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Dear Colleague

Civil Contingencies Act Enhancement Programme Phase 1 Consultation Documents

Phase 1 of the Civil Contingencies Act Enhancement Programme (CCAEP) focused on improving the standard and consistency in the way the existing legislative framework is implemented. During this Phase, we have developed updated and new guidance to support Category 1 and 2 responders in fulfilling their duties under the CCA.

In November and December, we launched consultations on:

- Renewing Civil Contingencies Act Arrangements for London – consultation closing date 26 February 2010.
- Draft revision to Chapter 2 (Co-operation) of *Emergency Preparedness* – consultation closing date 19 February 2010.

Today, I am pleased to invite your comments on two further draft guidance documents:

- Draft revision to Chapter 3 (Information Sharing) of *Emergency Preparedness*.
- New interim guidance: *Civil Contingencies Act 2004 – The Fit With Other Legislation*.

Both were developed with input from Category 1 and 2 responders as well as Lead Government Departments, and they address relevant recommendations in the Major Incident Investigation Board Report into the Buncefield Oil Depot explosion and fire, and Sir Michael Pitt's Review of the Summer 2007 floods.

The draft revision to Chapter 3 (Information Sharing) of *Emergency Preparedness* aims to meet a need to improve awareness of the use of protective markings, security vetting, Data Protection and Freedom of Information, and highlights the importance of producing information sharing protocols which are exercised and tested.

The new guidance, *The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 – The Fit With Other Legislation*, aims to support a consistent approach across planning and response arrangements established by the CCA and other site specific legislation. This has been prepared as interim guidance to complement that in *Emergency Preparedness*,



and will be fully incorporated into *Emergency Preparedness* when the whole document is reviewed at a later stage of the programme.

The consultation papers are published on the UK Resilience website, www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/ukresilience/news.aspx and we would welcome your views and those of any other interested organisations. A separate response form accompanies each paper (see Annex A to each document). **Please complete these forms when responding to the consultations and send them to ccact@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk.** 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 protection. 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 the final versions of the guidance which we hope to publish in Spring 2010.

For further information, please contact the Civil Contingencies Act Enhancement Programme team on 0207 217 5017 or e-mail ccact@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,



Kathy Settle

