

**DEPARTMENTS RESPONSIBILITIES FOR
PLANNING, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY FROM
EMERGENCIES**

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Introduction

It is important for all levels of government to be clear, in advance, which department will lead on main potential challenges. The Cabinet Office is responsible for maintaining the list of Lead Government Department responsibilities for planning, response, and recovery to a wide range of situations. This information is published on the UK Resilience pages of the Cabinet Office website <http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/ukresilience.aspx>.

Most incidents are handled by local emergency responders with no direct involvement from central government. Where there is a need for central government involvement, this is undertaken in accordance with the established concept of Lead Government Department. This document sets out lead government department responsibilities for planning, response, and recovery. It takes on board recommendations from Lord Newton's inquiry (Buncefield fuel depot) and the Pitt Review 2008 (Flooding) which called for clarity around roles and responsibilities, particularly in the recovery phase. In addition, this document takes on board lessons learnt from exercising/operations and reflects recent machinery of government changes.

The Cabinet Office will continue to provide support, as required, to lead departments during the planning, response and recovery phases.

No.	Type of Emergency	LGD for Planning and Response Phase	LGD for Recovery Phase (See Footnote)
1	Terrorism conventional/siege/hostage	GB: Home Office NI: NIO	England: DCMS Scotland: Scottish Executive (SE) Wales: Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) Northern Ireland: Northern Ireland Executive (NIE)
2	Terrorism CBRN: including direct or indirect release of CBRN materials	GB: Home Office NI: NIO	England: Defra; Scotland: SE; Wales: WAG; NI: NIE
3	Electronic Attack	UK: Home Office with CPNI	To be determined in light of circumstances at the time
4	Disruption of supply chains a) Telecommunications, postal services b) oil, gas, electricity c) strategic chemicals, manufacturing d) healthcare e) land and sea transport f) air transport g) finance	a) GB: BERR; NI: NIE b) GB: DECC; NI: NIE c) England: BERR; Scotland: SE; Wales: WAG; NI – NIE d) England: DH; Scotland: SE; Wales: WAG in conjunction with DH; NI: NIE e) England: DfT; Scotland: SE; Wales: WAG; NI: NIE f) UK: DfT and DA where relevant g) UK: HMT	(Significant recovery activity unlikely in most cases) a) England: BERR; Scotland: SE; Wales: WAG; NI: NIE b) England: DECC; Scotland: SE; Wales: WAG; NI: NIE c) England: BERR; Scotland: SE; Wales: WAG; NI: NIE d) England: DH; Scotland : SE ; Wales : WAG; NI : NIE e) England: Dft; Scotland : SE ; Wales : WAG; NI : NIE f) DfT and DA where relevant g) HMT h) England: Defra; Scotland: SE; Wales: WAG;

No.	Type of Emergency	LGD for Planning and Response Phase	LGD for Recovery Phase (See Footnote)
	h) food, water, waste	h) England: Defra; Scotland: SE; Wales: WAG; NI: NIE	NI: NIE
5	Major Software Failure	UK: CO where not covered by other entries and has wide ranging impacts	To be determined in light of circumstances at the time
6	Transport accidents (including all UK registered ships and aircraft): a) shipping and other accidents at sea b) land transport c) air transport	a) UK: DfT (MCA) b) England: DfT; Scotland: SE; Wales: WAG; NI: NIE c) UK: DfT	Significant recovery activity unlikely and lead therefore likely to remain with response lead department unless otherwise determined if wide-ranging consequences arise.
7	Pollution to ground and surface waters, marine and coastal and marine salvage: a) from vessels and offshore installations b) pollution to ground and surface waters up to 3 mile limit c) control of maritime salvage	a) UK: DfT and MCA; Scotland: as UK but with SEERAD b) England: Defra and EA; Scotland: SE; NI: NIE; Wales: WAG with Defra and EA Wales c) DfT (MCA)	a) DfT (MCA) b) Defra and EA (DWI if drinking water affected) Scotland - Scottish Executive Wales – WAG; NI – NIE c) DfT (MCA)

8	<p>Radiation Hazards (see 2 above where caused by Terrorist activity):</p> <p>a) Civil Nuclear</p> <p>b) Defence Nuclear Installations and material in transit</p> <p>c) accidental release in transit</p>	<p>UK: DECC RIMNET supports all</p> <p>a) E&W: DECC; Scotland: SE; NI: N/A</p> <p>b) UK: MOD</p> <p>c) GB : DfT; NI : NIE</p>	<p>a) England - Defra Scotland – SE; Wales – WAG; NI - NIE</p> <p>b) To be determined if off-site consequences</p> <p>c) England – Defra; Scotland - SE Wales – WAG; NI - NIE</p>
9	<p>Radiation Hazards (extra-territorial):</p> <p>a) as a result of terrorism overseas</p> <p>b) as a result of accidents overseas</p>	<p>UK: DECC</p> <p>a) UK: HO</p> <p>b) UK: DECC</p>	<p>Defra</p> <p>a) England: Defra; Scotland: SE; Wales: WAG; NI: NIE</p> <p>b) England: Defra; Scotland: SE; Wales: WAG; NI: NIE</p>
10	<p>Hazardous materials - Chemical, biological or radiological materials released other than as a result of terrorist activity and where not covered in 9 above or 11 below</p>	<p>England: CCS to determine; Scotland: SE; Wales: WAG; NI: NIE</p>	<p>England: Defra where implications are mainly clean up of the open environment; or CLG where mainly displaced people/wider disruption</p> <p>Scotland: SE; Wales: WAG; NI: NIE</p>

