

AWE Off-Site Emergency Response Plan

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Joint Emergency Planning Unit

LIVE

Public Version

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If you are being alerted regarding an activation of this plan go directly to SECTION 3 [Page 16](#) for the callout notifications.

You should also check your own agency major incident plan/action cards for agency specific actions.

Contents

1. Introduction & Plan Administration.....	2
1.1 Overview	2
1.2 Aim & Objectives	4
1.3 Management of the Plan	4
1.4 Exercising the Plan	4
1.5 Legislation	6
1.6 Supporting Plans	7
1.7 Reference Accident	7
1.8 Extendibility	8
1.9 Local Authority Working Group	8
1.10 Plan Review & Revision Record	8
1.11 Contributors	9
1.12 Plan Distribution	9
1.13 References	9
1.14 Feedback on the Plan	10
2. Premises	12
2.1 Site Details	12
2.2 Site Purpose	12
2.3 AWE Aldermaston AWE – Site Specific Information	13
2.4 AWE Burghfield AWE – Site Specific Information	14
2.5 Possible Incidents	14
2.6 Magnitude of Accident	16
3 Plan Activation & Immediate Actions	18
3.1 IMMEDIATE ACTIONS – Primary Notification Cascade	18
3.2 Incident Categories	20
3.3 SITE SITUATION REPORT (SITREP)	22
3.4 Actions by on Site Emergency Managers	22
3.5 On site plan implications only – no off-site risk	22
3.6 Off-site implications	23
3.7 Quick Guide to Local and National Actions	25
3.8 Notification of All Clear	28
4 Command and Control	30
4.1 Overview	30
4.2 Strategic Coordinating Group - Sub Groups	31
4.3 Scientific and Technical Advisory Cell (STAC)	31
4.4 Recovery Coordinating Group	31
4.5 Media Advisory Cell (MAC)	31
4.6 Media Briefing Centre	31
4.7 Multi-Agency Information Cell (MAIC)	31
4.8 Radiation Monitoring Strategy Group	32
4.9 Resources Cell	32
4.10 Evacuation Cell	32
4.11 Responding Agencies' Emergency Control Centres	32
4.12 Full Command and Control Arrangements	33
5 Specific Advice and Information	35
5.1 Hazard Information on AWE's Materials – General Hazards	35
5.2 Radioactive Materials	37
5.3 AWE Aldermaston DEPZ	43
5.4 AWE Burghfield DEPZ	45
5.5 Extendibility	47
5.6 Strategic Coordinating Centre (SCC)	58
5.7 Scientific and Technical Advisory Cell (STAC)	61
5.8 Countermeasures	64
5.9 SHELTER as a Countermeasure	72
5.10 EVACUATION as a Countermeasure	73
5.11 Monitoring Strategies – Environment	76

5.12 Monitoring – Strategies - People (Radiation Monitoring Unit)	77
5.13 Decontamination of People	78
5.14 Rest Centres	82
5.15 Vulnerable People	87
5.16 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	93
5.17 Warning and Informing	97
5.18 Media	100
5.19 Recovery	115
5.20 Financial Arrangements	120
5.21 Rendezvous Points (RVPs)	121
6 Specific Joint Plans	123
7 Roles and Responsibilities	125
8 Communications Directory	165
9 Glossary of Terms	167

Section One

1. Introduction & Plan Administration

1.1 Overview

Serious failures in plant operation or process conditions and/or physical damage to a research or production facility at either of the Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) sites, Aldermaston (A) and Burghfield (B), might conceivably lead to a release of radioactive material or other hazards which could present a local problem within the sites.

Other than radiation hazards the other significant hazards that may pose a risk to persons on the site and, in extreme circumstances, members of the public include:

- (a) Explosives
- (b) Chemicals
- (c) Environmental Pollutants

The hazards identified along with the potential impact of the hazards and emergency countermeasures that may be implemented to protect persons on and off the site are detailed later in this plan.

The likelihood that such a scenario could endanger the public outside a site is considered to be low. However due to the potential hazards from the AWE sites and the possibility of a release of radioactive or toxic material to the environment, sufficient in severity to necessitate action to be taken to protect employees, the public and the environment this plan has been developed.

This plan sets out the emergency arrangements for a multi-agency response to any on-site emergency with actual or potential off-site consequences at the AWE Aldermaston or Burghfield sites. Off-site emergency arrangements are also a requirement of the Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations 2001 (REPPiR).

This plan has been prepared by the AWE Off-site Planning Group.

Within this plan there are also descriptions regarding the interactions and links between these many agencies that would be involved in ensuring the safety and welfare of the public living near the establishments within the counties of Berkshire and Hampshire.

It is the individual responsibility of the participating organisations to prepare, revise and test the operational procedures described in this Plan to discharge their responsibilities under these arrangements.

The coordination of the response to an off-site emergency at either of the Aldermaston or Burghfield sites would be the responsibility of Thames Valley Police (TVP) in the first instance.

1.2 Aim & Objectives

The **aim** of this plan is to provide detailed information for all responding agencies to work to in order to facilitate the protection of the public and/or environment following an event involving an on-site accident at either of the Atomic Weapons Establishments.

The **objectives** of this plan are to:

- (a) Provide details about the sites and their hazards
- (b) Provide details of the roles and responsibilities of each responding agency
- (c) Provide details of activation, command & control and coordination
- (d) Provide details of countermeasures
- (e) Provide details of communications
- (f) Provide details of recovery
- (g) Provide details of where to find more information.

1.3 Management of the Plan

The plan will remain under continual review and will be updated as necessary as details change. It will however undergo a full formal review on a 3 yearly basis following an off-site exercise and;

- (a) Following any major incident or near incident at the site(s)
- (b) Following a major incident or near incident at other sites where lessons have been identified
- (c) Following any review and revision the relevant pages will be forwarded to all members of the off-site planning group and as appropriate an update of the public version of the plan placed on the internet.

The public version of the plan will not contain confidential or sensitive information.

West Berkshire District Council (WBDC) will circulate any amendments to those involved via ResilienceDirect (RD): <https://collaborate.resilience.gov.uk/RDService/home/76024/Plan>

Each organisation should inform the AWE Off-site Planning Group of changes that are relevant to the plan and therefore the response to an off-site incident.

