



**Making
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work better**

Welcome address

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Importance of Business Continuity and Emergency Planning

- Business continuity defined as:
 - ‘strategic and tactical capability of the organisation to plan for and respond to incidents and business disruptions in order to continue business operations at an acceptable pre-defined level’ (BS 25999)
- Requirements under the Civil Contingencies Act:
 - ‘...Category 1 responders to maintain plans to ensure that they can continue to exercise their functions in the event of an emergency so far as is reasonably practicable.’
- Improved business continuity = improved UK resilience
- But our business continuity planning needs to get better

BS 25999 opportunities

- Increased UK resilience
- Common national standard universally understood
 - Simple principles
 - Non-costly contingency arrangements
 - Accessible to all organisations, no matter what shape or size
- Transparency of your own organisation's resilience
- Confidence in the capabilities of your key partners
- Competitive advantage

Current Business Continuity and Emergency Planning policy considerations

- The Pitt Review – learning lessons from the 2007 floods, interim report (December 2007) – strong business continuity theme
- National Capability Survey 2008 gives us a detailed picture of business continuity planning across the UK
- Review of the Civil Contingencies Act in 2008 - likely to look at current arrangements
- Publication of a National Risk Register

Planning Assumptions

- Focused: statements about the type and extent of the consequences to plan for
- Tailored to planners' needs: providing the information that planners require, in a form they can use, in a form which can be shared

Challenges to your business continuity – key planning assumptions

- Large scale temporary absence of staff
 - eg Pandemic Influenza
- Denial of geographical site
 - eg Large flooding event
- Loss of mains electricity
- Disruption to transport network
- Loss of mains water and sewerage
- Loss of availability of oil and fuel
- Loss of telephone/ mobile telephone communications



Summary

- Must improve Business Continuity and Emergency Planning - critical importance to improving UK resilience
- BS 25999 enables us to do that
- We need to realise current business continuity and emergency planning policy considerations
- Good business continuity management must address key planning assumptions and implement a response