

Strategic Emergency Management National Structures and Framework



An Roinn Cosanta
Department of Defence

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INTRODUCTION

Purpose

1. This document sets out the national arrangements for the delivery of effective emergency management. It outlines the structures for coordinating a “whole of Government” approach and the framework for achieving a systems approach to emergency management. The document will be complemented by a series of ‘Strategic Emergency Management (SEM) Guidelines’ dealing with specific aspects of strategic emergency management.

2. This national approach is designed primarily to enhance the protection, support and welfare of the public in times of emergency, by ensuring that fit-for-purpose national structures and procedures are in place to deal with a broad spectrum of emergencies, whether of internal or external origin. These arrangements are also designed to enhance national resilience so that disruption to the functioning of society and the economy is minimised.

Target Audience

3. This document provides strategic guidance and direction to Government Departments and Agencies under their aegis. It also informs organisations involved in preparing for or responding to emergencies e.g. utility companies, semi-state bodies, and the voluntary sector, as well as providing information for the public regarding the arrangements in place.

Types of Emergency

4. Every country can experience a range of emergencies such as fires, transport accidents, incidents involving hazardous substances, and severe weather emergencies. These are described as “normal emergencies” and thousands of such events are routinely

responded to by the principal emergency services¹ every year in Ireland.

Major Emergencies

5. Some emergencies may be beyond the normal response capabilities of the local emergency services in the area in which they occur, and may require a degree of additional local support from, and regional coordination by, the ‘Principal Response Agencies’². This level of coordination is outlined in the Framework for Major Emergency Management, 2006 (the MEM Framework), which enables the Principal Response Agencies (PRAs) to prepare for and respond to major emergencies. A number of appendices, guidelines and protocols to the MEM Framework support the PRAs in undertaking this function.

National-Level Emergencies

6. Some emergencies have characteristics which will require a national dimension of response to be invoked. In an increasingly ‘globalised’ society and interconnected world, an emergency in Ireland may have its genesis in natural or man-made events at home or elsewhere. It is necessary to plan for a range of diverse emergency scenarios which could require a national level response and over 50 such scenarios are identified in Annex A, “Roles and Responsibilities of Lead and Support Government Departments/Agencies”.

¹ An Garda Síochána, the National Ambulance Service, the Fire Service and the Irish Coast Guard.

² An Garda Síochána, the Health Service Executive, and the local authorities.

Definition of Emergency

7. In a national context, an emergency³ is defined as:

An event which, usually with little or no warning, causes or threatens to cause death, serious injury, serious disruption to essential services, the economy or critical infrastructure, significant damage to property or the environment, and which requires the activation of national resources to ensure an effective coordinated response and recovery.

Emergency Management in Ireland

The Systems Approach

8. The Five-Stage Systems Approach to emergency management, as illustrated in Figure 1, involves a continuous cycle of activity. The principal elements of the systems approach are;

- Hazard Analysis
- Mitigation
- Planning and Preparedness
- Response
- Recovery



Figure 1: The Five-Stage Systems Approach

³ The term 'Emergency' shall be interpreted to include such terms as 'crisis', 'disaster' and 'catastrophe' which are often used interchangeably in international publications.

Objectives

9. Effective emergency management encompasses identification of hazards, mitigation of risks, planning, response and recovery. The objectives for emergency management at national level are:

- To protect the public and minimise or prevent damage to property, the economy and critical infrastructure.
- To provide clear leadership in times of emergency, including arrangements for warning and informing the public.
- To facilitate timely and effective response through efficient and coordinated operations.
- To ensure the maintenance of essential services and efficient and timely return to normal conditions.
- To foster and encourage resilience and community spirit, including supporting the provision of services by the voluntary emergency services and communities affected.
- To support the safe conduct of emergency response operations through efficient planning and realistic training and exercises.
- To coordinate the recovery phase of operations, thereby facilitating a timely return to normal life within the shortest practicable timescale.

Principles

10. The following principles have been adopted and underpin all levels of emergency management in Ireland:

An All Hazards Approach

Common features of emergency management are recognised, regardless of the origin of the emergency.

Subsidiarity

The initial emergency response takes place at the nearest/lowest appropriate level, with coordination at other levels as the situation escalates.

Coordination

Effective coordination is required between, and within, organisations operating at the local, regional and national level.

Fundamentals

11. In implementing an emergency management approach, the following fundamentals need to be addressed.

- Compliance with relevant legislation and any regulations made there under.
- Assess risk as a component of a fit for purpose risk management system.
- Maintain up to date and fit for purpose emergency plans and the necessary capabilities to implement them.
- Promote business continuity, and maintain business continuity plans.
- Integrate the concept of resilience into emergency management activities.
- Communicate clearly with the public and key stakeholders, issuing timely and appropriate warnings, advice and information.

- Lead Government Departments (LGDs) are assigned to take the lead in a range of scenarios. They cooperate with other Departments, Agencies, and key stakeholders in planning for emergencies and dealing with them when they occur.
- Funding and resource issues need to be addressed at the earliest possible juncture.
- Share information and maintain situational awareness (having regard to any Data Protection or security constraints).
- Cooperate and collaborate as required with the private sector, the voluntary emergency services and communities.
- Maintain an open and transparent approach to keeping the public informed of what is being done to protect them and how they can help themselves and others.

International Context and Best Practice

12. Ireland participates in various international arenas dealing with emergency management. A range of expert staff in Government Departments and other public authorities have incorporated best international practices and procedures, training, and exercises, and have developed operational skills and adapted them for Irish conditions.

13. Ireland is also party to a number of bilateral and multilateral arrangements relating to emergency management and cooperates at various international levels, principally within the United Nations (UN), the European Union (EU), and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). Ireland also participates in the NATO Partnership for Peace (PfP). The international context is dealt with in more detail in the SEM Guidelines.

PART I: NATIONAL STRUCTURES FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

CHAPTER ONE:

Structures and Arrangements

National Structures

1.1. The following structures and arrangements are in place to enable the delivery of national-level emergency management.

Government Task Force on Emergency Planning

1.2. The Government Task Force (GTF) on Emergency Planning is chaired by the Minister for Defence and comprises senior representatives of all Departments, the Health Service Executive, An Garda Síochána, the Defence Forces, the Health and Safety Authority, the Revenue Commissioners, Met Éireann, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer, Civil Defence, the Office of Public Works, the Irish Coast Guard and other Agencies as appropriate. Ministers may also attend the GTF when appropriate.

1.3. The GTF coordinates and oversees the emergency management policy and activities of all Government Departments and Agencies under their aegis. It provides political leadership and facilitates coordination of emergency management between Departments and Agencies on an ongoing basis. The GTF provides support for the policy initiatives of the Minister for Defence as chair of the GTF, usually through specially tasked Sub-Groups. It also provides a platform for the sharing of experience and best practices across Departments and Agencies.

Government Task Force Sub-Groups

1.4. The GTF Sub-Groups are formed for specific purposes and can consist of Government Departments, Agencies and public/semi-state authorities with lead or support roles in Government emergency plans as well as private stakeholders and non-governmental organisations as required. The National Steering

Group on Major Emergency Management, chaired by the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government, is a Sub-Group of the GTF. The GTF charges the Sub-Groups with carrying out specific studies and developing particular aspects of emergency management. The Sub-Groups address emergency management matters with a view to minimising the potential consequences of any given emergency. Sub-Groups report to the GTF as required or as directed by the Chair.

Lead Government Departments

1.5. The Lead Government Department (LGD) has the mandate and responsibility to coordinate all national level activity for its assigned emergency types. The LGD role includes risk assessment, planning and preparedness, prevention, mitigation, response, and recovery. Annex A sets out the LGD for each emergency type identified. Support Department/Agency responsibilities are also assigned.

Support Government Departments and Agencies

1.6. All Government Departments and the Agencies under their aegis will be prepared to act in a principal support⁴ or other support role⁵.

1.7. The LGD identifies the specific roles which it expects Support Departments/Agencies to undertake in an emergency, and works with them in the planning and preparedness phase.

National Emergency Coordination Group

1.8. The National Emergency Coordination Group (NECG) is the central Government platform established as part of the response to a threatened or ongoing national-level emergency.

⁴ A Principal Support Role is one that is explicitly mentioned in a Department's emergency plans.

⁵ Other support roles include non-specific assistance, which may be requested from any Department or Agency in an emergency.

It is convened by the OEP at the request of the relevant LGD, and is chaired by the Minister or a senior official of that Department. When an NECG is convened, all members of the GTF are obliged to attend the first meeting. Attendance at subsequent meetings is managed in the light of the nature of the emergency, and at the discretion of the LGD.

1.9. The Chair may establish Sub-Groups to deal with specific issues which arise, or are expected to arise in dealing with the emergency.

The Office of Emergency Planning

1.10. The Office of Emergency Planning (OEP), established within the Department of Defence, supports the Minister for Defence as Chair of the GTF.

1.11. The OEP manages and operates the National Emergency Coordination Centre, maintaining the facility in a high state of readiness and facilitating its use by LGDs in the conduct of emergency response and other emergency management-related activities.

1.12. The OEP provides peer support to Government Departments and Agencies in identifying capability gaps and informing capability development.

1.13. The OEP acts as a focal point in matters of emergency planning specifically and emergency management generally. Furthermore, its remit extends to the arrangement of training and education relating to emergency management, and offering advice and assistance if requested to Government Departments in relation to their emergency management functions.

1.14. The OEP has the objective of improving and coordinating emergency planning and bringing the necessary cohesion to the emergency management-related work of the various Departments and Agencies.

1.15. The OEP also acts as a resource for Departments, offering advice and assistance in

preparing emergency plans, preparing and conducting exercises and assisting those who respond to emergency events at national level.

1.16. The OEP prepares the National Risk Assessment for Ireland (NRAI), in collaboration with relevant Government Departments and engages appropriately with the European Union in relation to the NRAI and associated periodic reviews.

Government Information Service

1.17. The Government Information Service (GIS) works closely with Lead Government Departments on the preparation and delivery of communications on all emergency management issues.

National Security Committee

1.18. The National Security Committee (NSC) is chaired by the Secretary General to the Government and comprises senior representatives of the Departments of the Taoiseach, Justice and Equality, Defence, Foreign Affairs and Trade, together with the Defence Forces and An Garda Síochána. Its main remit is security but it is available as a high level resource during an emergency in which there is a security dimension.

National Arrangements

1.19. The following documents set out the arrangements which, in addition to this SEM Framework, underpin and are a key part of emergency management in Ireland.

A Framework for Major Emergency Management (the MEM Framework)

1.20. The MEM Framework sets out the arrangements to enable the PRAs (Local Authorities, the Health Service Executive, and An Garda Síochána) to prepare for and provide a coordinated response to major emergencies.