1.4 Exercising the Plan

The AWE sites are required to exercise their emergency procedures regularly. Exercises are observed by HM Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR). There are 3 levels, the scenario of each requiring approval of the ONR:

- Level 1: Concentrates on the operator's on-site procedures and communication. It may involve limited participation by the emergency services and other response organisations.
- Level 2: Tests the off-site emergency arrangements. It involves participation by the emergency services, emergency response organisations, government departments and agencies, and the operator.
- Level 3: A national exercise extending Level 2 by requiring involvement of Government Departments to exercise their procedures at their respective headquarters for Central Government, in order to test the interaction within and between national as well as local agencies.

In accordance with REPPIR 2001 West Berkshire District Council will agree with the regulator, the operator and emergency services the best method to test this off-site plan.

The following table lists the level and dates of exercises held:

Date of Exercise	Notes
11 November 1998	Level 2
15 November 2001	Level 2
2 March 2005	Level 2
11 November 2007	Level 2
10 November 2010	Level 2
Caldex 10 March 2010 (Office Hours)	Communications Exercise
Caldex 17 May 2011 (Office Hours)	Communications Exercise
Caldex 12/1/12 (Out of Office Hours)	Communications Exercise
Caldex 13/12/12 (Office Hours)	Communications Exercise
Caldex 10/6/13 (Office Hours)	Communications Exercise
Caldex 16/9/13 (Out of Office Hours)	Communications Exercise
Caldex 11/12/14 (Office hours)	Communications Exercise
Aldex 13 16 Nov 2013	Level 2
Ex Recuperate 13 9 Dec 13	Recovery Exercise
Caldex 14/12/14 (office hours)	Communications Exercise
Caldex 02/09/15	Communications Exercise
Caldex 26/07/16	Communications Exercise
Caldex 26/10/16	Communications Exercise
Aldex 16 7 Nov 16	Level 3

1.5 Legislation

Nuclear Installations Act 1965¹. The principal hazard to the public from a serious accident at the AWE sites will be the release of radioactive materials. There may be risks to health as a result of such a release. Therefore all activities on all nuclear sites in the UK are regulated under the Nuclear Installations Act 1965 and a Nuclear Site License is granted to sites with the proviso they satisfy a number of license conditions. One of these conditions requires that adequate emergency arrangements are in place.

The Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information Regulations 2001 (REPPIR))² came into effect in 2001. One of the aims of REPPIR was to protect members of the public from a release of radioactive material from premises working with such material where an accident could result in a radiation emergency. (A radiation emergency is defined as an event which is likely to result in a member of the public receiving a committed effective dose of 5mSv as a direct result of the event).

REPPIR requires nuclear operators and local authorities to make and implement arrangements to ensure that the members of the public are properly informed and prepared in advance, about what to do in the unlikely event of a radiation emergency occurring and provided with information if an emergency actually occurs. West Berkshire District Council has the duty under REPPIR in connection with off-site emergency plans and making arrangements to supply information to the public in the event of an emergency occurring. They may also be involved in the dissemination of prior information to the public from operators and carriers.

The key duties of local authorities are to prepare, revise, test and implement an off-site plan for any premises with an operator's on-site plan. The plan should bring together the emergency arrangements of all the off-site agencies with a role to play in the intervention and mitigation of an emergency occurring at the premises, and prepare arrangements to supply information to members of the public in the event of a radiation emergency actually occurring, however it may occur.

Currently the emergency arrangements are based on (a) reference accidents and (b) the principle of extendibility. The reference accident helps define the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone (DEPZ) within which arrangements to protect the public by introducing countermeasures are planned in detail. For practical reasons the DEPZ can extend

¹ [Nuclear Installations Act 1965](#)

² [Radiation - Radiation \(Emergency Preparedness and Public Inf...](#)

further to avoid, for example, splitting streets in half if one part of a street is inside the DEPZ while the other part is outside.

Other Legislation. There are various other materials and processes on the sites which may give rise to other hazards. These hazards are identified in Annex 1. A range of other regulations apply to the activities undertaken at AWE sites. Some of this legislation also requires emergency arrangements to be in place including:

- (a) Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH)³
- (b) Health & Safety at Work etc. Act 1974⁴
- (c) Environmental Protection Act 1990⁵
- (d) Food and Environmental Protection Act 1985⁶

1.6 Supporting Plans

As a requirement of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (CCA), local Category 1 responders maintain a number of plans which may also be activated in support of this plan. There are too many plans to detail all in this document, however key plans include:

- (a) West Berkshire District Council (WBDC) Major Incident Plan
- (b) West Berkshire District Council (WBDC) Reception & Rest Centre Plan
- (c) Thames Valley Local Resilience Forum (LRF) Emergency Response Arrangements
- (d) Thames Valley Local Resilience Forum (LRF) Recovery Plan
- (e) Royal Berkshire Fire & Rescue Service (RBFRS) Tactical Plan
- (f) South Central Ambulance Service (SCAS) Incident Response Plan (IRP).
- (g) Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Recovery Plan

Although not a Category 1 Responder, AWE also maintains On-Site Emergency Plans for the Aldermaston and Burghfield sites.

1.7 Reference Accident

The reference accident is the worst reasonably foreseeable accident with radiological consequences against which it is considered reasonable to prepare detailed emergency plans. For emergency planning purposes the reference accident assumes that during a release a pathway occurs that allows radioactive material to escape uncontrolled into the environment.

See [Section 2](#) for the details in relation to the AWE sites.

³ [Control of Major Accident Hazards \(COMAH\)](#)

⁴ [Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974](#)

⁵ [Environmental Protection Act 1990](#)

⁶ [Food and Environment Protection Act 1985](#)

1.8 *Extendibility*

Extendibility means Emergency Plans need to be capable of responding to accidents, which, although extremely unlikely, could necessitate urgent protective actions beyond the boundaries of the DEPZ. The measures that are required to extend the detailed arrangements cannot be precisely planned because the nature and potential of accidents can vary. The exact response would be based on an assessment made at the time. The response may make use of local and national plans prepared to deal with a wide range of emergencies. ([Section 5.5](#) provides more detail).

