



Creating a safer
Cambridgeshire

To: Joint Audit Committee

From: Chief Constable

Date: 10 April 2019

Update on Business Continuity Preparedness and Compliance for Cambridgeshire Constabulary

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Joint Audit Committee on business continuity preparedness and provide an update with regard to current levels of compliance within Cambridgeshire Constabulary.

2. Recommendation

2.1 The Board is recommended to note the contents of this report.

3. Preparedness

3.1 As a Category 1 responder (as defined by the Civil Contingencies Act, 2004) Cambridgeshire Constabulary is obliged to ensure that it has plans in place to ensure the continued delivery of critical functions in the event of a disruptive challenge. In meeting this obligation the Constabulary follows both the non-statutory guidance emanating from the Act¹ as well as aligning itself with the internationally recognised standard for business continuity management (ISO 22301).

¹

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/61029/Chapter-6-Business-Continuity-Management_amends_04042012.pdf

3.2 In assessing risks external to the organisation that may result in the need to invoke business continuity arrangements for one or more departments within the Constabulary, use is made of the Community Risk Register developed and maintained by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Resilience Forum.² Internal risks at departmental level are addressed in sections 56 – 59 of the relevant departmental level plans.

4. Compliance

4.1 The current Cambridgeshire Constabulary Corporate Crisis Management Plan is due for review. However, many aspects of this plan have been discretely invoked in order to assist in preparing the organisation to meet the challenges that may be faced in a possible 'No Deal Brexit'. International guidance and 'best practice' suggest that it would be unwise to review such a document whilst aspects of it are in use. It is therefore intended that a review will take place at the conclusion of the Brexit process, or when current command and control structures are stepped down.

4.2 Within Cambridgeshire Constabulary it has been identified that there are 21 departments that contribute to the provision of critical services. Currently there is 100% compliance with the requirement to develop and maintain plans. The Civil Contingencies Unit within Joint Protective Services (JPS) will continue to provide support to departments in line with the Business Continuity Programme, or when requested.

5. Training and Exercise Schedule

5.1 In order to ensure that the Constabulary is well prepared, the current Business Continuity Programme (2019/20) has identified a training and exercise schedule for the forthcoming year. This approach, whilst relatively new to the organisation has worked well in the recent amalgamation of communication functions (Demand Hub) and Scientific Services provided by JPS. A record of exercise dates and a post event report will be retained by the Civil Contingencies Unit.

6. External Suppliers

6.1 The current issues regarding the exit of the UK from the European Union have resulted in concerns in relation to the continuity of supply chains and the impact that this may have. To date assurances have been received from CTC Fleet Management, Derby Unitex (uniform supplier) and Deenside (PPE suppliers).

6.2 The Civil Contingencies Unit will continue to offer support to these areas until arrangements are established.

7. Recommendations

7.1 The Board is recommended to note the contents of this report.

² <https://www.scamb.gov.uk/media/7963/cplrf-community-risk-register-v12.pdf>