



Civil Contingencies Secretariat

22 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2WH

Telephone 020 7276 5061

Fax 020 7276 5012

E-mail bruce.mann@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk

Web www.cabinet-office.gov.uk

Bruce Mann, Director Civil Contingencies

6 November 2009

Dear Colleague,

Improving the Resilience of Critical Infrastructure

Sir Michael Pitt identified in his report on the summer 2007 floods a gap in the Government's policy-making and delivery towards the protection of critical infrastructure from severe disruption caused by natural hazards. Sir Michael recommended that the Government should "*establish a systematic, coordinated, cross-sector campaign to reduce the disruption caused by natural events to critical infrastructure and essential services*".

The Strategic Framework and Policy Statement on improving the resilience of critical infrastructure sets out the proposed policy intent, scope, aims, timescales and workstreams for such a programme. It is being released for discussion with Government, regulators, industry groups and infrastructure owners and operators.

I am therefore now writing to seek your comments on our proposals. In particular, I would welcome your views on how the Government might best and most proportionately set standards for resilience, and on the potential impact and costs of setting any such standards. Examples or case studies would be very welcome.

The document is published on the UK Resilience website www.cabinet-office.gov.uk/ukresilience and we will welcome submissions from you and any other interested organisations. Please send responses to naturalhazards@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk. The closing date for responses is noon on **Monday 18 January 2010**.

Please note that the public may ask for a copy of responses under freedom of information legislation. If you do not want your response - including your name, contact details and any other personal information - to be publicly available, please say so clearly in writing and explain your reasons when you send your response to the consultation. We will, however, work within relevant legislation on data. The automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your e-mail system will not count as a confidentiality request for responses to this consultation. We will provide a summary of all responses, which will include a list of names of organisations that responded but not people's personal names, addresses or other contact details.

If you have any queries, please contact the Natural Hazards Team at this address or on 0207 276 0831.

Yours faithfully

Bruce Mann