1.9 *Local Authority Working Group*

The Local Authority Working Group (LAWG) is a forum which brings together the Local Authorities across the UK and other responding agencies with interests in off-site planning for an emergency at a nuclear licensed site. The group identifies, discusses and finds solutions to common problems and agrees improvements in planning, procedure and organisation, which would form a framework of advice to emergency planners.

1.10 *Plan Review & Revision Record*

Ser	Date	Reason for amendment
1	Nov 2000	New Legislation
2	Jan 2004	Learning from Exercise
3	2005	Learning from Aldex 04
4	July 2009	Changes in Organisation
5	July 2011	Learning from Aldex 10
6	Mar 12	Cascade and Contacts updated
7	7 Oct 13	Plan revision following Health review and Cascade exercises.
8	Mar 15	Learning from exercises and organisational changes
9	Oct 15	Feedback on content – amendments made.
10	Dec 15	Feedback on final draft plus issue of national guidance
11	Oct 16	Changes to DEPZ
1.6	Nov 17	Changes due to DEPZ at Burghfield and Aldex learning
1.7	Sept 18	Changes due to DEPZ changes at AWE (B)
1.8	Jan 19	Changes to public dose from a reference accident

1.11 Contributors

This Off-site Plan was prepared by the AWE Off-Site Group, chaired by West Berkshire District Council, consisting of Emergency Planning Officers and professionals drawn from the following organisations who are also copy holders of the Plan:

AWE Plc
Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council
Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) (Berkshire West)
Environment Agency (EA)
Food Standards Agency (FSA)
Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) Resilience and Emergency Division (RED)
Government Decontamination Service (GDS)
Hampshire County Council
Hampshire Constabulary
Highways England
Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)
Met Office
Ministry of Defence (MOD)
National Health Service (NHS) England
Network Rail
Public Health England (PHE) South East
PHE Centre for Radiation, Chemical and Environmental Hazards (CRCE)
Reading Borough Council (RBC)
Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service (RBFRS)
Royal Berkshire Hospital
South Central Ambulance NHS Foundation Trust
Thames Valley Police (TVP)
Thames Water (TW)
West Berkshire District Council (WBDC)
Wokingham Borough Council (WBC)

1.12 Plan Distribution

The plan is distributed to all contributing organisations plus a public version to:

- West Berkshire District Council and relevant Hampshire County Council Libraries
- West Berkshire District Council website.

1.13 References

There are a number of references that are relevant to the site and the responders including:

[AWE](#)

www.westberks.gov.uk

[HSE](#)

[Office for Nuclear Regulation](#)

[National Nuclear Emergency Planning and Response Guidance](#)

1.14 Feedback on the Plan

If readers have constructive comments to make regarding this plan then they should be put in writing to:

Joint Emergency Planning Unit,
West Berkshire District Council,
Council Offices,
Market Street,
Newbury,
BERKSHIRE
RG14 5LD
emergencyplanning@westberks.gov.uk

Section Two

2. Premises

2.1 *Site Details*

AWE Aldermaston
Aldermaston
Nr Reading
Berkshire
RG7 4PR

AWE Burghfield
The Mearings
Burghfield Nr Reading
Berkshire
RG30 3RR

2.2 *Site Purpose*

The Ministry of Defence (MOD) owns the sites and contracts AWE plc to operate both sites. Their primary function is to carry out work in support of the UK Nuclear Deterrent Programme.

[AWE, the Atomic Weapons Establishment](#), has been central to the defence of the United Kingdom for more than 50 years. It provides and maintains the warheads for the country's nuclear deterrent, Trident.

Trident is a submarine-launched, inter-continental ballistic nuclear missile weapons system, carried by Royal Navy Vanguard-class submarines. The role of AWE is to manufacture and sustain the warheads for the Trident system, ensuring optimum safety and performance, but also to maintain a capability to produce a successor system should the Government require one in the future.

The work at AWE covers the entire life cycle of nuclear warheads; from initial concept, assessment and design, through to component manufacture and assembly, in-service support, and finally decommissioning and disposal.

The AWE Aldermaston (A) site is located in Berkshire, between Tadley and Aldermaston on the Berkshire/Hampshire Border. The AWE Burghfield (B) site is located in Berkshire between Burghfield Village and Reading.

Both sites are large; AWE Aldermaston (AWE (A)) occupies some 660 acres and AWE Burghfield (AWE (B)) occupies some 260 acres and contain a wide range of industrial facilities including facilities utilised for the design, manufacture, maintain and decommission the warheads for the Trident system, ensuring optimum safety and performance, but also to maintain a capability to produce a successor system should the Government require one in the future.

A range of potentially hazardous non-nuclear materials, common to large industrial complexes, is also present at each site. These are stored and used in an approved manner and are not a danger to the public in normal operation. The AWE (A) site has

been designated a lower tier site under the Control of Major Accidents Hazards (COMAH) Regulations. Chemical holdings at AWE (B) are currently below the COMAH threshold. Elements of these arrangements could be activated in the event of a release of non-nuclear materials if this were ever to be required.

Other potentially hazardous materials at the AWE sites are of a more specialised nature. They also are stored, transported and used in an approved manner and in normal use do not pose a hazard to the public. Details of potential Hazards at AWE with potential Off-Site consequences are detailed later in the plan.

The materials used include the radioactive materials plutonium, uranium and tritium. Of these, plutonium is potentially the most hazardous.

Both sites also contain separate explosives areas where conventional explosive components are manufactured and tested. The transportation, use and storage of the explosives at the AWE sites are in compliance with relevant regulations. Explosives are stored in approved and licensed storage magazines.

In common with other MOD establishments that store and process conventional explosives, a "safeguarding map" (used to provide guidance in planning future development) is lodged with the Local Authorities.

2.3 AWE Aldermaston – Site Specific Information

This is the company's headquarters, which covers approximately 660 acres. Formerly a wartime airfield, the site is now a centre providing advanced research, design and manufacturing facilities.

On a 'routine' working day approximately 5000 staff are on the site.