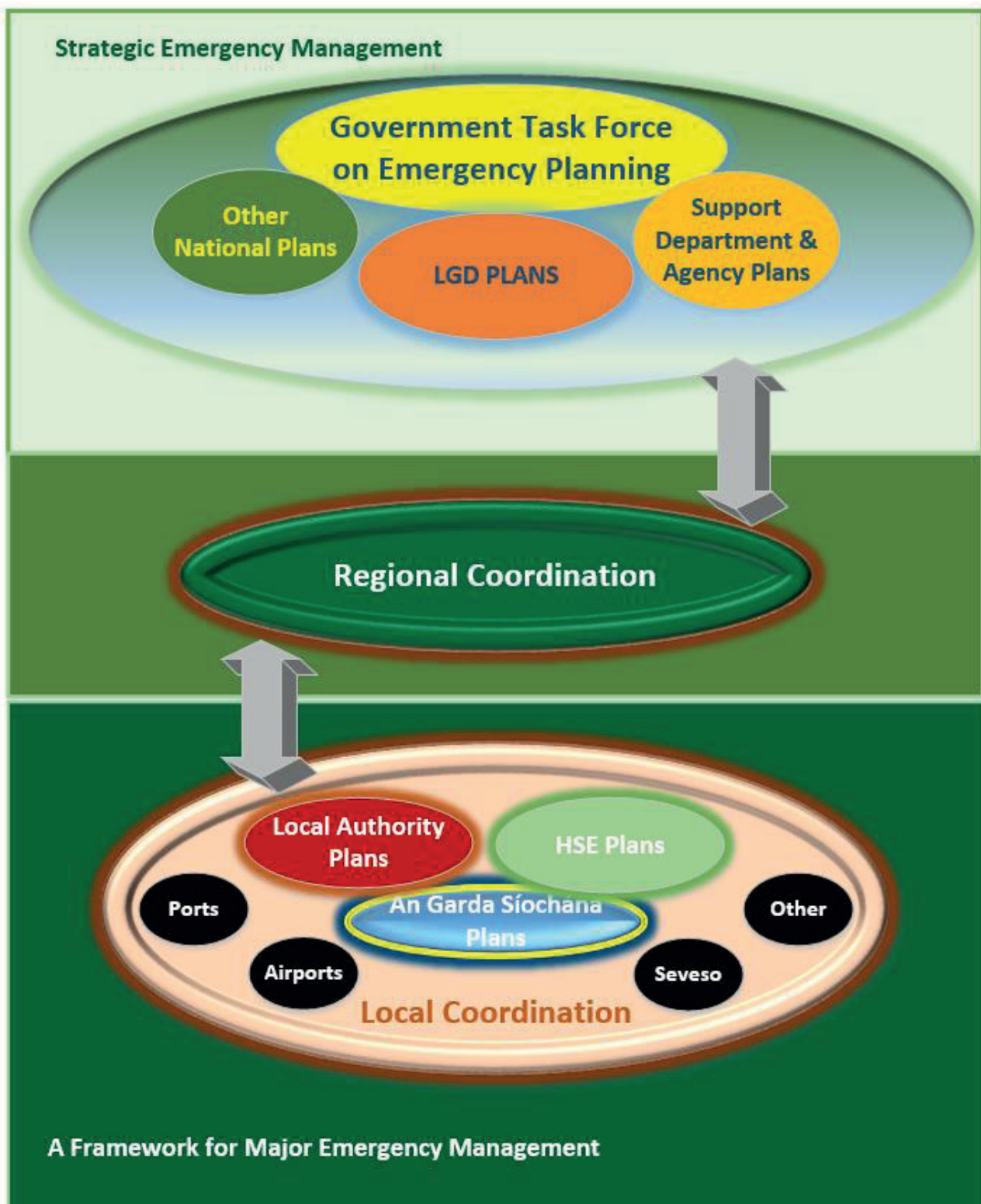
1.21. An extensive range of appendices and other guidance documents and protocols dealing with specific aspects of emergency management complement the MEM Framework. See www.mem.ie

1.22. The linkages between National Plans, MEM Plans and other Plans are illustrated in Table 1.

A National Risk Assessment for Ireland

1.23. The National Risk Assessment for Ireland (NRAI) identifies and evaluates the Natural, Technological, Civil and Transportation risks facing the country. The NRAI is published by the OEP on behalf of the GTF and ensures compliance with EU requirements with regard to risk management. Chapter Four of this document (supplemented by the processes outlined in SEM Guideline 7) outlines the methodology used in the compilation and review of the NRAI.

Table 1: Linking National Plans, MEM Plans and other Plans



CHAPTER TWO:

The Lead Government Department

Introduction

2.1. The Lead Government Department (LGD) has the mandate, and the responsibility, to coordinate all national level activity for its assigned emergency types (see Annex A). In some cases, the LGD role may go beyond coordination, requiring action and direction.

Responsibilities and Arrangements within a Department

2.2. In order to ensure that the Department's emergency management functions receive appropriate priority, the following arrangements are recommended:

- Emergency management should be embedded in the Strategy Statement of the Department.
- The emergency management functions should be encapsulated in the annual Business Planning process. Business Plans should identify functions which might have to be postponed or ceased in the event of an emergency, and essential functions which must continue during an emergency.
- Strategic direction and operational oversight of the Department's emergency management functions should be assigned to a nominated member of the Department's Management Board (MB).
- A senior official should be nominated to take operational charge of the emergency management functions. This official should normally be the person who will chair the NECG on behalf of the Department.
- Media relations and information management should be coordinated by the Department's Press and Information Officer.

Roles and Responsibilities of the Lead Government Department

2.3. The LGD, working with the designated support Government Departments/Agencies, is responsible for the coordination of the 'whole of Government' approach to specified emergencies (See Annex A), during the emergency management cycle. Key tasks for the LGD are:

- Leading the risk management process, encompassing risk assessment, prevention, and mitigation.
- Participation in the GTF.
- Development of both generic and scenario specific emergency plans, standard operating procedures (SOPs)⁶ and other guidance documents to enable it to manage the occurrence of assigned emergency types. It is essential to include relevant private sector entities in emergency planning and response, when appropriate.
- Devising and conducting appropriate exercises, evaluating the lessons learned from such exercises and putting them into practice.
- Ensuring that arrangements are in place for receiving and reacting to alerts/warnings or notifications of emergencies and for monitoring (developing situational awareness) of ongoing situations.
- Activation of its LGD role, in the case of a specified emergency arising. If appropriate, a LGD may arrange for the declaration of a major emergency under the Framework for Major Emergency Management.

⁶ A Standard Operational Procedure (SOP) is an expression which describes routine procedures which are always to be followed in a particular set of circumstances or in a particular scenario – it is to be distinguished from the Department's emergency plans, to which the SOPs may be annexed if appropriate

- Maintaining ongoing communications with the public and key stakeholders, particularly during an emergency.
- Chairing the National Emergency Coordination Group (NECG) in accordance with lead roles assigned.
- Establishing of appropriate forums comprising Departmental and other bodies in circumstances where it is not appropriate to convene an NECG.
- Developing and maintaining working relationships with support Departments and Agencies through ongoing communication, training and exercising. This can also include the provision of mutual support in the response phase.
- Maintaining continuous collaboration with the OEP.
- During the recovery phase, leading the recovery, or handing over the lead to another Government Department where this is agreed.

Lead Government Department Coordination Role

2.4. The concept of coordination by a LGD is fundamental to national emergency management. The LGD facilitates collective decision-making and cohesive action among a broad range of organisations and groups which have a role to play at different levels.

2.5. The coordination role of the LGD does not imply interference with the role of any statutory body, but information and insight from the LGD and the NECG (when convened) should be shared with such bodies when appropriate.

2.6. Each participating Department and Agency should be in a position to carry out its normal organisational responsibilities, plus any additional roles agreed at the NECG. This type of coordination reflects the complex reality of emergencies where multiple players and groups at different levels have a role to play.

Horizontal coordination

2.7. This involves coordination of the activity of the multiple Departments and Agencies appropriately involved at national level, primarily through participation in the NECG.

Vertical Coordination

2.8. This involves coordination of activities between the various levels (including local regional, national and international).

2.9. The LGD is responsible for coordination between the regional and national levels.

2.10. Where it is necessary to report emergency events, authorities should consider using the emergency management Situation Report (SitRep) (See Annex B). Instructions for the use of the SitRep are contained in SEM Guidelines 2 “Communications”.

International Coordination

2.11. The LGD is also responsible for the coordination of any international dimension to an emergency, and any associated interdependencies. Where there is a significant international dimension to an emergency, the LGD may establish an ‘international’ Sub-Group with appropriate participation and may assign a relevant Department to chair this Sub-Group.

Political Engagement within the Lead Government Department

2.12. The Minister responsible for a LGD should be briefed on their Department’s emergency management responsibilities.

- As soon as practicable after their appointment, a Minister should be provided with a comprehensive briefing on the emergency management responsibilities of their Department.
- The briefing will include information on the arrangements in place within the Department, with support Departments and Agencies and with any relevant commercial/non-state entities.

- The briefing will, if possible, be given by the senior official who performs the role of NECG Chair. This will enable the Minister to offer guidance and direction, with regard to decisions which may be required at the NECG.
- The Minister should be made aware of the possibility that some situations may require urgent strategic direction from the Government, and of the arrangements laid down in this Framework which are designed to facilitate this.
- Depending on the gravity of an emergency, a Minister may decide to chair the NECG.

Annual Emergency Management Update

2.13. A LGD should prepare an annual emergency management update. This should deal with every aspect of the Department's emergency functions. The update should be approved by the Management Board of the LGD, and submitted to the OEP each year, in order to inform the Annual Report to Government by the Minister for Defence as Chair of the GTF.

CHAPTER THREE:

Interface with Minister, Government and Oireachtas

Introduction

3.1. National-level emergency coordination, like local emergency response, is generally led by the relevant officials/experts. Depending on the emergency, it may be appropriate for the Minister of the LGD (and Ministers of Principal Support Departments) to chair/participate in meetings and also to lead press briefings, particularly in the initial stages of response.

Ministerial Engagement

Ministerial Approval

3.2. Where it is necessary to secure Ministerial approval for any proposed measures, the matter is to be referred to the Minister in charge of the LGD. Where the matter is cross-Departmental and is not concluded at NECG, it is to be referred to the relevant Ministers, and if necessary, the Taoiseach.

Keeping Ministers up to date

3.3. The Taoiseach and Ministers will require regular briefing material. This material should normally be sourced from daily NECG reports, and should be provided by the LGD, and supplemented as appropriate in relation to their contribution by a Minister's own Department.

