

Anticipate and assess the risk of emergencies

Overview

This standard is about anticipating and assessing the risk of emergencies affecting a locality or localities, sector or organisation. It includes working in co-operation with other emergency responders and communicating risk assessments to others.

Target group

This standard is for those with specific responsibility for risk assessments covering a locality or localities, sector or organisation, including practitioners who advise local responders.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. identify characteristics of localities that will influence the likelihood and impact of emergencies in communities in accordance with organisational requirements
2. identify relevant national and regional risk assessments in accordance with organisational requirements
3. identify hazards and threats that present significant risks in accordance with organisational requirements and guidelines
4. analyse the likelihood and impacts of hazards and threats to produce overall risk scores in accordance with organisational requirements
5. maintain through co-operation with emergency responders:
 - 5.1 agreed positions on risks affecting localities
 - 5.2 the planning and resourcing priorities required to prepare for those risks
6. record risk assessments in accordance with organisational requirements
7. communicate and explain risk assessments to the necessary senior people
8. use risk assessments in accordance with organisational requirements to inform risk mitigation strategies and the development and validation of:
 - 8.1 emergency plans
 - 8.2 business continuity plans
 - 8.3 multi-agency assessments
9. confirm distribution of all or parts of risk assessments, taking account of any restrictions on the disclosure of sensitive information in accordance with organisational requirements
10. monitor and up-date risk assessments in response to changes in the risk environment
11. maintain and update emergency and business continuity plans in response to changes in risk assessments and in accordance with organisational requirements

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. characteristics of localities that may influence the likelihood and impact of an emergency occurring including:
 - 1.1 social characteristics of areas including any particularly vulnerable groups
 - 1.2 health status of communities and available health facilities
 - 1.3 environmental characteristics of areas
 - 1.4 the infrastructure of areas, including transport, utilities, business)
 - 1.5 critical sites, services or supply networks in areas
 - 1.6 potentially hazardous sites areas and their relation to communities or sensitive environmental sites
2. availability of national and regional risk assessments and how to adapt these assessments for use in a local context
3. potential impact of emergencies on vulnerable people and groups including:
 - 3.1 definitions of vulnerability in the context of emergencies
 - 3.2 numbers and distribution of vulnerable people and groups in localities
 - 3.3 the dynamic nature of vulnerability in the context of emergencies
 - 3.4 issues specific to vulnerable groups from the impacts of emergencies
4. potential impact of emergencies on organisations, including financial and reputational impacts
5. different risk assessment methodologies that may be used
6. principles and criteria by which risks will be evaluated and prioritised
7. how to analyse the likelihood and impacts of hazards and threats to produce overall risk scores
8. how opportunities may be created from the identification of risk
9. why it is important to work collaboratively with other agencies and communities in developing risk assessments
10. the nature and purpose of Integrated Emergency Management (IEM)
11. roles and structures of local and regional forums for co-operation on risk assessments
12. options for risk treatments, including the development of emergency and business continuity plans
13. relevant legislation and guidance that apply to information sharing and data protection

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Behaviours

Listed below are the main generic behaviours which need to be applied. These are explicit / implicit in the detailed content of the standard and are listed here as additional information:

- 1 community minded
- 2 determined
- 3 empathetic
- 4 investigative

Skills

Listed below are the main generic skills which need to be applied. These are explicit / implicit in the detailed content of the standard and are listed here as additional information:

- 1 generic management and leadership
- 2 balanced assessment
- 3 communicating risk
- 4 determined
- 5 critical evaluation
- 6 empathetic
- 7 hazard and risk analysis
- 8 investigative
- 9 horizon-scanning
- 10 impact analysis
- 11 investigation
- 12 prioritising risk
- 13 research
- 14 social analysis

Glossary

Frequently used terms and how they should be interpreted in the context of the Civil Contingencies NOS:

Anticipate

Early strategic assessment of the likelihood and impact of an event (with a view to forewarning and possible pre-emption, or other measures).

Hazard

An event or situation with the potential to cause physical or psychological harm to members of the community, including loss of life, damage or losses to property, and/or disruption to the environment or to the economic, social and political structures upon which a community's way of life depends.

Threat

Intent and capacity to cause loss of life or create adverse consequences to

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human welfare (including property and the supply of essential services and commodities), the environment or security.

Risk

Measure of the significance of a potential emergency in terms of likelihood and impact.

Links to other NOS

This standard is linked to:

- 1 CCAA1 Work in co-operation with other organisations
- 2 CCAC1 Develop, maintain and evaluate emergency plans and arrangements
- 3 CCAD1 Develop, maintain and evaluate business continuity plans and arrangements
- 4 CCAF1 Raise awareness of the risk, potential impact and arrangements in place for emergencies.

Note: Risk assessment, within their area of responsibility, is also a function for generic managers and this is described by the standard SFJPE4.1 Manage risk, and / or the management and leadership standard CFAM&LBB1 Manage risks to your organisation.

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Developed by	Skills for Justice
Version Number	2
Date Approved	November 2014
Indicative Review Date	November 2019
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating Organisation	Skills for Justice
Original URN	SFJCCAB1
Relevant Occupations	Public Service and Other Associate Professionals; Firefighters; Health Professionals; Police Officers; Public Services and Care; Public Services
Suite	Civil Contingencies
Keywords	co-operate; develop; maintain; evaluate; emergency plans; emergency; emergencies; emergency management