and communication channel to the community prior, during and after an incident. It is, therefore, essential that Elected Members' awareness of civil protection and emergency preparedness arrangements contribute to the successful outcome of an emergency incident and ultimately the "return to normality."

It is **RECOMMENDED** that the enclosed Elected Members Guide is **APPROVED** by this Committee for distribution to all Elected Members of both Councils.

FOR DECISION

3. PUBLIC FACING RESILIENCE WEBSITE

A meeting took place recently with the Coordinator of the North Wales Local Resilience Forum (NW LRF) to discuss promoting a shared public facing website between the South Wales and North Wales LRFs as an additional method of engaging with the public. This would also be an ideal forum to publish the Community Risk Register.

This discussion took place within the context of the website development work which has been progressed by the NPT and Swansea JRU increasingly being used to support collaborative working regionally and nationally.

The proposition discussed is that the front page of the website becomes a joint one between SW LRF and NW LRF. This option is also being considered by our colleagues in Dyfed Powys and Gwent LRFs

It is **RECOMMENDED** that the Committee supports this approach to collaborative working.

FOR DECISION

4. MULTI AGENCY CROSS BORDER CHEMICAL INCIDENT EXERCISE

Exercise Bridge is a cross border exercise with Dyfed Powys Local Resilience Forum which will be held on 19th November 2014. The exercise will test the multi-agency response to a road tanker carrying chemicals crashing on the M4 near to junction 48. The City and County of Swansea will be tasked in setting up a rest centre assisted by staff from Neath Port Talbot Council utilising mutual aid arrangements.

It is **RECOMMENDED** that the Committee supports this approach to collaborative working and cross border exercises.

FOR DECISION

5. COMAH EXERCISES

The JRU is currently preparing for two multi-agency COMAH exercises - Calor Gas (Aberdulais) and Tata Steel (Port Talbot). These exercises are both scheduled to take place in Autumn 2014 (dates TBC).

The aim of the exercises will be to test the off-site plan for these sites as a result of their top tier status under the Control of Major Accident Hazard (COMAH) regulations 1999.

Participating agencies will include representatives from Neath Port Talbot CBC, South Wales Police, Welsh Ambulance Service, Mid and West Wales Fire Service, Natural Resources Wales, Public Health Wales and ABMU Health Board.

It is **RECOMMENDED** that this Committee notes the arrangements for these exercises and considers being represented on an observer basis.

FOR DECISION

6. SUMMARY OF INCIDENTS

6.1 31st January 2014 to 2nd February 2014 - Severe Weather

Natural Resources Wales issued Flood Alerts for the North Gower area due to high winds and astronomical high tides. The JRU duty officer was put on standby, along with Rest Centre managers, Highways departments and media officers in both local authorities. Fortunately, no incidents of note were reported.

6.2 4th April 2014 - Storage of Tyre Materials

Details about the storage of a quantity of tyre shred and other materials were recently reported to the JRU via the Arson Reduction Team of Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service (MWWFRS). Concern was expressed by MWWFRS about the tyre shred which was stored mainly within an enclosed building.

MWWFRS considered that this material potentially presented a fire risk. A multi-agency team comprising MWWFRS, local authority officers, South Wales Police, Public Health Wales and chaired by National Resources Wales (NRW) was immediately established.

An action plan was quickly developed with the aim of the risk of a tyre shred fire being minimised. Security measures were put in place at the site at an early stage pending the action plan being implemented in full.

Further details about the aforementioned response will be provided verbally at the meeting.

It is **RECOMMENDED** that the Committee notes developments to date and considers relevant matters arising.

FOR DECISION

7. JOINT RESILIENCE UNIT 2014/2015 WORK PROGRAMME

Details of the proposed key activities for inclusion in work programme for the Joint Resilience Unit (JRU) for 2014/2015 are set out in **Appendix 1** to this report.

The aim of the work programme is to ensure that the JRU and other key players in both local authorities focus on agreed priorities, leading to both local authorities and their constituent communities becoming more resilient.

It is **RECOMMENDED** that the proposed JRU work programme for 2014/2015 is **APPROVED**

FOR DECISION

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APPENDIX 1

Joint Resilience Unit Forward Work Programme 2014/2015

TOPIC	COMMENT
Tata Steel, Port Talbot	Development, organisation & facilitation of COMAH Exercise
Calor Gas, Aberdulais	Development, organisation & facilitation of COMAH Exercise
NPT Council Business Continuity Plans	Start individual plan audit once review complete. Exercise plans once audit complete
Swansea Council Business Continuity Plans	Audit plans once review complete. Exercise plans once audit complete
School Business Continuity Plans	Audit plans once review complete. Exercise plans once audit complete
National Grid - SWF 02 NPT - Wales & West Utilities Local Distribution Network - NPT & CCS	Review Multi Agency Plans
National Grid - UKT28 - Milford Haven to Aberdulais and Felindre to Tirely	Review Multi Agency Plans
NPT CBC & CCoS Major Emergency Plan	Review contents of document
Dyfed Powys Chemical Incident – Exercise Bridge	Agreement to test: Rest Centre Communications; CCoS Emergency Control Centre Plan; Loggist training
Severe Weather Group	Group changed from Flooding to Severe Weather Group. All relevant plans top be reviewed and unified
Rest Centre Database & Maps	Review: July 2014 See M:\DUTY OFFICER\Rest Centre Database\Updating Keyholder Instructions.doc
Publish NPT and CCoS Resilience Newsletters	Next issues: Spring/Summer 2014 and Autumn/Winter 2014
Place Directorate Exercise (Swansea)	Training session to be focused on role of JRU / Command and Control
Joint Resilience Coordinators Group (JRCG) – for NPT and Swansea Councils	Re-establish and strengthen work of JRCG
Community Resilience	Links to the “Prepare” and “Protect” elements of CONTEST to be developed