Government Approval

Seeking Government approval

3.4. In a serious or complex emergency, it may be necessary to seek Government approval for proposed response measures. Responsibility for bringing matters requiring such approval to Government rests with the Minister of the relevant LGD. If the ongoing situation warrants, the Government/Taoiseach may decide to establish a Cabinet Committee.

Briefing the Government

3.5. In order to brief the Government on ongoing emergency situations the LGD will submit a Memorandum for Information to the Government Secretariat in the normal way. Officials from the LGD and others may be invited to brief Cabinet directly, if required.

Oireachtas Requirements

Routine Oireachtas Business

3.6. Briefing/speaking material will be required for routine Oireachtas business arising from an emergency situation, including Leaders Questions, Topical Issues Debates, Special Debates and Parliamentary Questions.

3.7. The LGD may assist the PQ Office of the Oireachtas in directing PQs to relevant Departments.

Oireachtas Debates

3.8. If the Dáil or Seanad request a debate on an ongoing emergency, every effort should be made to comply with the request. In some emergencies, it may be necessary to have regard to the resource implications for the lead Department and first responders in servicing such a debate, while dealing with the emergency as it unfolds. The following protocol has been agreed by the Party Whips for such cases.

Protocol regarding Oireachtas debates during the course of an ongoing emergency

If servicing an Oireachtas debate seems likely to make it difficult for the lead Department to handle the emergency, the LGD Minister in consultation with the Government Chief Whip will ask for a deferral of the debate until such time as the immediate emergency has passed. Appropriate Government time will be given to such a debate as soon as possible thereafter.

PART II: NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

CHAPTER FOUR:

Risk Management

Introduction

4.1. Risk is an unavoidable part of life, affecting all human activity without exception, irrespective of geographic or socioeconomic limits. Full risk avoidance is generally impossible. Ireland faces risks from a range of large-scale hazards, which have the potential to result in many deaths, injuries and or damages in a single event or series of events.

4.2. Fostering national and community resilience is a key element of risk management.

4.3. The National Risk Assessment (NRA) is reviewed every three years, in accordance with EU recommendations. The publication of a National Risk Assessment increases public awareness of the risks, enabling communities to achieve greater resilience.

Definitions

4.4. It is important to clearly define the terms used in risk management, and the following are adopted in this document:

Risk: The combination of the likelihood of a hazardous event and its potential impact.

Hazard: Any phenomenon with the potential to cause direct harm to members of the community, the environment or the physical infrastructure, or being potentially damaging to the economic and social infrastructure.

Impact: The consequences of a hazardous event actually happening, expressed in terms of a negative impact on human welfare, economic activity, environmental welfare or societal structures.

Likelihood: A probability or a frequency, whichever is appropriate for the analysis under consideration.

Risk Treatment. A process to modify risk (ISO 31000). Risk treatment processes that deal with negative consequences are referred to as 'Risk Mitigation'.

Hazard Analysis and Risk Assessment

4.5. Hazard analysis and risk assessment are essential first steps in the process of identifying the challenges that may have to be addressed by society.

4.6. Ireland's approach to the assessment of risk in relation to emergencies at national level is based on the 'All-Hazards' methodology outlined in SEM Guideline 7: National Risk Management. This methodology is supported by quantitative analysis where relevant data is available to support such analysis.

4.7. Through analysis by experts across sectors and disciplines, the process of developing the national risk picture:

- Ensures compliance with European Union (EU) requirements that Member States develop a national risk management strategy.
- Builds on the significant inter-Agency work being completed at local and regional levels under the provisions of "A Framework for Major Emergency Management".
- Contributes to creating a comprehensive risk assessment and a shared understanding of the national level challenges to be addressed.
- Helps to compare various types of hazards from a national perspective, as all risks are assessed based on the same pre-agreed likelihood and impact criteria.

- Provides an agreed basis for establishing priorities in emergency management, which facilitates inter-Departmental coordination and ensures an appropriate balance of measures to prevent and/or mitigate risks.

National Risk Assessment Process

4.8. The risk assessment process utilises the likelihood and impact criteria outlined in SEM Guideline 7: National Risk Management.

4.9. The hazards identified are collated and sorted into four risk classifications:

- Natural
- Transportation
- Technological
- Civil

4.10. The hazard identification and risk assessment process is completed at the appropriate levels sequentially with coordination, consolidation and reporting via each Government Department, for review at national level. Each Department has particular regard to the risks for which it has been designated as Lead Government Department in Annex 'A' "Roles and Responsibilities of Lead Government Departments.

4.11. Focus groups of experts drawn from the relevant Government Departments and State Agencies (and industry, if required), facilitated by external experts in the field of emergency management are then convened. The focus groups assess each of the hazards submitted for review by the Government Departments (appropriately consolidated, if required).

4.12. Utilising the appropriate likelihood and impact criteria, the focus groups conduct:

- An assessment of the likelihood of the hazard occurring.
- An examination of the potential impact of the hazards identified, and the vulnerability of particular communities to the hazard.

- A determination of the level of their confidence on each impact and likelihood rating.

4.13. Impact is assessed on the basis of an assessment of the 'reasonable worst case' scenario. In line with national statutory requirements and international guidance, particular consideration is given to:

- the potential impact of climate change, and
- the interconnected and interdependent nature of critical infrastructure - i.e. the fact that the failure of one asset or system may affect the continued functioning of other assets and systems (the domino effect).

It is emphasised that the focus groups will initially consider the likelihood and impact of the occurrence of each hazard individually.

4.14. Each hazard is then plotted on a category-specific risk matrix, which is then used to produce a consolidated overall National Risk Matrix.

4.15. The National Risk Matrix process provides the basis for effective emergency management; particularly with regard to determining appropriate priorities for mitigation measures and/or developing emergency plans.

4.16. The National Risk Assessment, including the National Risk Matrix, is presented to the GTF for adoption, brought to Government for approval and published for the information of the public. The NRA is also presented to the European Commission.

Risk Mitigation Treatment and Risk Control

4.17. Mitigation as a risk treatment process involves reducing or eliminating the likelihood and/or the impact of an identified hazard. This phase of the emergency management cycle seeks to treat the hazard such that it impacts society to a lesser degree.

4.18. Risk control is frequently the subject of statutory requirements, imposed on regulatory authorities or Agencies, and overseen by the relevant LGD.

How the National Risk Matrix is to be used

4.19. At each level an evaluation of the significant risks recorded on the risk matrix should be undertaken with a view to determining appropriate mitigation/control measures. Decisions regarding prioritising and resourcing of mitigation/control measures are made by the relevant body, using the risk matrix. Progress on mitigation, i.e. risk reduction, is monitored and reported internally by each lead Government Department, and annually as part of the Annual Report to Government by the Minister for Defence as Chair of the GTF. This process should inform the allocation of additional resources if necessary at all levels up to central Government funding.

Preparedness: National Resilience

4.20. This National Framework is designed to foster national resilience⁷ in the face of emergencies at Government/public service level, thus minimising or mitigating the disruption to society and achieving the optimal outcomes from the response effort when an emergency occurs.

4.21. However, enhancing resilience to emergencies is not solely a matter for Government. Every citizen, family and workplace has a responsibility to prepare for emergencies, by taking reasonable precautions to minimise (and where appropriate, insure against) the consequences of foreseeable or predictable natural events, through enhancing the resilience of the home, community and business.

Community Resilience

4.22. A very positive feature of the response to emergencies in Ireland has been the monitoring of and assistance given to relatives and more vulnerable neighbours, whose own capacity to act may be impaired. Such positive community engagement at times of emergency points to a healthy, self-supporting and ultimately resilient society.

4.23. Community resilience is the sustained ability of a community to mobilise available resources to respond to, cope with, and then recover from adverse situations, such as emergencies. Resilient communities minimise disruption caused by an emergency to everyday life and their local economies. Resilient communities are not only prepared to help prevent or minimise the loss or damage to life, property and the environment, that can arise from an emergency, but they also have the ability to quickly return citizens to work and everyday life, reopen businesses, and restore the community as a whole to normality. A resilient community will therefore suffer less both during and after an emergency than a less resilient community.

Resilience of Critical Infrastructure

4.24. A modern state depends on a complex infrastructure of services and utilities in order to facilitate the efficient functioning of its economy and the day-to-day lives of its citizens. This includes, but is not limited to, a wide range of infrastructure assets and systems such as: roads, bridges and railways; power stations, and power transmission lines; telecommunications networks and systems; hospitals and other public buildings; ports and airports; water treatment plants and supply networks etc. Infrastructure may be physical (e.g. sites, installations, pieces of equipment) or logical (e.g. information networks, systems).

⁷ Defined as the ability of the State to withstand and recover from adversity.

4.25. Much of this infrastructure is interconnected and interdependent, and failure of one asset or system may affect the continued functioning of other assets and systems.

4.26. The national infrastructure is categorised into nine sectors, as shown in Table 2, each sector is divided into sub-sectors.

Critical Infrastructure

4.27. Within the sectors/sub-sectors there are certain 'critical' infrastructure (CI) assets or systems, the loss or compromise of which would have a particularly detrimental impact on the availability or integrity of essential services, leading to severe economic, environmental or social consequences, or to loss of life.

4.28. EU Council Directive 2008/114/EC defines Critical Infrastructure as:

'an asset, system or part thereof located in Member States which is essential for the maintenance of vital societal functions, health, safety, security, economic or social well-being of people, and the disruption or destruction of which would have a significant impact in a Member State as a result of failure to maintain those functions.'

4.29. Citizens expect that CI will continue to function, and if disrupted, will be restored as quickly as possible. They also expect that any disruption will, as far as possible, be managed in an equitable manner to minimise the impact on society as a whole and in particular vulnerable people.

4.30. Across the EU there is considerable focus on the resilience of CI within Member States and how it could be improved. The objective is to assure service continuity in the aftermath of destructive events, especially where these cannot be predicted. The European Commission has also highlighted the need for assessing the criticality of individual CI assets, prioritising and protecting them with adequate risk management /security controls.

Improving Resilience of Critical Infrastructure - a Coordinated Approach

4.31. CI consists both of assets owned and operated by the State, and of those operated by the semi-state and private sectors, usually under the regulation of an independent regulatory authority. The primary responsibility for safeguarding a CI asset or system rests with its owner or operator.

The Responsibility of Government

4.32. There is a responsibility on Government, to provide leadership during an emergency. There is also a responsibility on Government to put in place measures to support safer, more secure and more resilient CI. This puts an onus on Government Departments to foster links and work closely with the semi-state and private sectors, focusing on the protection of critical infrastructure from a wide variety of threats. At national level, Government Departments work closely with the owners of CI under their aegis, in order to ensure the best possible outcome, should an emergency situation arise.

