

LONDON RESILIENCE



preparing for emergencies

LONDON REGIONAL RESILIENCE FORUM

THIRTY FOURTH MEETING

JULY 2010

MINUTES

Those attended included the Mayor of London. In addition, senior representatives from the following organisations:

- British Airports Authority
- British Transport Police
- Business Sector Panel
- Chair of Local Authorities Panel
- City of London Police
- Civil Contingencies Secretariat
- Communities and Local Government
- Comms Sector Panel
- Coroners Office
- Environment Agency
- Faith Sector Panel
- Greater London Authority
- Health Protection Agency
- London Ambulance Service
- London Councils
- London District, Army
- London Fire Brigade
- London Resilience Team
- London Underground
- LRF Representative
- Metropolitan Police Service
- NHS London
- OSCT, Home Office
- Port of London Authority
- St. John Ambulance
- Transec- DFT
- Transport for London
- Utilities Sector Panel

The meeting was Chaired by the Mayor of London.

1. CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the thirty fourth meeting of the London Regional Resilience Forum (LRRF).
- 1.2 The Chair reminded Forum members that to comply with the requirements of the Civil Contingencies Act, an unrestricted version of the minutes of the Forum would be made available to all Category one and two responders and published on the London Prepared website.

2. MINUTES AND ACTIONS OF THE LAST MEETING

- 2.1 The Minutes of the 33rd London Regional Resilience Forum, held in February 2010, were agreed and accepted as an accurate record.
- 2.2 The Chair informed the meeting that all actions from the previous meeting were completed or underway.

3. THREAT & HORIZON SCAN

- 3.1 The Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) gave a detailed update on the current position and threat levels. The MPS said that the threat level remains at Severe and that they remain alert and vigilant.
- 3.2 The Chair thanked the MPS.
- 3.3 The Civil Contingencies Secretariat (CCS) gave a detailed update on the current situation and forward look, including updates on the Volcanic Ash disruption in April and the possibility of forthcoming industrial action across sectors.
- 3.4 The Chair thanked the CCS.
- 3.5 The Office for Counter Terrorism (OSCT) provided an update on the Government's vision on the future of the Counter Terrorism Strategy following the election. The existing CT strategy based around four strands (Prepare, Protect, Prevent and Pursue) has been endorsed with some enhancements based around the protection of assets and the identification of risk.
- 3.6 The Chair thanked the OCST.

4. LRT DELIVERY PLAN 09/10 AND 2010/11

- 4.1 The Chair invited the London Resilience Team (LRT) representative to update the Forum on the progress made to the Regional Delivery Plan.
- 4.2 LRT highlighted that a significant amount of work has been completed by LRT on behalf of the Partnership during 2009/10 with the noticeable completion of seven regional response plans and the delivery of the Regional Gold Exercise.

- 4.3 LRT stated that 2010/11 will be as, if not more challenging as 2009/10 with the Delivery Plan reflecting the importance of the Olympics as well as to reflect the transition of resilience planning from the Government Office of London to the Greater London Authority. LRT hoped that the Partnership will work closely together to ensure that the transition to the GLA is as smooth as possible so that capability, particularly for the response is maintained.
- 4.4 The Civil Contingencies Secretariat confirmed that a submission has been sent to Ministers to decide upon the next steps in relation to the Civil Contingencies Act Enhancement Project and the decision will be circulated once known.
- 4.5 The Forum restated its commitment to the National Resilience Extranet, stressing its role in information sharing pre and post transition.
- 4.6 The Chair thanked LRT for the update.

5. THE LONDON RISK ASSESSMENT 2009/2010

- 5.1 The Chair invited LRT to introduce the London Risk Assessment 2009/2010.
- 5.2 LRT stated that every year a risk assessment is completed across London to assess the highest risks to help inform the Delivery Plan. Two risks have been ranked “Very High” and six “High” against Likelihood and Impact criteria for 2009/10 – work against these has been included in either the LRT Delivery Plan or is being taken forward by central Government departments nationally.
- 5.3 The Chair thanked LRT for their update.

