CIVIL CONTINGENCIES ANNUAL UPDATE

SCOPE

Following the Civil Contingencies Short Sharp Review Final Report the Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the group's proposals at a meeting on 5th March 2018. During this meeting the Committee endorsed the group's recommendations that:

- The content of the Council's emergency plan should be reviewed on an annual basis; and
- Receive an annual update in respect of the Council's emergency planning arrangements.

SERVICE UPDATE

The role holder continues to:

- Manage a shared North Worcestershire Emergency Planning and Business Continuity Service across Bromsgrove District Council, Redditch Borough Council and Wyre Forest District Council in accordance with the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and other relevant legislation.
- Ensure the appropriate strategies, policy, procedures and plans are in place to comply with the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, National Standards and Local Resilience Forum arrangements to ensure the councils can meet their statutory duties and stated strategies.
- Maintain and continuously develop effective multi-agency partnership working with both category 1 and 2 responders' undertaken via the representation of the three councils at multi agency planning meetings.
- Ensure internal arrangements remain fit for purpose within the stated asset management review dates. This will include regular testing, reviewing and revising of the emergency arrangements and associated procedures.
- Promote the annual review of all Council function business continuity arrangement so that they are fit for purpose and integrated within the Corporate Business Continuity Plan.
- Undertake horizon scanning for new legislation or central government initiatives and work with multi-agency partners within the LRF to identify risks and develop arrangements to manage projected impacts.

CIVIL
CONTINGENCIES
ANNUAL
UPDATE
(CONTINUED)

 Provide the opportunity for Duty Incident Response Officers to undertake training internally or within the multi-agency environ as appropriate to the role undertaken. Provide appropriate opportunities for training of and attendance at validation exercises of response and recovery arrangements.

INCIDENT DEBRIEF REPORTS

Two significant incidents occurred in 2018 which required both an internal and multi-agency debrief process to be commissioned. The internal debrief reports for the following will be discussed at Corporate Management Team (CMT) Meeting in November, and areas identified for development converted into an action plan for CMT management.

- Wythall Surface Water Flooding May 2018
- Partial Building Collapse July 2018

NATIONAL INCIDENTS

A professional localised analysis of the findings detailed within Kerslake report, an independent review into the preparedness for, and emergency response to, the Manchester Arena attack in May 2017, has identified suggested areas of identified best practice as well as pertinent recommendations.

No formal learning has been produced regarding Grenfell tower fire to date, however it is felt within the Emergency Planning Community that the findings will significantly shape emergency planning response and recovery particularly for Local Authorities.

REVIEW OF INTERNAL ARRANGEMENTS

The following arrangements are pending discussion and approval at the Corporate Management Team in November 2018:

- Corporate Emergency Plan
- Corporate Business Continuity Plan
- Redditch Borough & Bromsgrove District Council Rest Centre Operational Annex
- Bromsgrove and Redditch Flooding Response Framework
- Three debrief report suggested action plans.

MATERNITY ARRANGEMENTS

The current post holder is scheduled to undertake maternity leave in December 2018. Cover arrangements have yet to be agreed.