Table 2: Sectors and Sub-sectors of National Infrastructure

Sector	Sub-sector	LGD
Energy	Electricity	DCCAЕ
	Gas	DCCAЕ
	Oil	DCCAЕ
Food and Water	Food Supply	DAFM
	Water <i>(Supplies and wastewater including the sewerage system.)</i>	DHPLG
ICT	Telecommunications	DCCAЕ
	Information Technologies	DCCAЕ
	Media	DCCAЕ
Finance, Financial Services	Banking (including payment delivery)	DFIN
	Insurance	DFIN
	Welfare Payments Systems	DEASP
Transport	Aviation	DTTS
	Roads	DTTS
	Rail	DTTS
	Marine & Ports	DTTS, DAFM
Health	Hospitals	DH
	Laboratories	DH DAFM
Public Administration	Government	DoT
	Central and Local Government	All
	Justice and Legal System	DJE
	Revenue and Customs	Revenue
	Cultural Property	DCHG OPW
	Diplomatic Representations and International HQs	DFAT
National Security, Policing and Public Safety Infrastructure	An Garda Síochána	DJE
	Fire and Emergency	DHPLG
	National Ambulance Service	DH
	Irish Coast Guard	DTTS
	Prison Service	DJE
	Defence Forces	DOD
	Civil Defence	DOD
Industry	Hazardous Industries <i>(Pharma, chemical etc)</i>	DHPLG DBEI
	Agriculture/Marine Industries <i>(Farming/Fisheries)</i>	DAFM
	Manufacturing and Processing Industries	DBEI
	Industrial and Domestic Waste Disposal	DHPLG
	Logistical supply chains	All

Critical Infrastructure Sub-Group of the Government Task Force on Emergency Planning.

4.33. The task of identifying measures to improve the resilience of CI will be undertaken by a Sub-Group of the GTF, comprised of the relevant LGDs or Agencies, and with appropriate participation by the owners or operators of CI.

4.34. The CI Sub-Group will also work in consultation with the Regional Steering Groups for Major Emergency Management, established under the Framework for Major Emergency Management.

4.35. Improving the resilience of CI requires an improved understanding of critical infrastructure generally, including the interdependencies between the different assets, which often rely on each other and are jointly impacted when things go wrong.

4.36. The work of the CI Sub-Group will be guided by SEM Guideline 3: Critical Infrastructure.

CHAPTER FIVE:

Planning and Preparedness

Overview

5.1. The Planning and Preparedness stage in emergency management describes a range of activity from preparing emergency plans and standard operating guidance, putting facilities in place or acquiring equipment, training staff and holding exercises.

5.2. Each LGD should have a generic emergency management Plan which sets out the arrangements it will invoke in response to certain trigger conditions. The LGDs' Generic Emergency Plans (GEPs) are based on a common template so; regardless of which Department is involved, many of the elements of response will be invoked and undertaken using a 'generic' approach.

5.3. In addition to the GEPs, each LGD should also draw up 'Scenario Specific' Plans (SSPs), related to each of the emergency types for which it is responsible. These should specify how coordination is achieved through each stage of the Five-Stage Emergency Management Cycle.

Systemic Preparation by each Department or Agency

5.4. The following systemic arrangements and preparations will generally be necessary in order to prepare a Department to perform its emergency management functions efficiently.

- Each LGD should consider setting up an Emergency Management Group (EMG). The EMG is an internal, strategic level management group which should assemble during an emergency to:
 - manage, control and coordinate the Department's overall response to the situation;

- ensure the internal coordination function is operating correctly;
 - where appropriate, provide support to the NECG and mobilise resources as required in support of the coordination and response tasks;
 - liaise with relevant Government Departments/Agencies on strategic issues.
- Each LGD should assign responsibility to an appropriate section/unit within its organisational structure to undertake its emergency roles. One of the tasks of this unit is to coordinate the internal sections of the LGD which need to be involved.
 - Structures and arrangements to support a Department's emergency management function link with normal structures and working arrangements in Departments, with appropriate internal coordination of specific functions added as required.

Practical Arrangements

5.5. The following practical arrangements are recommended:

- A suitable space should be identified as an emergency management Office⁸ within each Department. LGDs may decide to assign a permanent space for its emergency management Office. The necessary ICT arrangements should be made in advance.
- Officials who have been assigned to perform the emergency management functions (such as Chair of NECG) should be trained and exercised in their emergency management roles and the use of communications and other technical facilities used in the NECC.

⁸ Departments are free to give an appropriate name to their emergency management Office.

- Sufficient personnel should be trained to deal with a prolonged period of emergency related activity. Suitable ‘alternates’ should also be trained, in case the selected individuals are not available when an emergency occurs.
- Contact lists of key officials should be maintained separately from the actual emergency plans, for data protection purposes and to enable publication of the plans (if appropriate). Contact details should be updated on an ongoing basis, to take account of movements and retirements.

Planning and Preparedness - the Essentials

Plans and Planning

5.6. Planning is based on an All-Hazards approach, meaning that regardless of the nature of the emergency, there are certain tasks and activities which must take place. These generic functions should form part of any planning process:

- Horizon Scanning
- Activation process, general
- Activation and Operation of the emergency management Office
- Activation of the NECG when required.
- Information Management
- Coordinated decision making
- Response support
- Review

5.7. A Department should have in place:

- Generic Emergency Plans (GEPs)
- Scenario Specific Plans (SSPs)
- Standard Operational Procedures (SOPs), outlining procedures and processes for putting the plans into operation

All plans should describe how the Department will deal with matters arising during each stage of the emergency management cycle (See Figure 1, page 2).

5.8. Plans must be comprehensive, realistic and robust. When completed, plans should be treated with an appropriate degree of confidentiality, particularly if they impact in any way on national security.

5.9. Plans must be tested to ensure that they are fit for purpose - testing of plans can be through table top exercises, internal and external reviews and simulated live exercises.

5.10. Plans must be reviewed and revised based on emerging risks and as a result of lessons identified during exercises and emergencies.

5.11. Plans should be reviewed at regular intervals, in order to consider any changes which may be required to plan objectives, planning assumptions or changes in risk environment. Plans should be reviewed as a matter of course after an exercise, an emergency or following structural changes to a Department or to the operating environment.

Further guidance in relation to planning is provided in SEM Guideline 6: Planning and Exercising

Preparedness Steps

5.12. Development of emergency management capacity involves a series of sequenced steps, tailored to individual Department’s requirements. However, they usually include the following:

- Engagement with and support from the Department’s Management Board,
- Relevant Departmental staff are introduced to the Department’s GEP and any specific roles they may have.
- Necessary facilities and resources to support emergency functions are identified and put in place.
- Provision of appropriate, effective and realistic training for relevant staff.

- Conducting exercises that are usually of a progressively expanding nature, which are staged to provide an opportunity to determine the practicality of emergency arrangements.
- Documented arrangements in the GEPs and SSPs being reviewed and amended in light of information and feedback from preparedness steps.

Appraisal and Validation of Preparedness

Steps

5.13. Departments should appraise and validate their arrangements on an ongoing basis. Full use should be made of relevant appraisal and external validation tools which are available in the public service, including international peer review.

Preparedness for Support Departments and Agencies

5.14. As well as the LGDs, many other Government Departments and Agencies have key roles to play in supporting the emergency management function. This may be at any one (or all) of the five stages of the emergency management cycle.

5.15. In addition to its own LGD responsibilities, an LGD may have additional key support roles to other Departments.

5.16. One of the key tasks of the LGD is to identify the relevant Support Government Departments and Agencies for each type of emergency, to document this in the SSP referred to above and to make the support Department or Agency aware of the expectations arising from the SSP.

5.17. Where any issue arises regarding the appropriate Support Government Department or Agency, the matter should be raised by the LGD at the GTF, for decision.

5.18. Each Support Department prepares an Emergency Management Support Role Plan (EMSRRP). This should outline the roles which are supported, and how the Department will deal with them. Like the emergency plans of the LGDs, these may be either generic or specific.

5.19. Similarly, emergency management is dependent on a range of Agencies which play key support roles across the stages of emergency management. The supporting Agencies are identified in the SSPs of the Lead Government Departments. Each Agency with an identified support role also prepares an EMSRRP, similar to the Support Department.

CHAPTER SIX:

Coordinating a National-Level Emergency Response

Introduction

6.1. This chapter outlines the general circumstances when a national-level response to emergencies may be required, and describes the role and functions of the National Emergency Coordination Group (NECG). It sets out the responsibilities of the LGD, and the roles and working relationships of other Departments and Agencies which are required to contribute in the context of national response.

6.2. Further detailed guidance regarding convening a meeting of the NECG is contained in Strategic Emergency Management Guidelines, SEM 1, “The National Emergency Coordination Group”. This is a primary reference for all Departments and Agencies.

Situational Awareness and Monitoring

6.3. Departments should, on an ongoing basis, monitor events within their areas of competence, both nationally and internationally. There should be ongoing links with relevant international bodies and other jurisdictions. The development of good working relationships with international partners and national support Departments and Agencies will facilitate efficient response during emergencies.

Horizon Scanning

6.4. Horizon scanning is defined as “assimilating information, with a view to anticipating future trends or events”. The objective is to enable preparations for potential future events or changes in future environments.

Situational Awareness

6.5. Situational Awareness is the ability to identify, process, and comprehend the critical elements of information in order to facilitate timely decision making. Good ‘situational awareness’ will enable a LGD to make a timely decision on convening a NECG, and is essential for effective coordination and decision-making.

Emergencies which may trigger National-Level Coordination /Intervention

6.6. The following emergencies may require national coordination/intervention and are also indicative ‘triggers’ for calling a NECG meeting.

- An emergency that poses a threat to public safety or health, social and economic functioning, damage to infrastructure, property or the environment, and which is on a scale that requires a coordinated multi-Agency national-level response.⁹
- An emergency requiring that inter-Departmental coordination facilities be activated in accordance with the provisions of the Framework for Major Emergency Management.
- Where the public interest demands national-level coordination of a response effort
- Where the Government believes that there is an imperative to raise the response to the national level.

⁹ An emergency which has caused significant degradation or damage to the local and regional response capability of a Principal Emergency Service (PES) or Principal Response Agency (PRA) will usually require national coordination.

- Where national support (possibly including international assistance) is needed from sources that are outside the remit of the lead Department and/or the principal response Agencies.
- In certain circumstances where international assistance is sought by another jurisdiction in response to an emergency.
- Where an emergency is expected or anticipated, and where an LGD is of the view that the matter is of such gravity as to require national coordination.
- Other circumstances, as may be identified by the LGD.
- Where support is required from sources that are outside the remit of the LGD or the principal response Agencies.
- An emergency arising from an event outside the country may result in initial response at national level, with a possible requirement for a subsequent cascading of responsibility for response downwards to the PRAs.