Associated mapping Ordnance Survey Maps:

- (a) OS Landranger Newbury & Wantage, Sheet 174, 1:50,000
- (b) OS Landranger Reading & Windsor, Sheet 175, 1:50,000

Unlike many other nuclear establishments AWE Aldermaston is located in a mixed urban and rural area of Berkshire. To the South of it the major community of Tadley and to the North the not insignificant community of Aldermaston. Within the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone (DEPZ) itself there are a significant number of types of premises including:

- (a) Residential
- (b) Commercial with a number of business parks in close proximity.
- (c) Schools

- (d) Care Homes
- (e) Caravan Sites
- (f) Farms
- (g) Leisure centres.

In addition the location has a number of main roads running through it including A340 in addition to the smaller rural road network and those in the housing areas. There are also a number of footpaths and community parks in the area.

2.4 AWE Burghfield – Site Specific Information

AWE Burghfield, a former munitions factory, occupies a 225 acre site and is responsible for the complex final assembly and maintenance of the warheads while in service, as well as their decommissioning.

On a 'routine' working day approximately 1500 staff are on the site.

Associated mapping Ordnance Survey Maps

- (a) OS Landranger Newbury & Wantage, Sheet 174, 1:50,000
- (b) OS Landranger Reading & Windsor, Sheet 175, 1:50,000

There are no major population centres within the AWE Burghfield Detailed Emergency Planning Zone (DEPZ). The area around the site is more rural in nature than AWE Aldermaston. It does however have a number of premises including:

- (a) Residential
- (b) Commercial with a number of business parks in close proximity.
- (c) Farms

Background information in relation to the geography and demographics can be found on the West Berkshire District Councils website.

[Mapping](#)
[Demographics](#)

2.5 Possible Incidents

As a result of the processes and materials held on the site(s) AWE is subject to inspection by the Inspectors of Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) who must be satisfied as to the safety of processes and plant handling radioactive and toxic materials. Nuclear Site Licensing was granted in 1997 and both sites are visited regularly by Inspectors from ONR. The processes carried out at the sites also require compliance with the Explosive

Regulations 2014, the Control of Major Accidents Hazards Regulations 2015 (COMAH), the Ionising Radiations Regulations 2017 and the Radiation Emergency Preparedness and Public Information Regulations 2001 (REPPPIR).

There are a number of systems that are in place in order to prevent, as far as possible, an incident from occurring in the first place. These systems employed by the operator are monitored by the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) Inspectors who can use enforcement powers as necessary to ensure the systems employed are satisfactory. As a result failures in plant, process or research operations should be significantly reduced and therefore the risk to the public outside the sites should also be reduced.

It should be noted that the following incidents are **not possible**:

- (a) An explosion resulting in a nuclear yield is not possible by virtue of the safety features in the design of the weapon
- (b) A reactor accident with off-site consequences is also not possible as neither site has an operating nuclear reactor with a significant core inventory of fission products. (The "Herald" nuclear reactor at AWE Aldermaston was closed in the 1980s and its nuclear fuel removed from the site).

A Hazard Identification and Risk Evaluation (HIRE) for each of the AWE Aldermaston and Burghfield sites have been conducted as required by REPPPIR. Copies of these assessments are available on the AWE website. A reference accident for each of the sites has been identified as an output from the HIRE and forms the basis for this detailed emergency planning.

The reference accident for AWE Aldermaston has been defined as:

'a seismic event leading to consequential fires causing simultaneous loss of containment in multiple facilities with an unfavourable wind direction that would cause cumulative doses from two separate facilities'

The reference accident for AWE Burghfield has been defined as:

'a seismic event leading to catastrophic building collapse and consequential explosions causing simultaneous loss of containment.'

Whatever the cause, if the multiple containment barriers (defence in depth) in a radioactive materials handling facility were breached, a major fire might disperse radioactive material in particulate form into the atmosphere. Any of the materials handled at the AWE sites (plutonium, uranium and tritium) might therefore be involved.

Details regarding plutonium, uranium, and tritium are in [Section 5.1](#). An accident involving the dispersion of plutonium would present the greatest potential hazard to the public if it were to occur.

In general, there is no need and therefore no plans for the issuing for iodide tablets (stable iodine) as unlike, in a reactor incident, they are of no benefit in the event of a plutonium, uranium or tritium release.

The maximum estimated dose to a member of the public as a result of the reference accident for AWE Aldermaston is 16.9 milliSieverts (mSv) and for AWE Burghfield is 260 mSv.

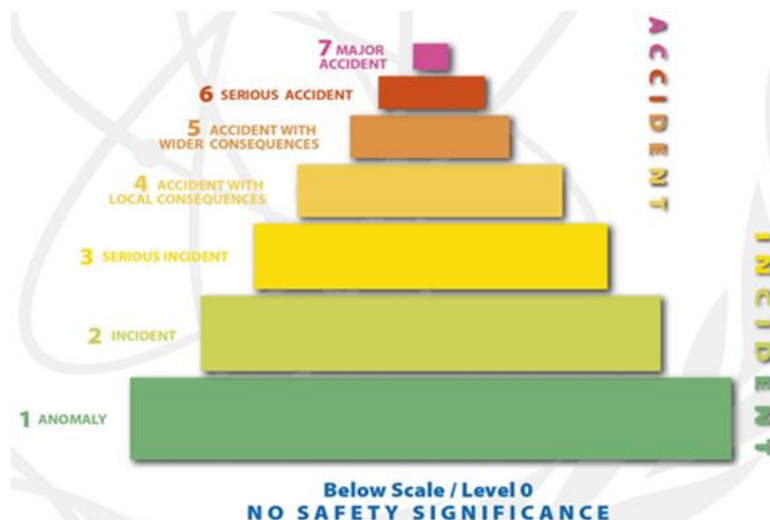
2.6 Magnitude of Accident

The International Nuclear & Radiological Events Scale (INES) was introduced in 1990 by the [International Atomic Energy Agency](#) (IAEA) in order to enable prompt communication of [safety](#) significance information in case of [nuclear accidents](#). The primary purpose of INES is to facilitate communication and understanding between the technical community, the media and the public on the safety significance of events. The aim is to keep the public as well as nuclear authorities accurately informed on the occurrence and consequences of reported events

A number of criteria and indicators are defined to assure coherent reporting of [nuclear events](#) by different official authorities. There are 7 levels on the INES scale; 3 [incident](#)-levels and 4 [accident](#)-levels

Although an accident caused by a failure in plant, process, research or production operations should not endanger the public outside the site, it is possible that an accident, with consequences extending beyond an AWE site boundary might occur. It is considered that the AWE sites may result in an incident of no higher than Level 5 on the INES Scale.

