

PAC(4) 05-13 - Paper 4

Submission to Select Committee 19/02/2013

In reviewing the report I have been asked to comment on and provide any additional evidence in relation to my role as the civil contingencies co-ordinator for the Joint Emergency Services Group. In relation to that request I would like to note the following points,

- The review highlighted a particular gap in testing the recovery phase of emergency incidents. This issue is being addressed by the Wales Learning and Development Group and the introduction of the Wales Gold Multi agency strategic level learning and development package that has been developed. Day 2 of the event is focussed solely on recovery and will require delegates to address the issues faced by strategic managers when recovering from an emergency. Each LRF is participating and courses start in March 2013.
- The Wales Learning and Development group have developed a shared database of learning material that is housed on the NRE (National Resilience Extranet). This has enabled the avoidance of duplication and has assisted consistency across the resilience communities in Wales.
- The report highlighted the fact that exercising and training did not support and test emergency plans. The forthcoming Wales Gold training will take this into account and utilises local emergency plans as both pre-reads and essential content for the 2 day course.
- The review highlighted increasing difficulty in securing sustainable levels of funding for joint resilience activities. The Wales Learning and Development group have been able to achieve significant cost efficiencies by procuring learning and development on a Pan Wales basis. The social media in an emergency package is a good example of this, and this process should continue where appropriate.
- The review highlighted the need for category 1 responders to fully utilise social media tools during an emergency. The recent social media in an emergency training has provided a springboard for this development across Wales with a number of key strategic attendees taking issues back to the workplace to address. A good example being Dyfed Powys Police where their twitter followers have increased from less than 100 to 12,500 in the last six months.

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