National Emergency Coordination Group

6.7. The NECG is the national structure which is put in place to coordinate, and obtain the necessary support and advice from identified support Departments and Agencies, in a threatened or ongoing emergency. The NECG consists of the members of the GTF. The OEP convenes the NECG on behalf of the relevant LGD, and arrangements are in place to facilitate a meeting of the Group within a one hour time-frame.

Convening a National Emergency Coordination Group

6.8. A LGD should not hesitate in convening a NECG in the case of an ongoing or threatened emergency of national gravity.

Attendance at a National Emergency Coordination Group

6.9. An initial meeting of the NECG will be attended by all members of the GTF, Departments should be represented by a senior official, adequately briefed and in a position to take routine decisions on behalf of the Department. NECG representatives are expected to make informed contributions to discussion, and may consult their Departments as required. Following the initial meeting, members who have no function in dealing with the emergency under focus may be excused from meetings, subject to recall if required as the situation evolves.

Decision-Making by the National Emergency Coordination Group

6.10. The primary role of the NECG is the coordination of a “whole of Government” response to the situation. This encompasses establishing issues, trends or patterns which may need to be addressed elsewhere, considering expert opinion and formulating and agreeing national priorities. In some cases, the NECG may act as a decision-making forum:

- The NECG cannot take any decision which is vested by statute in a Minister/Department/Agency or other authority.
- In coming to decisions, the NECG will be guided by the advice from relevant experts.
- Where required, the Chair may mandate an appropriate Sub-Group of the NECG to consider a specific issue and develop proposals for consideration by the full NECG.
- The NECG Chair is to ensure that appropriate decisions are made in a timely fashion. In bringing the group to a decision, the Chair will try to establish a consensus among the NECG members present. Where there is serious disagreement about an issue, the Chair may, when time allows, defer reaching a conclusion. If it appears that an issue must be decided urgently, having heard the views of

the NECG members, the Chair is mandated to refer requests for such decisions to the appropriate Ministers or the Government, having regard to any statutory procedures or constraints, for an immediate decision (by incorporeal decision, if required).

- A record will be kept by the LGD of the main decisions made at a NECG.

Implementation of National Emergency Coordination Group Decisions

6.11. Individual Departments and Agencies are responsible for implementing NECG decisions within their own sectors and areas of responsibility. One of the key roles of the NECG representative is to inform their own Department/Agency of the decisions made by the NECG, and report back on implementation.

6.12. Sub-committees may be formed by the NECG Chair to monitor and report on the progress of implementation.

Delivering National-Level Coordination and Direction

6.13. Using the national structures, a LGD, supported by the support Government Departments and Agencies, delivers the necessary direction and effective coordination.

Achieving effective coordination

6.14. In order to be effective, coordination should make the best practicable use of the resources of the organisations involved. The crucial factors in achieving this are:

- viewing coordination as a progressively expanding task, as the scale and complexity of the emergency increases;
- bringing all necessary players together, as required; including political actors, Government Departments and public services, principal response Agencies, specialist Agencies and advisers, media

advisers etc. to ensure full engagement in responding to the emergency;

- having appropriate pre-established, resilient communications facilities to enable national-level linking with other relevant coordination centres;
- defining key roles and responsibilities in coordination;
- coordination of national-level public information and media liaison;
- using appropriate Sub-Groups to manage specific issues;
- arranging access to expert advice.

Review

6.15. A review should always be carried out at the conclusion of a NECG response to an emergency (even when the response was considered to be successful). This review, chaired by the LGD, should:

- Identify lessons learned;
- Recommend any changes that are required in order to improve future response.

6.16. The review will be brought to the GTF, where recommendations that impact on other Government Departments or relate to National Coordination, will be finalised.

6.17. The NECG review may be delayed by any statutory or criminal investigations, which take precedence, and will take their own course. Care should be taken not to impede such investigations, for example by disturbing the scene of an event or interviewing witnesses prematurely.

6.18. When the NECG review of the response is in a position to proceed, much useful information may be gleaned from the reports of relevant statutory investigations.

CHAPTER SEVEN:

Recovery

Introduction

7.1. Emergencies and disasters can damage communities in a variety of ways. As well as affecting individuals through death, injury and property destruction, they may also impact on economic functioning, health, the social fabric and community infrastructure. Persons who suffer bereavement, injury or major loss may require support for extended periods.

7.2. Recovery is the process of restoring and rehabilitating a community affected by an emergency. It includes short, medium and longer term measures with a focus on restoring normal functioning to the greatest extent possible and having regard to lessons learned.

7.3. Communities affected by emergencies may require support from a broad range of sources in order to restore normal functioning. This is a complex process requiring coordination on a range of issues including:

- Support, including psychosocial support for persons affected/ impacted directly.
- Provision of temporary accommodation and repair of housing.
- Clean-up, removal of debris.
- Restoring critical infrastructure and essential services.
- Supporting sectors particularly affected e.g. business/ agriculture etc.
- Strengthening community resilience.

Transition to Recovery

7.4. Recovery normally commences during the response phase of an emergency with the LGD for the response phase initiating immediate recovery measures. Before the NECG is stood down, arrangements must be put in place to ensure a seamless transition from the response to the recovery phase of the emergency.

7.5. Where appropriate, the LGD for the response phase will also lead the recovery phase. However, where the majority of the work involved with recovery does not lie within the responsibility of the LGD for the response phase, it may propose to the NECG that an alternative Government Department or Agency should undertake the lead role in the recovery phase. Agreement on the LGD for the recovery phase should be reached at the NECG before it stands down.

Recovery Role of the Lead Government Department

7.6. Recovery involves the coordination of national- level efforts and processes used to bring about restoration and rehabilitation of communities affected by the emergency. Each Department and Agency (including the LGD for recovery) will be responsible for recovery decisions that fall within its area of responsibility. Oversight and coordination of the overarching response will ensure that recovery efforts, including funding allocations, are prioritised in line with greatest need. In this context, the role of the LGD for recovery is:

- To collate information from all Departments and Agencies regarding:
 - The scale of the recovery efforts required, including estimated costs of repairs;
 - The priorities as identified by each Department/Agency;
 - The funding requirements identified by each Department/Agency;
 - Any other pertinent information required to inform Government decisions.

- This information will be provided to Government in a report from the LGD for recovery, in order to facilitate any necessary Government decisions.
- The LGD for the recovery phase will also highlight any significant ongoing issues regarding the recovery at the regular meetings of the GTF.

7.7. The LGD for recovery may establish a Cross-Departmental Recovery Group (similar to an NECG), and task members with sourcing information and providing assistance in collating such reports.

7.8. One of the first recovery-related tasks for the LGD for recovery is to collate the economic cost of the emergency. An initial estimate of such costs must be available so that applications for assistance can be made within the appropriate timeframe (see section 7.12 below). The estimate of such costs is established from relevant Government Departments or Agencies. A standardised methodology for estimating the economic cost of emergencies will be developed by the GTF, if appropriate.

Budgeting For and Funding Emergency Response and Recovery

7.9. Ireland’s fiscal and expenditure rules are legally binding in terms of setting overall Government expenditure as well as individual Ministerial limits/ceilings. The annual estimates of expenditure set out detailed expenditure proposals for the year ahead and must not exceed the ceilings for that year. The provision of funds for response to and recovery from unanticipated emergencies can pose a difficulty for the responding Departments and Agencies.

7.10. Expenditure requirements for an emergency usually comprises a number of distinct aspects:

- Immediate expenditure including expenditure for necessary repair works (current and/or capital).
- Longer term large scale infrastructure repair projects (capital).
- Longer term aid or assistance (current).
- Longer term additional large scale resilience measures (capital).

7.11. Where it is clear that the scale of costs arising from a specific emergency event will exceed the normal annual budget of funding Departments, a Department, following consultation with the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, will bring the issue to Government for resolution. Where this involves a number of Departments, the LGD for the response phase may convene a funding Sub-Group of the NECG to identify whole of Government immediate additional funding requirements. Each Department should subsequently bring their immediate additional funding requirements to Government for resolution.

7.12. Proposals for funding relating to longer-term additional current expenditure demands, large-scale capital investment projects to rehabilitate/ restore existing infrastructure or to provide additional resilience, will be considered by the relevant funding Department in consultation with the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, and having regard to Government direction regarding priorities.

7.13. The establishment of a central contingency fund for emergencies could provide greater certainty for Departments and Agencies in funding emergency response and recovery. The Programme for Partnership Government (2016) contains a commitment to establish a contingency reserve, to be known as a “rainy day” fund. The operational modalities of this fund are being developed.

7.14. The European Union Solidarity Fund can provide financial aid if total direct damage caused by a disaster exceeds €3 billion or 0.6% of the country's gross national income, whichever is lower. Although major disasters are the main focus, help is also available for more limited regional disasters, for which the eligibility threshold is 1.5% of the region's gross domestic product, or 1% for an outermost region. An application must be made to the European Commission within 12 weeks of a disaster. In order to enable such an application to be made on behalf of the State in an event of this magnitude, it is essential that the LGD for recovery assemble relevant information to enable the matter to be brought to Government in sufficient time to make an application under the Solidarity Fund. The responsibility for preparing such an application will rest with the LGD for recovery, with support being provided by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform and the Department of An Taoiseach.

Humanitarian Aid and Assistance

7.15. The Department of Social Protection lead in relation to the provision of humanitarian aid for house-holds during emergencies.

7.16. The Department, through the Community Welfare Scheme, administers a number of welfare schemes which may be of benefit to eligible persons affected by an emergency:

- Exceptional Needs Payment.
- Urgent Needs Payment.
- Humanitarian Assistance Scheme.

7.17. Eligibility is usually determined by a means-test and other qualifying criteria. The Department's direct link to the community is made via the Community Welfare Officer at local community welfare offices. Detailed information is available at www.welfare.ie.

7.18. The provision of other aid and assistance schemes will be determined by Government on a case-by-case basis. A Department should consider devising schemes, in advance, for their sectors, to be implemented should an emergency occur.

Review

7.19. On standing down the Recovery Group, the LGD for recovery should undertake a review of the recovery phase. The review should:

- Identify lessons learned, and
- Recommend any changes that are required in order to improve future recovery processes.

7.20. The review will be brought to the GTF, where recommendations that impact on other Departments or relate to national coordination will be finalised.