The scale is detailed below:



Section Three

3 Plan Activation & Immediate Actions

3.1 IMMEDIATE ACTIONS – Primary Notification Cascade

If you are being alerted regarding an off-site incident follow the activation procedure below for the callout notifications using contacts stored on ResilienceDirect.

Notifying Agency	Agencies Notified
AWE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thames Valley Police (TVP) • MOD incl Military Coordinating Authority (MCA) Staff • ONR • Environment Agency (Radiation Incident Hotline) • Royal Berkshire Fire & Rescue Service (RBFRS) • South Central Ambulance Service (SCAS) • West Berkshire District Council • BT • Public Telephone Altering System
Thames Valley Police Control Room	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hampshire Constabulary and other Police Forces if required • West Berkshire District Council • SCAS • RBFRS • Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) – Resilience and Emergency Division (RED) • TVP Strategic Coordinating Centre (SCC) Activation incl: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highways England • British Transport Police (BTP) • Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) if No Fly Zone required.
Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Safety Executive • Environment Agency • Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service • Met Office • West Berkshire District Council
Hampshire Constabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per their normal Major Incident Plan
South Central Ambulance Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Health England Centre South East • NHS England On call (Thames Valley and Hampshire) • Designated Receiving Hospitals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Royal Berkshire Hospital • Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust on call
Public Health England South East	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Health England – Centre for Radiation, Chemical and Environmental Hazards (CRCE)
NHS England South (South Central)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCG On-call for affected area • Berkshire West CCG • North Hampshire CCG

Notifying Agency	Agencies Notified
NHS England (Wessex) Area Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHS England (South)
Designated Receiving Hospital Royal Berkshire Hospital Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCG On-call for affected area • Berkshire West CCG • North Hampshire CCG
ONR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
West Berkshire District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Berkshire Director of Public Health (DPH) & Consultant for Emergency Planning (EP) • Hampshire County Council as appropriate • Reading Borough Council as appropriate • Wokingham Borough Council as appropriate • Any schools and nurseries in WBDC area • Any residential care homes in WBDC area • MHCLG - Resilience and Emergency Division • Food Standards Agency • Thames Water • Canal & River Trust • Network Rail • Highways England • Voluntary Sector as necessary
Other neighbouring Local Authorities as necessary: Hampshire County Council (for Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council (BDBC)) for AWE (A) Reading BC for AWE (B) Wokingham BC for AWE (B)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any schools and nurseries in affected area • Any residential care homes in affected area • Ward & Parish Council Members • Normal activation
Resilience and Emergency Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabinet Office as required by scale of event.
MCA Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOD Headquarters (HQ)
MOD HQ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ONR • HQ Department of Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) – DEFRA to notify Radiological Incident Monitoring Network (RIMNET) & FSA Out of Hours (OOH) • HQ FSA • HQ Environment Agency • HQ Department of Health and Social Care

3.2 Incident Categories

Should an incident occur at an AWE site then the following categories are used:

Descriptor	Description	Examples (<i>not exhaustive</i>)	Scale of Activation
IN FACILITY INCIDENT	Any incident which requires only local emergency arrangements to be activated and has no consequences extending beyond the facility boundary	Local spillage of hazardous material not extending beyond facility boundary. Industrial accident causing casualties but no other non-localised hazards.	On-site response Others informed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOD • Regulators • West Berkshire District Council for info & onward cascade if necessary. NO ACTIVATION OF THIS PLAN REQUIRED
ON-SITE EMERGENCY	Any incident that requires emergency management at site level and has consequences extending beyond facility boundaries but not beyond the relevant site boundary.	Criticality excursion. Minor release of radioactive material outside a facility boundary. Security incident.	On-site response Others informed for information or action as necessary: FULL NOTIFICATION (by phone and/or email) NO ACTIVATION OF THIS PLAN REQUIRED.
OFF-SITE EMERGENCY	Any incident that has actual or potential NON-RADIOLOGICAL off-site implications.	Significant incident where the hazard extends beyond the site boundary and poses a potential risk and/or causes significant disruption to the public outside the site.	FULL ACTIVATION OF THIS PLAN ACTIVATION OF THIS PLAN AS DEEMED APPROPRIATE BY THAMES VALLEY POLICE BASED ON INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM AWE

Descriptor	Description	Examples (<i>not exhaustive</i>)	Scale of Activation
OFF-SITE RADIATION EMERGENCY	Any incident that has actual or potential off-site RADIOLOGICAL implications.	Incident resulting in an actual or potential release of radioactive material or energy over the site boundary.	FULL ACTIVATION OF THIS PLAN

3.3 SITE SITUATION REPORT (SITREP)

Below is the AWE Incident Reporting Form which would be sent out to professional partners at the start and as necessary during an incident.

SITE SITUATION REPORT (SITREP) AWE EXERCISE/ INCIDENT/ EMERGENCY*	
Time of incident:	At approximately:
Major Emergency Declared	Facility/ On-Site/ Off-Site / Radiation Emergency *
Exact Location	AWE(A) or AWE(B) Facility
Type of Emergency	Concise description.
Hazards	Concise description.
Access	E.g. Direction/ Gate.
Number & Type of Casualties	Estimated number.
Emergency Services Present & Required	Attending/ requested.
Countermeasures	Sheltering in sectors? Notification to community in DEPZ. External Roads closed.
Weather	Wind from degrees +/- degrees, Average speed? Metres/second.
Site Actions	Ministry of Defence Police (MDP) have secured the site Site undercover (sheltering). Cordon Size Gate closures Site Evacuation
Command & Control:	AWE Aldermaston Command Post is activated.* AWE Burghfield Command Post is activated.* Ad hoc/Fall-back Command Post is activated at*
ACTIONS for Agencies:	You are requested to activate the procedures in line with the AWE Off-Site Plan and be prepared to send officers to the SCC and/or the AWE Aldermaston Command Post as set out in the AWE Off-Site Plan.
Shelter Completed by: Date & Time:	

3.4 Actions by on-site Emergency Managers

The following tables show the activation processes which would be initiated by the Emergency Manager (A) or Emergency Manager (B) and the off-site plan implications/actions.

