

NHS DORSET CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP
GOVERNING BODY MEETING
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS RESILIENCE AND RESPONSE (EPRR)
ASSURANCE REPORT 2019/20

Date of the meeting	22/01/2020
Author	L Patton, Emergency Planning Lead
Sponsoring Board Member	Dr S Watkins, Locality Lead for Poole Central
Purpose of Report	To provide an overview of the EPRR Assurance for 2019 – 2020.
Recommendation	The Governing Body is asked to note the report.
Stakeholder Engagement	Accountable Emergency Officers and Emergency Planners from Dorset NHS Provider Organisations
Previous GB / Committee/s, Dates	N/A

Monitoring and Assurance Summary

This report links to the following Strategic Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention at Scale • Integrated Community and Primary Care Services • One Acute Network • Digitally Enabled Dorset • Leading and Working Differently 		
	Yes [e.g. ✓]	Any action required?	
		Yes Detail in report	No
All three Domains of Quality (Safety, Quality, Patient Experience)	✓		✓
Board Assurance Framework Risk Register	✓		✓
Budgetary Impact	✓		✓
Legal/Regulatory	✓		✓
People/Staff	✓		✓
Financial/Value for Money/Sustainability	✓		✓
Information Management & Technology	✓		✓
Equality Impact Assessment	✓		✓
Freedom of Information	✓		✓
I confirm that I have considered the implications of this report on each of the matters above, as indicated	✓		

Initials: LP

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The UK Government and general public expect NHS organisations to be ready to respond in the event of major and critical incidents affecting the UK. The 2019 EPRR agenda has played out amid the backdrop of preparations for the UK's exit from the EU. The CCG has prepared on three separate occasions (March, April and October) to play its role as defined in the organisations EU Exit Plan. At the time where a 'no deal' scenario was possible the CCG's arrangements included:
 - Rotas covering daily Local Resilience Forum (LRF) Conference Calls and Monday to Friday Situation Reporting to NHS England and Improvement
 - Training of staff supporting EU Exit activity
 - Organisational risk assessment of EU Exit
 - Participation in National EU Exit Webinars
 - Participation in LRF and NHS EU Exit Exercises
 - Publication of the CCG's EU Exit Plan
- 1.2 Following the passing of the UK Government's EU Withdrawal Agreement in December 2019, both the Department of Health and Social Care and Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government, have confirmed that 'no deal' arrangement related to Operation Yellowhammer have been stood down. There is useful learning from the activity of the last year, however there is now no need for NHS providers and commissioners to undertake situation reporting and the stand down of the Dorset LRF EU Exit Command Structure was also confirmed on 3 January.
- 1.3 NHS England published core standards to assess EPRR arrangements for 2019-2020 in June. These are the minimum standards which NHS organisations and providers of NHS funded care must meet. The Accountable Emergency Officer in each organisation is responsible for making sure these standards are met.
- 1.4 The 2019-2020 EPRR assurance process required NHS England and Improvement, Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG's), Ambulance Trusts, Acute, Community and Mental Health providers of NHS care to complete the core standards self-assessment matrix. These self-assessments were then discussed with the CCG and improvement plans have been prepared to outline how any amber or red core standards will be addressed over the next 12 months. Following a confirm and challenge meeting of the Dorset Local Health Resilience Partnership on 19 November, NHS England & Improvement South West provided assurance statements to NHS Organisations in Dorset (see Appendix 2 for an example).
- 1.5 Between 11 September and 15 November 2019 the CCG Accountable Emergency Officer (Dr Phil Richardson) and the Emergency Planning Lead (Liam Patton) met with each of the acute providers and Dorset Healthcare to discuss their assurance returns. All Dorset based NHS providers achieved substantial compliance with the core standards.

- 1.6 In its role as Coordinating Commissioner for the regional ambulance trust NHS Dorset CCG was required to oversee the EPRR assurance of South Western Ambulance NHS Service Foundation Trust (SWAST). SWAST has achieved a full compliant status against all core standards.

NB NHS England and Improvement South West agreed that Bath, Swindon and Wiltshire CCG would undertake the assurance of E-Zec Medical Ltd on behalf of Dorset, Somerset and Kernow CCGs collectively.

2. Examples of EPRR good practice across the Integrated Care System

- 2.1 Whilst the assurance focusses on key areas of improvement/development in EPRR there were a number of good practice examples put forward:

- All three acute trusts have undertaken Mass Casualties Emergo Exercises in the last six months.
- Dorset HealthCare completed standardised lock down plans across all sites.
- SWAST has linked with both Bournemouth and Plymouth Universities to develop major incident response training to a range of command levels.
- Improvement in Severe Weather Planning. Notably, the pre-planning of 4x4 response requirements.