<p>11</p>	<p>Serious Industrial Accidents:</p> <p>a) if focus relates to operations of HSE</p> <p>b) if wider economic and commercial impacts not covered under 4</p> <p>c) pollution arising from</p>	<p>England: CCS to determine Scotland: SE; Wales: WAG; NI: NIE</p> <p>a) GB: DWP with HSE; NI - NIE with HSE NI</p> <p>b) England: BERR; Wales: WAG; Scotland: SE; NI: NIE</p> <p>c) England: DEFRA with EA; Scotland: SE; Wales: WAG; NI: NIE</p>	<p>England: CLG if wide-ranging issues; Scotland: SE; Wales : WAG; NI : NIE</p> <p>a) Not applicable</p> <p>b) England: BERR; Scotland: SE; Wales: WAG; NI: NIE</p> <p>c) Defra if main issue is clean up of the open environment and DWI If drinking water affected; Scotland : SE; Wales : WAG; NI: NIE</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>Severe storms and weather:</p> <p>a) impact on transport</p> <p>b) impact on power</p> <p>c) impact on built environment</p>	<p>CCS to appoint in good time UK: DfT for air GB: DfT for rail (with DA input) England: DfT for roads and ports Scotland: SE for roads and ports Wales: WAG for roads, some rail and ports NI: NIE for roads, ports and rail.</p> <p>England and Wales: DECC Scotland: DECC NI : NIE</p> <p>England : CLG ; Scotland: SE ; Wales: WAG ; NI : NIE</p>	<p>a-c: Significant recovery activity unlikely and lead therefore likely to remain with response lead department unless otherwise determined if wide-ranging consequences arise.</p>

	d) effect is flooding (see 13 below)		England: CLG; Scotland: SE; Wales: WAG; NI: NIE
13	Flooding	England: Defra Scotland: SE Wales : WAG NI : NIE	England: CLG Scotland: SE Wales: WAG NI: NIE
14	Dam failures	England: Defra Scotland: SE Wales: WAG NI: NIE	England: CLG where urban area affected Scotland: SE Wales: WAG NI: NIE
15	Earthquakes	England: CLG Wales: WAG Scotland: SE NI: NIE	England: CLG Scotland: SE Wales: WAG NI: NIE
16	Major structural failures in buildings	England: If not covered elsewhere in list lead likely to depend on primary impacts/use of building Scotland: SE Wales: WAG NI: NIE	Significant recovery activity unlikely and lead therefore likely to remain with response lead department unless otherwise determined if wide- ranging consequences arise.

17	Animal Disease and Welfare	<p>UK: Defra in discussion with the devolved administrations for EU and international issues</p> <p>GB: Defra in discussion with SE and WAG for disease control policy and advice</p> <p>Domestic Policy on control strategies: England: Defra with delivery partners incl DH/FSA if human health implications Scotland: SE with delivery partners Wales: WAG with delivery partners NI: NIE</p>	<p>England: Defra Scotland: SE Wales: WAG NI: NIE</p>
18	Infectious Diseases	<p>England: DH with HPA Scotland: SE Wales: WAG NI: NIE</p>	<p>Significant recovery activity unlikely and lead therefore likely to remain with response lead department unless otherwise determined if wide-ranging consequences arise.</p>
19	Plant diseases	<p>England: Defra with Forestry Commission Scotland: SE with Forestry Commission Wales: WAG with Plant Health and Seeds Inspectorate and Forestry Commission NI: NIE with Forestry Commission</p>	<p>Significant recovery activity unlikely and lead therefore likely to remain with response lead department unless otherwise determined if wide-ranging consequences arise.</p>
20	Food contamination	<p>England: Food Standards Agency with DH Scotland: FSA Scotland Wales : FSA Wales NI : FSA NI</p>	<p>Significant recovery activity unlikely and lead therefore likely to remain with response lead department unless otherwise determined if wide-ranging consequences arise.</p>

21	Drinking Water Contamination	England: Defra with DWI Scotland: SE Wales: WAG with DWI NI: NIE	Significant recovery activity unlikely but in extreme circumstances Defra
22	Emergencies in Crown Dependencies	Ministry of Justice	MoJ
23	Disasters Overseas (Provision of UK humanitarian assistance)	UK: DfID	DFiD
24	Reception and Housing of UK Citizens evacuated from overseas	England: CLG Scotland: SE Wales: WAG NI: NIE	England: CLG Scotland: SE Wales: WAG NI: NIE
25	Disasters in sports grounds	England: DCMS Scotland: SE Wales: WAG NI: NIE	England: DCMS Scotland: SE Wales: WAG NI: NIE

26	Satellite Incidents	CCS	Significant recovery activity unlikely and lead therefore likely to remain with response lead department unless otherwise determined if wide-ranging consequences arise.
27	Major Public Order Incidents (significant civil unrest and disturbance) ¹	England and Wales: Home Office Scotland: SE ² NI: NIO	England: The LGD for recovery activity would be dependent on the scale and nature of the incident. Scotland: SE Wales: WAG NI: NIE

Notes

- LGD for Recovery: Emergencies are usually complex events and this table is intended to provide a basis for planning and facilitate a smooth transition between the response and recovery phases of an emergency. Where the issues to be addressed predominantly affect the interests of one department, that department will normally manage the recovery phase even where this table indicates that the lead could lie elsewhere. Any uncertainty should be resolved as early as possible in the response phase.
- The Departmental lead for recovery is responsible for co-ordinating the cross-government recovery effort in addition to their own departmental responsibilities. Funding for recovery issues will lie in accordance with departmental policy responsibilities. The Treasury should be engaged through departmental spending teams as appropriate.

¹ Does not include disorder resulting from incidents on which a lead department has already been nominated, for example protests over the cost of fuel on which DECC would act as the lead department.

² Events which have the potential to impact on national security remain reserved. The lead department for these incidents would therefore be the Home Office.