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ANNEX A: Roles and Responsibilities of Lead and Support Government Departments/Agencies

No	Emergency/Incident Type	Lead Government Department (LGD)	Principal Support (Bold) & Other Support Roles	Remarks
1	Infectious Diseases (Animal) e.g. Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Avian Influenza, other 'exotic' diseases	DAFM	DF (DOD) HSE (See Remarks) CD (DOD) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> Local Authorities (DHPLG) AGS (DJE) DFAT DTTS IRCG/MSO/Shipping	HSE role relates to zoonotic diseases; infectious animal diseases with a human health dimension.
2	Contamination of Animal Feedstuffs	DAFM	Incident dependent: FSAI (DAFM) DH EPA (DCCAE) Revenue (Customs) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> Teagasc State Laboratory (D Fin)	The principal support roles are "incident dependent". This also applies to many other emergency/incident types and would be a matter for the LGD to decide.
3	Food safety incidents in food processing plants	DAFM and/or DH <i>(Depending on the incident type.)</i>	FSAI (DAFM) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> HSE (DH)	The lead between DAFM and DH would be dependent upon the incident type and needs to be clarified between the two LGDs on a case by case basis.
4	Tsunami - Monitoring and Warning	DCCAE	GSI (DCCAE) Local Authorities (DHPLG) AGS (DJE) HSE (DH) Met Éireann (DHPLG) IRCG (DTTS) DIAS <u>Other Support Roles:</u> DTTS DFAT OPW (DPER)	Local Authority is the Lead Agency as per Framework for Major Emergency Management for coordination of on-shore response. DIAS has a seismographic monitoring role.

ANNEX A: Roles and Responsibilities of Lead and Support Government Departments/Agencies

No	Emergency/Incident Type	Lead Government Department (LGD)	Principal Support (Bold) & Other Support Roles	Remarks
5	Earthquake – Monitoring & Warning	DCCAE	GSI (DCCAE) Local Authority (DHPLG) AGS (DJE) HSE (DH) DIAS <u>Other Support Roles:</u> DFAT DTTS IRCG	Principal responders would be lead agencies as per Framework for Major Emergency Management for responding to earthquake impact. DIAS has a seismographic monitoring role
6	Communications Services Emergency	DCCAE	CSIRT-IE (DCCAE) IDC on Cyber Security COMREG DF (DOD) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> System operators, users, providers.	
7	Network Information Systems Incident	DCCAE	CSIRT-IE (DCCAE) IDC on Cyber Security GCIO (DPER) AGS (DJE) COMREG DF (DOD) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> DBEI Systems operators, users, providers.	
8	Broadcasting Services Emergency	DCCAE	BAI RTE <u>Other Support Roles:</u> Systems operators, users, providers. Other Broadcasters (TV & Radio)	

ANNEX A: Roles and Responsibilities of Lead and Support Government Departments/Agencies

No	Emergency/Incident Type	Lead Government Department (LGD)	Principal Support (Bold) & Other Support Roles	Remarks
9	Energy Supply Emergency (Electricity/ Gas)	DCCAЕ	<p>CER</p> <p>ESB-N</p> <p>EIRGRID</p> <p>GAS Networks Ireland</p> <p><u>Other Support Roles:</u></p> <p>DF (DOD)</p> <p>Systems operators, users, providers.</p>	Potentially all Government Departments/Agencies may be affected and involved, particularly because of Ireland's high reliance on natural gas for the generation of electricity.
10	Oil Supply Emergency	DCCAЕ	<p>NORA</p> <p>Irish Oil Supply Industry</p> <p>DTTS, DHPLG, DJE</p> <p><u>Other Support Roles:</u></p> <p>AGS (DJE)</p> <p>DF (DOD)</p> <p>Local Authorities</p> <p>Systems operators, users, providers.</p>	Potentially all Government Departments/Agencies may be affected and involved, because of the potential widespread impact of an oil supply emergency.
11	Nuclear Accidents/Incidents/Events Abroad (as described in National Emergency Plan for Nuclear Accidents (NEPNA))	DHPLG ¹⁰	<p>EPA (DCCAЕ)</p> <p>DAFM, DH, DCCAЕ, DOD, DOT, DFAT, DFIN, DTTS</p> <p>Revenue Commissioners</p> <p>AGS (DJE)</p> <p>Local Authorities</p> <p>HSE (DH)</p> <p>Met Éireann (DHPLG)</p> <p>IRCG (DTTS)</p> <p>FSAI (DAFM)</p> <p>CD (DOD)</p> <p>DF (DOD)</p> <p>RTE and Commercial Broadcasters</p> <p>TEAGASC (DAFM)</p>	

¹⁰ It should be noted that the entire Environment Division, including the Environmental Radiation Section, have transferred in full to DCCAЕ from DHPLG. The commensurate Lead Government Department responsibilities in Annex A are in the process of being transferred from DHPLG to DCCAЕ, subject to the relevant legislative requirements being completed, where this is necessary.

ANNEX A: Roles and Responsibilities of Lead and Support Government Departments/Agencies

No	Emergency/Incident Type	Lead Government Department (LGD)	Principal Support (Bold) & Other Support Roles	Remarks
12	Incidents Involving Hazardous Materials (Including in transit) ¹¹	DHPLG ¹² , OR DTTS (If at Sea)	Local Authorities (DHPLG) HSA ¹³ (DBEI) AGS (DJE), HSE (DH), DJE, DTTS, IRCG (DTTS)(Marine incidents) Other Support Roles: DBE ¹⁴ DF (DOD) Site/vehicle ¹⁵ /material owners Harbour Masters/Port Authorities National Poisons Information Centre Laboratories	Local Authorities are the Lead Agency as per Framework for Major Emergency Management. DJE is the lead Department and AGS is the lead Agency (regardless of the agent) where terrorist/malign involvement is suspected, sometimes referred to as a Malign CBRN incident. Likely handover to Local Authority (Chem., Rad) or HSE (Bio) if it transpires that there is no terrorist involvement. Should the incident occur at sea, the lead may pass to DTTS. The LGD for this Emergency/Incident type is currently the subject of discussion between the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government and the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation.

¹¹ Hazardous Materials: One definition is: any solid liquid or gas that can harm people, other living organisms, property, or the environment. Hazardous materials may be flammable, toxic, corrosive, oxidizer, asphyxiant, an allergen, or may have other characteristics that make them hazardous in specific circumstances. They would also include items that are dealt with separately for convenience on this table, such as: radioactive materials, explosives, and bio-hazardous materials.

Operators coming within scope of the 'Seveso III' Directive [implemented as the *Chemicals Act (Control of Major Accident Hazardous Substances) Regulations 2015*] - by virtue of the quantity of dangerous substances present - have a duty to take all necessary measures to prevent/mitigate major accidents to human health and the environment. For sites with a higher threshold of dangerous substances (which is more than half of those notified), this requires the operator to prepare a safety report and an internal emergency plan. External Emergency Plans for these establishments, for the actions to be taken offsite in the event of a major emergency at the establishment, are required to be prepared and tested by the Local Competent Authorities (LCAs).

¹² Should the incident occur at sea, lead may pass to DTTS

¹³ The Irish Central Competent Authority (CCA) is the Health and Safety Authority (HSA). Information on all establishments must be provided from the operators to the public, via the HSA website. This includes adequate information for the public on the appropriate behaviour in the event of a major accident. The CCA reports to the European Commission at four-year intervals on, amongst other matters, the preparation and testing of external emergency plans by the LCAs. This information is based on annual reports supplied by the LCAs. The CCA must carry out inspections of the operators at mandatory intervals, to ensure they are taking the necessary measures to prevent major accidents. Generally, the main functions of the HSA include the administration and enforcement of all workplace health and safety legislation and of certain chemical legislation (including the *Chemical Agents Regulations*, the *Chemicals Acts 2008 - 2010*, the *REACH Regulation* and the *CLP Regulation*). It also has the lead role in the investigation of accidents related to the above legislation and, potentially, the subsequent preparation of a file for the DPP.

¹⁴ DJEI policy responsibility for chemicals includes EU internal market rules governing classification, packaging and labelling of chemicals and obligations of operators to register chemicals with the EU Chemicals Agency under the REACH framework.

¹⁵ If requested, including where terrorist involvement (or other malign motive) is suspected, render safe devices with a potential dispersal effect. If an incident is at sea, maritime support may be provided by the DF Naval Service/Air Corps.

ANNEX A: Roles and Responsibilities of Lead and Support Government Departments/Agencies

No	Emergency/Incident Type	Lead Government Department (LGD)	Principal Support (Bold) & Other Support Roles	Remarks
13	Radioactive Contamination – Local (e.g. spillages, dispersal of material – including in transit. Malign CBRN Types are addressed by No. 50 below.)	DHPLG ¹⁶	Local Authorities (DHPLG) EPA (DCCAE) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> AGS (DJE) HSE (DH) DAFM DCCAE DF & CD (DOD) FSAI (DAFM) DOT HSA (DBEI) IRCG (DTTS)	DJE is the lead Department and AGS is the lead Agency (regardless of the agent) where terrorist/malign involvement is suspected, sometimes referred to as a Malign CBRN incident. Under the Framework for Major Emergency Management, Local Authorities would have a lead role in the Recovery Phase locally. The EPA would have a support role in the Recovery Phase of such an emergency that may last a number of years following such contamination.
14	Environmental Pollution	DHPLG ¹⁷ OR DTTS (If at Sea)	Local Authority (DHPLG) EPA (DCCAE) DAFM HSE (DH) OPW (DPER) IRCG (DTTS) (Marine incidents) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> OPW (DPER) DF (DOD)	Local Authority Lead Agency as per Framework for Major Emergency Management. Should the incident occur at sea, the lead may pass to DTTS and IRCG
15	Severe Weather (Severe Weather may need to be defined and further broken down into component parts, such as: Storms/High Winds Thunder/Lighting Flooding Snow/Ice Low/High Temperatures Drought Coastal Erosion)	DHPLG	Local Authority (DHPLG) AGS (DJE) HSE (DH) DJE Met Éireann (DHPLG) CD (DOD) Other Support Roles: DF (DOD), DCCAE, EPA (DCCAE) TI (DTTS), DAFM, IRCG (DTTS) OPW (DPER), DEASP, DRCD	Local Authority Lead Agency as per Framework for Major Emergency Management. IRCG also has statutory powers re movement of shipping in and out of harbours & anchorages during severe weather. DEASP has a Support Role under Humanitarian Assistance Scheme

¹⁶ and

¹⁷ It should be noted that the entire Environment Division, including the Environmental Radiation Section, have transferred in full to DCCAE from DHPLG. The commensurate Lead Government Department responsibilities in Annex A are in the process of being transferred from DHPLG to DCCAE, subject to the relevant legislative requirements being completed, where this is necessary.