3.5 On-site plan implications only – no off-site risk

Actions on-site	Off-site Implications
a. Alarms are raised across the site b. There are a number of local onsite alerting signals that apply	a. These systems are periodically tested which on occasions can be heard outside the site (depending on the wind direction)

<p>to a single building or a small group of buildings including public address messages</p> <p>c. These alerts are for the staff, contractors and visitors on-site.</p>	<p>b. no action is necessary by the public if such signals or messages are overheard in this way at any time</p> <p>c. These tests are informed to the local community via representation on the Local Liaison Committee (LLC).</p>
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3.6 Off-site implications

Actions on-site by AWE	Off-site Implications
<p>Assessment & Activation</p> <p>a. If alerting signals do sound (not a routine test), or if any event occurred that might have caused public disquiet (such as visible smoke or emergency service activity) or any other more significant off-site consequences then AWE will recommend activation of this plan to Thames Valley Police</p> <p>b. AWE will activate MOD response (NARO).</p>	<p>a. Thames Valley Police will formally activate this plan using cascade details in the contacts directory</p> <p>b. Following the initial notification as per cascade then each organisation would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Activate its own call-out and notification procedures to ensure that all appropriate National Agencies or Organisations, Local Authorities and internal procedures are notified of the emergency o Activate own agency plan <p>c. Ensure the relevant staff are activated to attend the relevant multi-agency locations including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Strategic Coordinating Centre (TVP SCC) covering roles in the: o Strategic Coordinating Group (SCG) o Scientific & Technical Advisory Cell (STAC) o Recovery Working Group (RWG) o Media and support as necessary o and other sub groups as set up <p>d. Ensure the relevant staff are activated to attend the multi-agency Tactical Coordinating Group (TCG)</p> <p>e. Ensure the relevant staff are activated to staff the Aldermaston Command Post (ACP) at the Aldermaston site as requested</p> <p>f. Ensure the relevant staff are activated to staff their own agencies emergency operations centres/incident rooms</p> <p>g. Ensure the relevant trained staff attend site.</p>
<p>Information</p> <p>AWE will provide information to those agencies it makes initial contact with confirming:</p> <p>a. The details of the incident</p> <p>b. A provisional categorisation</p> <p>c. Follow up Situation Report (SITREP) via email/ ResilienceDirect and/or fax.</p>	<p>Agencies would respond accordingly under their roles and responsibilities.</p>
<p>Warn & Inform Public</p>	<p>Community to follow advice provided</p>

Actions on-site by AWE	Off-site Implications
<p>In the event of a radiation emergency, AWE will also activate a telephone alerting system to give early warning to members of the public in the locality and to advise on the initial countermeasures to be taken. This information will include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. A notification that there is an incident at the relevant AWE site b. Advice to remain inside with windows and doors closed (sheltering) c. Advice to listen to local radio and television for Public Service Broadcasts. 	<p>Note: the AWE telephone alerting system is run as an 'opt-out' basis only; only those individuals or organisations that specifically request that their details are removed from the system are excluded from the system database.</p>
<p>Media Plan</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. AWE will initiate the agreed media plan with TVP b. AWE Emergency Managers will issue some pre agreed press releases with basic information and advice which should be based on the type of incident and the potential hazards until such time as the SCG at the TVP SCC is up and running. 	<p>Once the off-site emergency arrangements are activated Thames Valley Police will coordinate the media information including the emergency media briefing centre as required. Messages advising the public of the action to be taken may be broadcast in a number of ways including radio, television and via the internet. Note: Further information on warning & informing is in Section 5.17 in this plan.</p>

3.7 Quick Guide to Local and National Actions

Local Actions	National Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incident occurs (Site Emergency Plan and Procedures activated). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notify Lead Government Department (LGD) - MOD and ONR (operator).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Radiation emergency (on-site or off-site) declared (operator). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiate call-out of key duty personnel: LGD - MOD Emergency Control Centre (ECC) ONR Redgrave Court Incident Suite (RCIS) Government Liaison Officer (GLO).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notify local responders (operator) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ONR RCIS declared operational Determine central government response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notification confirmed Declare major incident (Police control) Initiate call-out of local responders (Police control). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MHCLG liaison team deployed to SCC.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide urgent public protection advice (initially operator until STAC has formed) Agree any immediate counter-measures (Police/SCG Chair) Confirm automated alert messaging (if appropriate) Consider immediate public information requirements and social media effect. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LGD - MOD ECC declared operational Cabinet Office/LGD decision on activating Cabinet Office Briefing Room (COBR) and Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE).
<p>Virtual meeting of core initial response SCG members (Police, Fire, Ambulance, Local Authorities).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial COBR meeting.
<p>SCC and Media Support Cell declared operational (core SCC staff present).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial SITREP released.
<p>Issue of initial public information/media release covering urgent protective actions (SCG).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LGD- MOD ECC declared fully operational SAGE mobilised.
<p>Pre first SCG meeting SCG Chair to confirm:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information received from operator Site emergency services in place TCG being activated Potential rest centre requirements Requirement for Media Briefing Centre (MBC) Immediate evacuation actions (if appropriate) Casualty information Security related or not? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal liaison established between national operations centres and deployed Liaison Officer (LO) teams.

Local Actions	National Actions
Receive initial radiation monitoring results at site perimeter/near site (operator).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAGE established • National Coordinating Centre (NCC) established.
Consider virtual STAC teleconference (STAC Chair).	
First SCG meeting. Confirm: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prediction of off-site hazard (reasonable or beyond reasonably foreseeable scenario) • Countermeasures • Other command and control locations • Recovery Coordinating Group (RCG) Chair and recovery process • MBC • Resource issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SITREP update released • Full formal COBR meeting • COBR battle rhythm confirmed
SCC declared fully operational (all organisations present or have established effective communications).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed central government briefing issued.
Issue first public information/media release.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International informing completed.
First situation report to ECC/COBR (SCG Chair).	
STAC fully operational (STAC Chair).	
National departmental and agency LOs including ONR, GLO (and team).	
Before 2 nd SCG meeting confirm: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vulnerable groups at risk • Actual off-site contamination area from survey activity • Advice to schools • Advice to child care • Advice to care homes • Transport availability for evacuation. 	
Second SCG meeting (SCG Chair).	
Issue second public information/media release.	
MBC established.	
Complete radiation monitoring within DEPZ and edge of. Extendibility Zone (SCG Chair, STAC Chair, ONR, PHE CRCE, Operator)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete radiation monitoring within Extendibility Zone, ONR, PHE CRCE, Operator) 	

Local Actions	National Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Establish public health monitoring facility (NHS England, PHE CRCE, Local Authority)	

3.8 *Notification of All Clear*

AWE personnel and other responders will continuously monitor the progress of the release/incident. They will be able to give the SCG up to date information on the affected area.