3. Dorset NHS Overall Compliance Levels

- 3.1 Overall compliance levels can be found in Appendix 3.

4. Key themes and challenges

- 4.1 The key challenge that faces NHS Trusts, is sustaining all areas of EPRR highlighted within the national core standards, at the same time as digesting the valuable learning from the range of incidents experienced in recent years.
- 4.2 Despite recent progress, acute trust level mass casualties planning requires additional attention to align with the new NHS England and Improvement arrangements, as well as the revision of the Local Resilience Forum, Mass Casualties Framework.
- 4.3 Mass countermeasures planning also remains under review at the regional level and has been rated as an area for further attention amongst all Dorset based providers.

5. CCG EPRR Assurance Summary

- 5.1 The CCG's Accountable Emergency Officer and Emergency Planning Lead met with the Head of EPRR for NHS England and Improvement South West on 22 August 2019 to discuss the CCG's own self-assessment of the EPRR Core Standards.
- 5.2 A small number of outstanding core standards were addressed prior to the 19 November Local Health Resilience Partnership meeting, meaning that NHS Dorset CCG was agreed to have achieved fully compliant status with all the core standards.
- 5.3 This year a deep dive into Severe Weather and Climate Change Adaptation was attached to the EPRR Core Standards. The CCG's outstanding actions against the Deep Dive are included in Appendix 1.

NB Deep dive scores do not affect the CCG's overall compliance with the core standards.

6. CCG EPRR Activity

- 6.1 The CCG's EPRR training and exercising programme is based on regular needs analysis and modular content is aligned to the National Occupation Standards for Civil Contingencies.
- 6.2 In the last year the CCG has sent ten employees on courses provided by NHS England and Improvement (Strategic Leadership and Logistics Course). The CCG also sent sixteen participants on the courses provided by the Local Resilience Forum (multi-agency tactical training).
- 6.3 Skills acquired in training were put to good use during an internal EU Exit Table Top Exercise which took place on 15 March. The CCG also played a tactical role during Exercise Shortbill on 7 March. Shortbill is a three yearly practice of arrangement for incidents involving Trafalgar Class Submarines at Portland Port, which is overseen by the Office of Nuclear Regulators.
- 6.4 Thankfully there was a lesser incident response requirement for the CCG in 2019 compared to 2017 and 2018. However, the year started with snow and icy conditions affecting some NHS Services on 1 February. From a business continuity perspective, the CCG was required to temporarily close its headquarters at Vespasian House on 29 May due to blocked draining.
- 6.5 The response to the above challenges generated learning issues which have been captured on the corporate post incident and exercise recommendations tracker. For example, the CCG has agreed to send physical representation to future Local Resilience Forum Logistics Cells, such cells will be established to brigade 4x4 resources during severe weather emergencies. The full recommendation tracker is available on request, from the Emergency Planning Lead.

7. Next steps

- 7.1 NHS England and Improvement South West will formally write to the CCG to summarise discussions from a regional EPRR confirm and challenge meeting. Following this, the CCG will write to each provider detailing any specific feedback. A copy of this letter will also be sent to each provider's contract review meeting.
- 7.2 Provider improvement plans will then be reviewed on a quarterly basis between LHRP meetings. These review meetings will take place in January, April and July 2020.

8. Conclusion

- 8.1 The Governing Body is asked to note this report as a requirement of the 2019-2020 assurance process for EPRR.

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Appendices	
Appendices 1	EPRR Deep Dive Improvement Plan – NHS Dorset CCG
Appendices 2	NHS Dorset CCG Signed Statement of Compliance
Appendices 3	EPRR Compliance Levels Table and Dorset NHS Organisations Overall Compliance Levels

Appendix 1: EPRR Deep Dive Improvement Plan: NHS Dorset CCG
Version: V1 31/12/2019

NHS Dorset CCG has been required to assess itself against the NHS core standards for Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR) as part of the annual EPRR assurance process for 2019/20. All core standards were agreed to have been fully compliant. This improvement plan is the result of a deep dive self-assessment exercise, which sets out the required actions that will ensure full compliance with the core standards.

This is a live document and it will be updated as actions are completed.