ANNEX A: Roles and Responsibilities of Lead and Support Government Departments/Agencies

No	Emergency/Incident Type	Lead Government Department (LGD)	Principal Support (Bold) & Other Support Roles	Remarks
16	Flooding <i>(Includes: Flooding from rivers, coastal and groundwater.)</i>	DHPLG	Local Authorities HSE (DH) AGS (DJE) OPW (DPER) Met Éireann (DHPLG) EPA (DCCAE) DAFM CD (DOD) DEASP D/Finance ESB <u>Other Support Roles:</u> Coillte (DAFM) Waterways Ireland Irish Water DF (DOD) IRCG (DTTS)	Local Authority Lead Agency as per Framework for Major Emergency Management. OPW is responsible per Government Decision (September 2004) in respect of flood risk identification, mitigation and awareness. <i>(Ref Govt Decision S180/20/10/0996)</i> . Note: OPW agreed to transfer the functions and responsibilities in relation to coastal protection and coastal flooding on 1 January 2009 from DAFM. DEASP Support Role under Humanitarian Assistance Scheme.
17	Major impacts on water services, quality, infrastructure or supplies <i>(Link to No 49 below.)</i>	DHPLG	HSE (DH) EPA (DCCAE) Local Authorities Irish Water	Statutory role and responsibility of Irish Water introduced since 1 st January 2014.
18	Fire	DHPLG	Local Authorities and Fire Service AGS (DJE) HSE (DH) Coillte (DAFM) CD (DOD) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> DF (DOD)	Local Authority Lead Agency as per Framework for Major Emergency Management.

ANNEX A: Roles and Responsibilities of Lead and Support Government Departments/Agencies

No	Emergency/Incident Type	Lead Government Department (LGD)	Principal Support (Bold) & Other Support Roles	Remarks
19	Landslide Response	DHPLG	Local Authority AGS (DJE) HSE (DH) GSI (DCCAE) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> DF (DOD)	
20	Building Collapse/Accidental Explosions	DHPLG	Local Authority AGS (DJE) HSE (DH) HSA (DBEI) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> DF (DOD)	Local Authority Lead Agency as per Framework for Major Emergency Management with likely handover to AGS when rescue phase completed.
21	Payments Systems Emergencies	DFIN	Central Bank Financial Regulator NTMA DBEI AGS (DJE)	D/Finance to confirm scope and roles.
22	Any Emergency Overseas, affecting Irish Citizens.	DFAT	Incident dependent: DOT (GIS) DJE (AGS) HSE (DH) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> Consular Services of EU Member States & other Partners. DF (DOD)	
23	Emergency incidents requiring humanitarian assistance in disaster management (Outwards)	DFAT ¹⁸	Incident dependent: DHPLG NGOs <u>Other Support Roles:</u> Consular Services of EU Member States & other Partners. DF (DOD)	Where Irish Aid provides humanitarian assistance and responds to International requests.

¹⁸ EU Civil Protection Mechanism and Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) may also apply.

ANNEX A: Roles and Responsibilities of Lead and Support Government Departments/Agencies

No	Emergency/Incident Type	Lead Government Department (LGD)	Principal Support (Bold) & Other Support Roles	Remarks
24	Emergency Incidents requiring humanitarian assistance in disaster management (inwards) <i>(Trigger Mechanisms for EU Host Nation Support, the EU Solidarity Clause, the Integrated Political Crisis Response (IPCR) arrangements and other International support mechanisms were they need to be addressed.)</i>	Incident Dependent. Lead Department may vary depending on the type of incident.	Incident dependent. Lead Department and DFAT <i>(EU Division, D/Taoiseach may provide support regarding EU Solidarity Clause and the IPCR)</i>	DFAT will provide a supporting role in facilitating international contacts where appropriate. The EU Civil Protection (Emergency Response Coordination Centre) mechanisms may also apply.
25	Biological Incident	DH	HSE (DH) <i>Potentially all Government Departments/Agencies may be affected and involved.</i> <u>Other Support Roles:</u> Local Authority DHPLG AGS (DJE) DF (DOD) DJE (See remarks) Regional Laboratories Universities	HSE Lead Agency as per Framework for Major Emergency Management. DH will act as LGD where the incident is primarily a public health emergency. DJE is the lead Department and AGS is the lead Agency (regardless of the agent) where terrorist/malign involvement is suspected, sometimes referred to as a Malign CBRN incident The initial assumption, and subsequent changes in lead and supporting roles, both at agency and parent department level, will be subject to the assessment of evolving indicators and will be agreed under the procedures laid down in the Framework for Major Emergency Management.
26	Pandemic Influenza and Other Public Health Emergencies	DH	HSE <i>(All members of the Health Threats Coordination Committee)</i> <u>Other Support Roles:</u> Local Authorities (DHPLG) CD (DOD) Revenue Commissioners FSAI ¹⁹ (DAFM)	Potentially all Government Departments/Agencies may be affected and involved, because of the potential widespread impact of a pandemic or other Public Health Emergencies..

¹⁹In the event of a food safety incident

ANNEX A: Roles and Responsibilities of Lead and Support Government Departments/Agencies

No	Emergency/Incident Type	Lead Government Department (LGD)	Principal Support (Bold) & Other Support Roles	Remarks
27	Emergencies involving Explosive Ordnance (Conventional or otherwise and regardless of provenance)	DJE	AGS DF (DOD) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> Government Inspector of Explosives Local Authority(DHPLG) HSE (DH) IRCG (DTTS) (Marine Incidents)	
28	National Security Related Incidents (Including terrorism)	DJE	AGS (DJE) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> DHPLG DF (DOD) HSE (DH) Local Authority(DHPLG) DTTS (incl. IRCG) DFAT	DJE lead role is incident dependent.
29	Incidents Requiring Water Rescue Inland	DJE ²⁰	IRCG (DTTS) AGS (DJE) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> HSE (DH) Waterways Ireland Local Authority(DHPLG) DTTS RNLI CD (DOD) DF (DOD) ²¹	AGS Lead Agency as per Framework for Major Emergency Management for initial coordination, with likely handover following consultation with IRCG. In the Recovery Phase, AGS has a role in the investigation of an incident where appropriate.
30	Public Order/Crowd Events (Including sports grounds emergencies)	DJE	AGS (DJE) DF (DOD) Local Authority(DHPLG) HSE (DH) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> DTTS	AGS lead agency as per Framework for Major Emergency Management. In the Recovery Phase, AGS has a role in the investigation of an incident where appropriate.

²⁰ Lead may be reviewed if other elements are involved, e.g. an aircraft crash in a lake, in which DTTS (IRCG) would lead

²¹ The DF Naval Service Diving Section may be called to assist in Inland Water Rescue

ANNEX A: Roles and Responsibilities of Lead and Support Government Departments/Agencies

No	Emergency/Incident Type	Lead Government Department (LGD)	Principal Support (Bold) & Other Support Roles	Remarks
31	Emergencies Abroad with the result of mass inward population displacement	DJE	<p>HSE (DH)</p> <p>Local Authority (DHPLG)</p> <p>DFAT</p> <p>Revenue (Customs)</p> <p>DF (DOD)</p> <p><u>Other Support Roles:</u></p> <p>CD (DOD)</p> <p>Red Cross & NGO's</p> <p>DEASP</p>	<p>DEASP – Support role in administration of Direct Provision Allowance on behalf DJE to persons resident in the Direct Provision accommodation system</p> <p>DEASP – support in administration of SWA in appropriate cases</p>
32	Convening Cabinet in the event of an Emergency requiring Government Meeting	DOT	<p>DOT, GPO, GIS and LGDs²²</p> <p><u>Other Support Roles:</u></p> <p>Lead/ support departments & agencies in the emergency²³</p> <p>GTF</p>	Lead is Incident dependent.
33	Aircraft Accident	DTTS	<p>Local Authority</p> <p>IAA (ATC)</p> <p>Airport Authorities</p> <p>AGS (DJE)</p> <p>IRCG</p> <p>HSE (DH)</p> <p>DOD (DF)</p> <p>DTTS & AAIU</p> <p><u>Other Support Roles:</u></p> <p>Airlines</p> <p>CD (DOD)</p> <p>HSA</p>	Local Authority Lead Agency per Framework for Major Emergency Management, with likely handover to AGS when fire fighting/rescue complete.

²² The GPO plays a key role in preparing, coordinating and projecting the Government's message. Depending on circumstances, it is likely that the Lead Government Department will be the focus of media/public enquiries and press briefings. In other circumstances the GPO may provide a focus through which media enquiries and the Government message will be promulgated.

²³ All other departments must have complementary arrangements in place in respect of Cabinet engagement.

ANNEX A: Roles and Responsibilities of Lead and Support Government Departments/Agencies

No	Emergency/Incident Type	Lead Government Department (LGD)	Principal Support (Bold) & Other Support Roles	Remarks
34	Emergency Incidents at Airports	DTTS	IAA (ATC) Airport Authorities Local Authority (DHPLG) AGS (DJE) HSE (DH) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> Airlines DF (DOD) HSA CD (DOD) IRCG (DTTS) DTTS (AAIU)	
35	Aviation Security/Terrorist Incident <i>(Actual or attempted hijacking or other terrorist activity at an Irish airport or in Irish airspace.)</i>	DTTS	DIE AGS (DJE) DF (DOD) Airport Authorities <u>Other Support Roles:</u> Local Authority(DHPLG) HSE (DH) Airlines IAA	
36	Railway Accident	DTTS	Commission for Railway Regulation (CRR)/Chief Investigator Local Authority (DHPLG) AGS (DJE) HSE (DH) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> DF (DOD) CD (DOD) HSA Rail Systems Operators IRCG (DTTS)	Local Authority Lead Agency as per Framework for Major Emergency Management with likely handover to AGS when rescue phase complete.

