



GOVERNMENT OFFICE  
FOR LONDON

LONDON RESILIENCE TEAM

Riverwalk House, 157 – 161 Millbank, London, SW1P 4RR

**SUMMARY BRIEFING - 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the London Regional Resilience Forum  
on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2006.**

**Minister's introduction**

1. The Minister welcomed everyone to the 19<sup>th</sup> LRRF. In particular Peter Hendy, Transport Commissioner, Transport for London and Commander Bob Broadhurst, Metropolitan Police (MPS) who will take over from Commander Mick Messenger. The Forum recorded its thanks to Commander Messenger for the invaluable support he had given to London Resilience over the years.
2. The Minister noted the continuing work on the lessons learnt agreed by the Forum on 12 October and that the next meeting on 13 July would review progress. A specific briefing meeting was being arranged for him with London Ambulance Service.

**Threat & horizon scan**

2. The MPS gave a confidential oral brief on the current threat. The general UK threat level remained at Severe General.
3. CCS reported on the following issues which they are considering: Avian Flu, Flu Pandemic, and possible issues with oil supply, gas supply, fire strike and resumption of export of live calves and badger culling. BAA gave a further update on the aviation fuel situation following the Buncefield explosion.

**Drought 2006/07 Position**

4. The Forum received a detailed briefing from Thames Water on the current water situation for London. Following eighteen months of below average rainfall there was now an overall shortage of water resources in both aquifers and rivers. London was dependent on rainfall to prevent escalation beyond the current hose pipe ban. The Board of Thames Water was currently reviewing the supply position weekly. A "third dry winter" would make a summer emergency in 2007 a real possibility. DEFRA and the Environment Agency provided supplementary advice.
5. The London Resilience Team (LRT) reported on a workshop that LRT and Thames Water had jointly arranged for the partnership to assess the issues that water supply difficulties might create. This had recommended that, on a precautionary basis, a start should be made now on contingency planning against a serious water shortage in summer 2007. The Forum agreed to the setting up of a multi-agency drought working group to take this planning forward and report back.

## **Beacon scheme for emergency planning**

5. Martin Pilgrim explained the background of the Beacon Scheme. A successful joint London bid would recognise the achievements of all London Resilience partners in building a successful culture of resilience.

## **Extranet**

6. The Forum confirmed its support for the establishment of an extranet for London and welcomed the fact that the Government was now taking forward the issue of funding. The current discussion was around the procurement process.

## **London Regional Flu Pandemic Plan**

7. The Forum approved the Regional Flu Pandemic Plan. The Plan identified roles and responsibilities and had been designed to be useable in both pre-planning and in a pandemic. The success of the Plan now required local planning and this was now underway. There will be an exercise in the Autumn to test the plan at a London-region level. The Forum noted that central government was preparing guidance for use in a flu pandemic on issues such as school closures and dealing with excess deaths. LRT was commissioned to prepare a paper for the next Forum on the London Regional Civil Contingencies Committee response structure that would apply in a flu pandemic.

## **London Resilience plans for Forum approval**

9. The Forum approved a revised Command and Control Protocol (updated post 7/7), a Voluntary Organisations Protocol (which clarified the roles and funding expectations of the individual voluntary sector organisations in an emergency) and a Recovery Management Protocol (which set out the recovery management arrangements for London). These would now be incorporated into the London Strategic Emergency Plan.

## **National Capabilities survey**

10. LRT reported that the response of London to date was 79%. An early report on the results would be brought to the July Forum. The results (together with the regional risk assessment and other factors) would help influence the Forum's delivery plan.

## **2012 Olympics**

11. Assistant Commissioner House had been formally appointed as Director of Security for the London Games. He had chaired a meeting of National Police agencies – responsibility for the security of the 2012 Olympic Games was a joint effort with police forces throughout England and Wales. Plans for the Olympic sites and venues were continually being reviewed by the ODA and LOCOG. Work was expected to start in July 2007.

## Local Resilience Forums Update

13. There were two issues for the LRF's at the moment; The review of the LRF's and deciding the best way forward for Emergency Planning for the Olympics.

## Reports from the LRRF Sub Committee Chairs

14. Reports were received from all the Sub Committees. Particular points were:
  - (a) **Business** – the Business Implementation Group had been working closely with local authorities and business on business continuity advice to businesses. Minister for London Jim Fitzpatrick had launched the 'London Prepared' pack of business continuity planning material.
  - (b) **Local Authorities** - endorsement of the revised 'Local Authority Gold' resolution by councils continued to move forward.
  - (c) **Utilities** – the Utilities Sub-committee was hosting a regional resilience workshop for utilities across England at the end of June. This would look at utilities contribution to regional resilience and issues raised. LRT was taking this forward.
  - (d) **Blue Lights** - the sub-committee would be reviewing its relationship with the London Emergency Services Liaison Panel (LESLP)
  - (e) **Health** – the Forum was briefed on Exercise Tamino.
  - (f) **Transport** - an 'Access through Cordons' Protocol had been signed off.
  - (g) **Voluntary Sector** - the issue of how the voluntary sector linked in with the Command & Control Protocol was being examined
  - (h) **Communications**. The London Prepared website had been redesigned for launch in July. The sub-committee continued to pursue the public information and media handling lessons from 7/7.

## Reports from the LRRF Working Group Chairs

15. Progress reports were received from the following working groups: CBRN, Consequence and Recovery Management, Mass Fatalities, Evacuation, Faith, Command and Control, Exercises and Infectious Diseases. In particular it was noted that ten new temporary mortuary sites had been identified and were now being surveyed, and interim Assistance Centre guidance had been issued and potential sites identified in each LRF area. The London 'Assistance Centre Plan' was on schedule for completion. The Forum also thanked Chief Superintendent Mackie for the work he had done as Chair of the Exercise Working Group and wished him a happy retirement.

LRT  
May 2006