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Dear Colleague

Consultation on Renewing Civil Contingencies Act Arrangements for London

As part of the Civil Contingencies Act Enhancement Programme, we have undertaken a project to review existing CCA arrangements in London and today publish a consultation paper on our proposals for changes to administrative arrangements in the capital.

Our aim is to ensure civil protection arrangements in the capital are robust, joined-up and cost effective, and that appropriate structures are in place to support effective partnership working at all levels in the capital and with neighbouring areas. Whilst we can be proud that London has, on the whole, dealt very effectively with a wide range of emergencies in recent years, there are opportunities to review whether responsibility and accountability are placed where they can best be discharged.

Part 1 of the *Civil Contingencies Act (2004)* (CCA) establishes a statutory framework of roles and responsibilities for organisations involved in civil protection at the local level. The *Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (Contingency Planning) Regulations 2005* establish the Local Resilience Forum as the principal mechanism for multi-agency resilience work. They also define specific arrangements for London whereby groupings of London boroughs form the basis for Local Resilience Forums (outside London, the Local Resilience Forums are based on police force areas).

The proposals outlined in this consultation paper would create in statute a single, pan-London Resilience Forum, similar to those elsewhere in England and Wales, and place the existing voluntary Borough Resilience Forums on a statutory basis. The paper describes CCA requirements and current arrangements in London, evaluates current practice, and outlines proposals for change. I am now seeking your comments on our proposals.

The paper is published on the UK Resilience website, www.cabinet-office.gov.uk/ukresilience and we welcome submissions from you and any other interested organisations. A separate response form accompanies the paper (Annex A). Please complete this form when responding to the consultation and send to: **ccact@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk** marking your response with 'CCAEP London Consultation' in the subject field of your email. Please respond by **Friday 26 February 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.

The results of this formal consultation will inform final policy and any subsequent changes to arrangements in London. For further information, please contact the Civil Contingencies Act Enhancement Programme team on 0207 217 5017 or email ccact@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk .

Yours sincerely

BRUCE MANN