ANNEX A: Roles and Responsibilities of Lead and Support Government Departments/Agencies

No	Emergency/Incident Type	Lead Government Department (LGD)	Principal Support (Bold) & Other Support Roles	Remarks
37	Major Accident on National & Non-national Roads and/or Infrastructure <i>(incl. bridges, tunnels etc)</i>	DTTS	AGS HSE (DH) Local Authority (DHPLG) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> DF (DOD) CD (DOD) IRCG (DTTS) TII (DTTS)	AGS Lead Agency as per Framework for Major Emergency Management (except when hazardous materials are involved, the local authority is the lead agency).
38	Incidents Requiring Marine Search and Rescue	DTTS	IRCG (DTTS) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> DCCAE HSE (DH) CD (DOD) Harbour Masters & Port Authorities Commissioner for Irish Lights RNLI DF (DOD)	
39	Ferry and Other Shipping Incidents	DTTS	IRCG (DTTS) DCCAE HSE (DH) AGS (DJE) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> DCHG DRCD Local Authorities (DHPLG) Harbour Masters & Port Authorities DFAT RNLI DF (DOD)	

ANNEX A: Roles and Responsibilities of Lead and Support Government Departments/Agencies

No	Emergency/Incident Type	Lead Government Department (LGD)	Principal Support (Bold) & Other Support Roles	Remarks
40	Marine and Coastal Pollution	DTTS ²⁴	IRCG (DTTS) Local Authorities (DHPLG) DCCAE DF (DOD) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> Commissioners for Irish Lights Harbour Masters & Port Authorities	
41	Marine Emergency Impacting On-shore	DTTS	IRCG (DTTS) Local Authorities (DHPLG) DF (DOD) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> Commissioners for Irish Lights Harbour Masters & Port Authorities DCCAE CD (DOD) AGS (DJE) HSE (DH)	Local Authority Lead Agency per Framework for Major Emergency Management for coordination of on-shore response
42	Severe Space Weather Events <i>(Primarily impacting on power and communications transmission, GPS and Satellite services.)</i>	DCCAE Incident Dependent. Lead Department may vary depending on the affect of such events.	DCCAE <u>COMMUNICATIONS:</u> CSIRT-IE (DCCAE) IDC on Cyber Security GCIO (DPER) AGS (DJE) COMREG Financial Services POWER: <u>CER</u> ESB, EIRGRID, Gas Network Ireland <u>Other Support Roles:</u> DBEI, Financial Services, GSI.	Lead may be incident dependent as it depends on the severity and impact of such events but is currently high on the UK National Risk Register.

²⁴ On-shore impact. Lead may pass from DTTS to DHPLG or DCCAE as circumstances dictate.

ANNEX A: Roles and Responsibilities of Lead and Support Government Departments/Agencies

No	Emergency/Incident Type	Lead Government Department (LGD)	Principal Support (Bold) & Other Support Roles	Remarks
43	<p>Volcanic eruptions impacting on Ireland <i>This scenario may evolve from a DTTS lead (Aviation Impact) to another depending on the type of incident e.g.</i></p> <p>a. <i>Volcanic eruptions impacting upon Air Travel. DTTS - LGD</i></p> <p>b. <i>Volcanic Eruptions impacting upon Food/Water/Air Contamination (DAFM & DH - LGD)</i></p>	<p>DTTS Or Incident Dependent lead for DAFM, DH, HSE.</p>	<p>GSI (DCCAE) EPA (DCCAE) DAFM, DH, DHPLG, DBEI, DFAT, DOT Consumer Protection Agency Local Authorities (DHPLG) AGS (DJE) HSE (DH) Met Éireann (DHPLG) Airport Authorities Transport Operators IRCG (DTTS) MSO Other Support Roles: DF(DOD)</p>	<p>Potentially all Government Departments/Agencies may be affected and involved, because of the potential widespread impact of such a scenario.</p>
44	<p>Marine emergency impacting offshore, such as a fire, explosion onboard a ship or rig.</p>	<p>DTTS</p>	<p>DH, DHPLG, DBEI, DFAT, DOT IRCG (DTTS) DF(DOD) MSO HSE (DH) DFAT Local Authorities (DHPLG) DCCAE (Offshore gas & oil) AGS Other Support Roles: Commissioners for Irish Lights Harbour Masters & Port Authorities CD (DOD) RNLI</p>	<p>Support roles would be incident dependent.</p>

ANNEX A: Roles and Responsibilities of Lead and Support Government Departments/Agencies

No	Emergency/Incident Type	Lead Government Department (LGD)	Principal Support (Bold) & Other Support Roles	Remarks
45	Transport Hub <i>(Such as Critical Infrastructures E.g. Dublin Port, Dublin Airport and Port Tunnels.)</i>	DTTS	DH, DHPLG, DBEI, DFAT, DOT IRCG (DTTS) MSO DFAT Local Authorities (DHPLG) DCCAE AGS HSE (DH) DF (DOD) TII (DTTS) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> Commissioners for Irish Lights, Harbour Masters & Port Authorities, RNLI & Transport Operators	Support roles would be incident dependent.
46	Dam inundation due to failure or breach	DCCAE Or DHPLG Or OPW (Lead will be incident dependent).	Local Authorities DH, DAFM HSE (DH) AGS (DJE) OPW (DPER) (<i>Ref Govt Decision S180/20/10/0996</i>) Met Éireann (DHPLG) EPA (DCCAE) ESB <u>Other Support Roles:</u> Waterways Ireland Irish Water DEASP DF & CD (DOD) IRCG (DTTS)	Local Authority Lead Agency as per Framework for Major Emergency Management. OPW is responsible per Government Decision (Sept 2004) in respect of flood risk identification, mitigation and awareness <i>(as per No 16 Above)</i> Note: OPW agreed to transfer the functions and responsibilities in relation to coastal protection and coastal flooding on 1 January 2009 from DAFM. DEASP Support Role under Humanitarian Assistance Scheme
47	Disruptive industrial action	LGD will be incident dependent. Lead Department may vary depending on the impact of any particular disruption.	Incident Dependent Lead Department may vary.	Depending upon the type of industrial action and impact, DOT and/or the Chair of the GTF would decide upon who will take the lead.

ANNEX A: Roles and Responsibilities of Lead and Support Government Departments/Agencies

No	Emergency/Incident Type	Lead Government Department (LGD)	Principal Support (Bold) & Other Support Roles	Remarks
48	Food contamination impacting on Public Health <i>(Lead between DH and DAFM depending on the incident type and its impact – also see No. 3 above.)</i>	DH and/or DAFM Lead will be incident dependent.	FSAI HSE EPA (DCCAE) Local Authorities	Potentially all Government Departments/Agencies may be affected and involved, because of the potential widespread impact of such a scenario.
49	Water Supply Contamination impacting on Public Health	DHPLG	Irish Water Local Authorities ESB OPW EPA FSAI HSE EPA CD (DOD) AGS	Potentially all Government Departments/Agencies may be affected and involved, because of the potential widespread impact of such a scenario.
50	Malign CBRN Incidents <i>(Based upon the lead roles in the Protocol for responding to a malign CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological & Nuclear) incident)</i>	DJE	AGS DHPLG Local Authorities (DHPLG) EPA (DCCAE) <u>Other Support Roles:</u> HSE (DH) DAFM DCCAE DF & CD (DOD) FSAI (DAFM) DOT HSA (DBEI) Possibly others.	The Department of Justice and Equality is the Lead Government Department and An Garda Síochána is the lead Agency in responding to a malign CBRN incident. The HSE and the Local Authority (Authorities) will play a supporting role. The Defence Forces will also provide support through its role in 'Aid to the Civil Power'. The EPA, the DoD and the DAFM may also play supporting roles, as will other agencies as required. Each Government Department/Agency will participate fully in the inter-agency coordination arrangements for the response.

Table of Acronyms used in 'Annex A: Roles and Responsibilities of Lead and Support Government Departments/Agencies'

Acronym	Title	Acronyms	Title
AGS	An Garda Síochána	DTTS	Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport
AAIU	Air Accident Investigation Unit (DTTS)	EIRGRID	EirGrid plc - electricity transmission system
BAI	Broadcasting Authority of Ireland	ERCC	Emergency Response Coordination Centre (EU Civil Protection)
CBRN	Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear	ESB-N	ESB Networks Ltd - electricity distribution system
CD	Civil Defence	EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
CER	Commission for Energy Regulation	FSAI	The Food Safety Authority of Ireland
CSIRT-IE	Computer Security Incident Response Team (DCCAE)	GCIO	Government Chief Information Office
COMREG	Commission for Communications Regulation	GIS	Government Information Service
CRR	Commission for Railway Regulation	GPO	Government Press Office
DF	Defence Forces	GSI	Geological Survey of Ireland
DAFM	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine	GTF	Government Task Force on Emergency Planning
DCHG	Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht	HSA	Health and Safety Authority
DCYA	Department of Children and Youth Affairs	HSE	Health Service Executive
DCCAE	Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment	IRCG	Irish Coast Guard
DRCD	Department of Rural and Community Development	MSO	Marine Survey Office
DOD	Department of Defence	ME	Met Éireann
DES	Department of Education and Skills	NEPNA	National Emergency Plan for Nuclear Accidents
DHPLG	Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government	NGO	Non-Government Organisations
DFIN	Department of Finance	NORA	National Oil Reserve Agency
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	NTMA	National Treasury Management Agency
DH	Department of Health	REVENUE	Office of the Revenue Commissioners
DIAS	Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies	OPW	Office of Public Works
DBEI	Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation	TII	Transport Infrastructure Ireland
DJE	Department of Justice & Equality	TEAGASC	Teagasc - Agriculture and Food Development Authority
DPER	Department of Public Expenditure & Reform	RSA	Road Safety Authority
DPP	Director of Public Prosecutions	REACH	Registration Evaluation and Authorisation of Chemicals
DEASP	Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection	RNLI	Royal National Lifeboat Institution
DOT	Department of the Taoiseach	RTE	Raidió Teilifís Éireann - Ireland's National Public Service Broadcaster

ANNEX B: Sample Emergency Management Situation Report.

NOTE: This is a screen shot of a *.pdf document. The original document is available as a separate standalone fill-able *.pdf document from the OEP.

Emergency Management Situation Report

General Report

STATUS: GREEN SitRep Number:

Department/Agency Name: Other:

Date:

Emergency Category: Ongoing May Occur Ending Description:

General Situation:

Meteorological Situation:

Actions Taken to Date:

Reports From Specific Locations

Location 1:

Situation (Loc 1):

Prognosis/Forecast (Loc 1):

Prognosis/Forecast (Loc 2):

Location 3:

Situation (Loc 3)::

Prognosis/Forecast (Loc 3):

General Summary and Prognosis

General Summary:

Please Address Queries To:

Point of Contact:

Details:

Distribution

Distribution List:





An Roinn Cosanta
Department of Defence

Published: October 2017 Version 1.0

<p>An Oifig um Pleanáil Éigeandála An tIonad Náisiúnta Comhordaithe Éigeandála Teach Talmaíochta (2 Thoir) Sr. Chill Dara Baile Átha Cliath 2</p> <p>R-Phost: oepe@defence.ie Teileafón: 00353 1 237 3800 Láithreán Gréasáin: www.emergencyplanning.ie</p>	<p>Office of Emergency Planning National Emergency Coordination Centre Agriculture House Kildare Street Dublin 2</p> <p>Email: oepe@defence.ie Telephone: 00353 1 237 3800 Web Site: www.emergencyplanning.ie</p>
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