6. OLYMPIC PROGRESS REPORT

- 6.1 The Chair invited LRT to provide an update to the Forum on the Olympic planning work completed by LRT since the Forum last met.
- 6.2 LRT informed the Forum that the London Olympic Resilience Gap Analysis (LORGA) has now been completed; this builds upon the London Olympic Resilience Planning Assumptions to identify whether London responders have sufficient capability to respond to a range of incidents. The outcome of the LORGA was endorsed by the Forum.
- 6.3 The Chair thanked LRT for the update.

7. SEVERE WEATHER INTERIM REPORT

- 7.1 The Chair invited LRT to provide an update to the Forum on the interim report on the Partnership’s response and the lessons learnt from the recent severe weather events over the winter.

- 7.2 LRT stated that a full Partnership debrief is underway, with the report being submitted to the next Forum. The Terms of Reference for the debrief were endorsed by the Forum.
- 7.3 It was agreed that the Partnership responded much more effectively than in February 2009, clearly learning the lessons which were identified. The Chair stated that it was vital for the London Resilience Partnership to be proactive during subsequent winters to ensure that, in particular, the supply and distribution of salt is sufficient.
- 7.4 The Chair thanked all for contributing and welcomed the report.

8. SWINE FLU HEALTH DEBRIEF

- 8.1 The Chair invited NHS London to provide an update on the Swine Flu situation.
- 8.2 NHS London informed the Forum that it was very quiet across London, however preparations are underway for the forthcoming flu season. It was stressed that the recent Swine Flu outbreak should not be considered the one in thirty year event as the National Pandemic Influenza Risk suggests.
- 8.3 The Chair thanked all those who contributed to the report and stressed that all organisations should ensure that the identified lessons should be embedded within each organisation.

9. LONDON GOLD EXERCISE 2011 – EXERCISE WATERMARK

- 9.1 The Chair invited LRT to provide an update to the Forum on the planning in relation to the London Gold Exercise 2011, the national Tier One Exercise Watermark.
- 9.2 LRT stated that London have been accepted to play the “core” script of this Defra led national exercise – being involved in two of the five days’ play. This exercise will meet London’s requirements to exercise their Gold arrangements under the Civil Contingencies Act and allow testing of Olympic arrangements.
- 9.3 It was accepted that there is a need for full and active involvement of all Partner organisations to meet the milestones and ensure a successful exercise.
- 9.4 The Chair thanked LRT for the update.

10. LRF UPDATE

- 10.1 The Chair invited London Fire Brigade – Emergency Planning to update the Forum on the work of the Local Resilience Fora.

10.2 LFB-EP informed the Forum that the LRFs continue to review London wide plans to imbed them within local arrangements – they are currently focused on multi-agency flood plans. Work is also ongoing to imbed the Humanitarian Assistance Plan across London, with six teams being formed to deliver these services locally when required.

10.3 The Chair thanked LFB-EP. No other questions or comments were received.

11. REPORTS FROM THE LRRF PANEL CHAIRS

11.1 The Chairs of the nine Sector Panels were asked to provide updates to the Forum where required.

11.2 The Blue Light Sector Panel supplied the Forum with their report on the use of audible warning equipment – a report on the use of this equipment came from an action from the previous meeting.

11.3 The report concluded that the use of this equipment was required to protect the public and the driver, that reducing its use could create a risk to public safety, reputational criticism and potential litigation, and finally that academic research has not found any link between use of audible equipment and fear of crime.

11.4 The Chair welcomed the findings of the report.

11.5 No other Sector Panel Chair had anything further to add.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 The British Transport Police informed the Forum that discussions are taking place about the use and availability of Airwave on all modes of under ground transport beneath London. The Chair requested to be kept informed of all developments.

12.2 NHS London stated that they held a very successful live exercise in June – a post exercise report is being written and will be supplied to all Forum members. NHS London wished to express their thanks to the Health Protection Agency and London Fire Brigade for their assistance in staging the exercise.

12.3 The Government Office for London said this was the last time they would be the secretariat for this meeting before the transition of function to the Greater London Authority.