When the incident has been contained, based on the information provided from the Emergency Controller, and after consultation with the STAC chair, then the SCG will be advised as to when it is safe to start the process of recovery with the aim of returning the public to normal living conditions.

When the SCG determines that conditions are safe for the public and the emergency phase has passed, then the appropriate message will be released by the media briefing centre. If contamination problems exist then the public will be advised accordingly and a remedial/recovery phase invoked and coordinated by the relevant agencies.

Section Four

4 Command and Control

4.1 Overview

During the emergency phase of the off-site response the coordination of the incident will normally be led by a Senior Officer of Thames Valley Police.

Thames Valley Police will normally coordinate the off-site response to an emergency at AWE Aldermaston or Burghfield, using the agreed and tested multi-agency three-tier police led command structure “Operational”, “Tactical” and “Strategic”.

- (a) **Operational Coordinating Group** will be at one or more Forward Control Points (FCP) close to the incident site and the forward controls of the other emergency services. The senior officer present will deploy police resources and liaise with the other emergency services to ensure a coordinated response.
- (b) **Tactical Coordinating Group** (TCG) will be at the most suitable location depending on the site affected and community affected. The decision will be made by the Tactical Commander and will depend on the location and circumstances of the incident. Whichever location is selected the commanders must be satisfied that a robust communications system exists to support their function. The TCG will determine priorities in allocating resources, plan and coordinate when a task will be undertaken, and obtain other resources as required. Liaison Officers from AWE, Thames Valley Police, Hampshire Constabulary, MOD, Fire and Rescue Service (FRS), West Berkshire District Council, Wokingham Borough Council, Reading Borough Council, Basingstoke and Deane Council, Hampshire County Council, South Central Ambulance NHS Foundation Trust and Health organisations as appropriate will attend. In addition an Radiation Protection Advisor (RPA) to support the non-emergency services will normally be requested to attend – sources via PHE CRCE.
- (c) **Strategic Coordinating Group** (SCG) will be established by Thames Valley Police drawing together representatives from all of the organisations in this plan as appropriate. They will assemble to formulate policy and authorise press statements. Each person must be able to make executive decisions in respect of resources within their agency and have the authority to seek the aid of other agencies in support of their role.

More details by way of membership, role and agendas in relation to the SCC [Section 5.6](#).

4.1.1 Decision Making: It should be noted that whilst there is a formal command structure it may take some time for it to be put in place. Therefore the principle of subsidiarity should be followed with the decisions made at the lowest level or closest to where they can have an effect. This does not mean issues should not be raised up but where there are decisions to be made in a timely fashion then they can be without higher authority however regard should be given to this plan and expert advice.

4.1.2 Comprehensive Attendance and Sub Group arrangements. It should also be noted that at the start of the incident not all the agencies, nor all the subgroups will be in place, some will take some time to be fully functioning. Therefore the leads of the groups need to be flexible, and make best use of technology to ensure the correct people and groups are ‘available’.

4.2 Strategic Coordinating Group (SCG) - Sub Groups

In addition to the core SCG based at TVP SCC, and the staff support and liaison officers from the agencies there would also be sub groups working to support the SCG including:

- (a) a multi-agency Scientific and Technical Advisory Cell (STAC),
- (b) a Recovery Coordinating Group (RCG)
- (c) a Media Advisory Cell (MAC)
- (d) an Information Cell (ideally Multi-Agency Information Cell (MAIC))
- (e) a radiation monitoring strategy group – linked to STAC
- (f) a resources cell
- (g) an evacuation cell

There will also be individual agency incident/emergency control rooms at their own locations.

4.3 Scientific and Technical Advisory Cell (STAC)

The multi-agency Scientific and Technical Advisory Cell (STAC) will provide timely and effective technical and health advice to the SCG in order that key decisions can be made. More details by way of membership and role are detailed in [Section 5.7](#).

4.4 Recovery Coordinating Group

The recovery phase of the response will be coordinated by the Local Authorities which would normally be West Berkshire District Council. This multi-agency Recovery Coordinating Group will initially form at the TVP SCC location.

The group will normally be chaired by a Director or Head of Service from West Berkshire District Council.

The membership of the group is detailed in [Section 5.19](#).

4.5 Media Advisory Cell (MAC)

This cell will include the main communication and media advisors to the SCG and may consist of a number of key Communication Officers from a limited number of agencies (primarily TVP, WBDC, AWE & MOD) who will provide advice to their communication officers at their own response locations and develop the media briefing centre details.

4.6 Media Briefing Centre (MBC)

A media briefing centre will normally be set up in order to ensure the press is briefed accurately and in a timely fashion in a safe location. There are a number of potential sites, however, the choice will ultimately be made on the day depending on the site involved and the risks associated with the incident. [Section 5.18](#) provides further details on Communications and the Media Briefing Centre plans.

4.7 Multi-Agency Information Cell (MAIC)

The MAIC, often known as Information Cell, is made up of representatives from agencies that coordinate the situational details of the incident and coordinate the Common Operating Picture (COP). This information is provided to the SCG in order to facilitate the decision making process.

4.8 Radiation Monitoring Strategy Group

This cell could be set up to provide details to the STAC in relation to people and environmental monitoring. Their main aim would be to develop a robust monitoring strategy including sourcing equipment, and specialist officers. It is likely to be chaired by a representative from PHE CRCE.

More details in [Section 5.11](#).