Deep dive standard	Current self-assessed level of compliance (RAG rating)	Remaining actions required to be fully compliant	Planned date for actions to be completed	Lead name	Further comments
DD 1 – Severe Weather Response – Overheating monitoring		Add a 27-degree threshold to the Staff Leave Policy and On Call Manager Action Card to ensure staff areas are ventilated accordingly at this temperature. Add to EPRR Work Plan	June 2020	Liam Patton	
DD 2 – Severe Weather Response – Overheating arrangements		As above	June 2020	Liam Patton	
DD 5 – Severe Weather Response - Discharge		Add requirement to EPRR Work Plan - CCG to promote a constant approach to Hospital Discharge Planning Policy. Review 2018/19 Winter Debrief – Communications Recommendation	June 2020	Liam Patton	
DD 9 Severe Weather Response – Multi-agency Flood Response		Multi-agency Flood Planning is under review within the Dorset LRF. Environment Agency is coordinating this work. Add to EPRR Work Plan	June 2020	Liam Patton	
DD 12 Severe Weather Response – Risk assessment		Add Severe Weather Risk Assessment to the EPRR Work Plan	June 2020	Liam Patton	

9.8

Long term adaptation planning – risk assessment		Identify suitable lead for this standard	March 2020	TBC	
Long term adaptation planning – overheating risk		Identify suitable lead for this standard	March 2020	TBC	
Long term adaptation planning – building adaptation		Identify suitable lead for this standard	March 2020	TBC	
Long term adaptation planning – flooding		Identify suitable lead for this standard	March 2020	TBC	

Appendix 2: NHS Dorset CCG Signed Statement of Compliance



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29th November 2019

Dear Phil,

EPRR Statement of Compliance 2019

In July 2019 NHS England published the NHS core standards for Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response. These are the minimum standards which commissioners and providers of NHS funded care must meet.

As part of the national EPRR assurance process for 2019/20, NHS Dorset CCG has been required to assess itself against these core standards.

Thank you for joining the EPRR assurance confirm and challenge meeting on 23rd August 2019 to discuss your assurance and compliance against each of the Core Standards.

I can confirm that following the meeting and the subsequent work that has taken place to address certain standards, that outcome of our assessment confirms the position that Dorset CCG:

- is fully compliant with all 43 Core Standards for EPRR.

Therefore, based on the table in tab one of the Core Standards Self-Assessment (shown at annex A), NHS Dorset CCG is given an overall compliance rating of **Fully Compliant** with the core stands.

In response to the 2019/20 deep dive for Severe Weather and Long-Term Adaptation Planning, NHS Dorset CCG:

- Is fully compliant with 9 of the 19 standards.
- It is acknowledged that the New Build deep dive standard is not relevant to CCGs.

The Deep Dive findings do not contribute to the organisation's overall EPRR assurance rating.

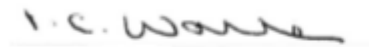
This rating was reported at the LHRP Executive on the 19th November and will be presented as part of the South West Regional confirm and challenge meeting with the

NHS England and NHS Improvement national team in January 2020. The final position for England will subsequently be reported to the National NHS Board in early 2020.

Congratulations on achieving a Fully Compliant position. This is reflective of the high level of preparedness of the CCG, and your commitment to EPRR.

Can I take this opportunity to thank you, Liam, and the wider team for your continued support in the delivery of this important agenda.

Yours sincerely,



Iain Wallen
Director of Performance
NHS England and NHS Improvement – South West

Appendix 3: EPRR Compliance Levels Table and Dorset NHS Organisations Overall Compliance Levels (as of the 19th November 2019 Local Health Resilience Partnership Meeting).

Overall EPRR assurance rating	Criteria
Fully	<p>The organisation is 100% compliant with all core standards they are expected to achieve.</p> <p>The organisation's Board has agreed with this position statement.</p>
Substantial	<p>The organisation is 89-99% compliant with the core standards they are expected to achieve.</p> <p>For each non-compliant core standard, the organisation's Board has agreed an action plan to meet compliance within the next 12 months.</p>
Partial	<p>The organisation is 77-88% compliant with the core standards they are expected to achieve.</p> <p>For each non-compliant core standard, the organisation's Board has agreed an action plan to meet compliance within the next 12 months.</p>
Non-compliant	<p>The organisation compliant with 76% or less of the core standards the organisation is expected to achieve.</p> <p>For each non-compliant core standard, the organisation's Board has agreed an action plan to meet compliance within the next 12 months.</p> <p>The action plans will be monitored on a quarterly basis to demonstrate progress towards compliance.</p>

Organisation	Outcome	Overall Compliance Level
Dorset County Hospital	92% Compliance - 59 out of 64 core standards achieved	Substantially compliant
Dorset Healthcare	89% Compliance - 48 out of 54 core standards achieved	Substantially compliant
Poole Hospital	94% Compliance - 60 out of 64 core standards achieved	Substantially compliant
Royal Bournemouth Hospital	90% Compliance - 58 out of 64 core standards achieved	Substantially compliant
SWAST 999 & 111	100% Compliance	Fully compliant
E-Zec Medical	90% Compliance - 41 out of 41 core standards achieved	Fully compliant
NHS Dorset CCG	100% Compliance	Fully compliant