

APPENDIX 2

EMERGENCY PLANNING RESILIENCE AND RESPONSE STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

Emergency Preparedness Resilience and Response (EPRR) guidance, issued by the Department of Health and NHS England, requires NHS Somerset to plan for and respond to all declared major incidents as a Category 1 responder.

Under the requirements of NHS EPRR guidance NHS Somerset is required to:

- Have suitable and up to date incident response plans which set out how NHS Somerset would respond to and recover from a major incident / emergency which is affecting the wider community or the delivery of services; and
- Adopt business continuity plans to enable NHS Somerset to maintain or recover the delivery of critical services in the event of a disruption.

NHS Somerset is compliant in providing an EPRR structure through which:

- NHS Somerset can meet its obligations to all appropriate EPRR guidance and standards and the Civil Contingencies Act 2004
- The emergency preparedness, resilience and response roles and responsibilities of employees are defined
- An Incident Response Plan is maintained in order to implement an effective response to a major incident / emergency
- The reputation of NHS Somerset is not compromised
- NHS Somerset shares information with partner agencies to enhance co-ordination and co-operation
- A comprehensive business continuity management system is established and maintained, following the principles of PAS 2015 and ISO 22301
- NHS Somerset has identified those activities which are critical to the delivery of its responsibilities and applied systems to reduce the impact of a disruption to business continuity
- Business continuity plans are developed, tested and regularly reviewed to ensure that NHS Somerset can deliver an effective response to a disruption to service delivery
- An annual cycle of EPRR exercises are held to test the effectiveness of NHS Somerset's response to a business continuity disruption and major incident
- NHS Somerset annually reviews the business continuity management system and emergency preparedness with the aim of agreeing EPRR objectives and strategies to drive continual improvement

The Integrated Care Board and the Director of Public Health can be assured that sufficient resources are in place to manage the business continuity management system and that Directorates have reviewed their plans and that desk top exercises are in place to test this. Assurance is also provided for emergency preparedness through the provision of an active training plan and work programme which are in place to ensure that NHS Somerset can deliver effective and robust support to the response to a major incident or business continuity disruption in line with our EPRR obligations. Our self-assessment position has been assured by NHS England EPRR team as Substantially Compliant.

Signed: Jonathan Higman, Chief Executive