4.9 Resources Cell

This cell would be set up to coordinate the sourcing of specific resources – e.g. transport etc.

4.10 Evacuation Cell

This cell would be put in place should there be a need for an evacuation subsequent to the initial countermeasure of shelter. Any urgent evacuation would be undertaken at operational level due to the risk.

4.11 Responding Agencies' Emergency Control Centres

In addition to an SCG and the groups set up at TVP SCC there will normally be a number of other command and control centres including:

- (a) Multi-agency Tactical controls,
- (b) Individual responding agencies and Government bodies own emergency control rooms. Details of locations of the control rooms are detailed in the action cards for these agencies.

An important agency command and control centre is the one set up on-site at AWE.

The Aldermaston Command Post (ACP) on-site is set up in order to stabilise the incident and to provide information to responding agencies. The ACP will have an advisory team working to the Emergency Manager. The information and activity coordinated from the ACP include:

- (a) Actions to stabilise the incident on the affected site(s).
- (b) Hazard assessments, including computer dispersion modelling, of any release.
- (c) Initial Emergency environmental monitoring both on and off (outside) the incident site would be controlled from this complex.

In addition to AWE staff being present at the SCC the following external organisations would send representatives to the ACP, normally within one hour:

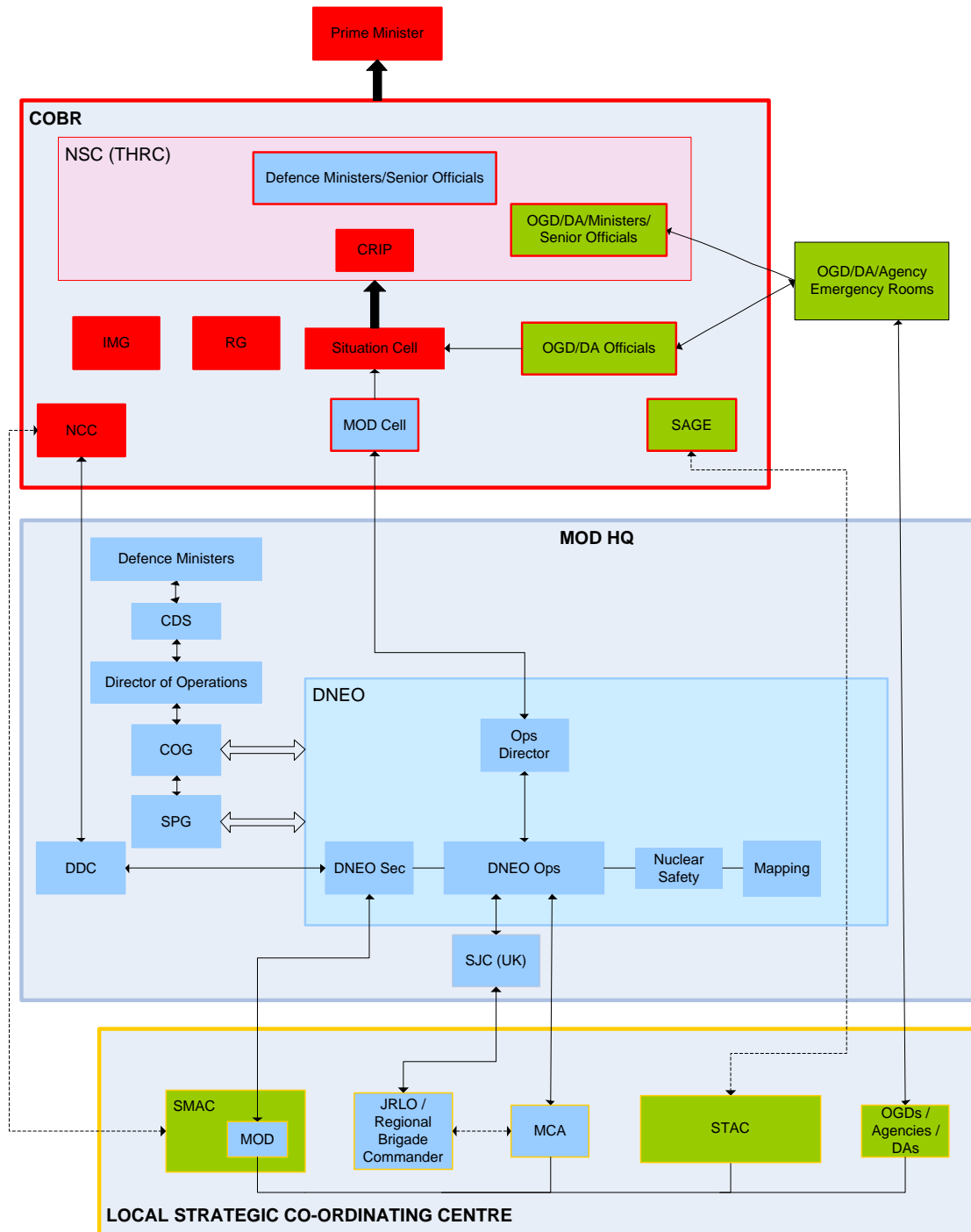
- (a) MOD
- (b) Thames Valley Police
- (c) Royal Berkshire Fire & Rescue Service
- (d) South Central Ambulance NHS Foundation Trust
- (e) West Berkshire District Council Liaison Officers representing the Local Authorities.

The number of control rooms involved will depend on the scale of the incident and its location.

4.12 Full Command and Control Arrangements

Below is a diagram of the full command and control arrangements from Local to National:

Central Government Organisation and Interaction with the Local Strategic Co-ordinating Centre



NSC THRC = National Security Council - Threats, Hazards, Resilience and Contingencies
 COG = Current Operations Group
 SAGE = Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies
 SPG = Strategic Planning Group
 CCT = Current Commitments Team
 SMAC = Strategic Media Advisory Cell

STAC = Scientific & Technical Advice Cell
 NCC = News Co-ordination Centre
 IMG = Impact Management Group
 RG = Recovery Group
 MCA = Military/MOD Co-ordinating Authority
 JRLO = Joint Regional Liaison Officer

Section Five

5 Specific Advice and Information

This section provides details on specific advice and information to facilitate the response to an off-site incident at either AWE site.

5.1 Hazard Information on AWE's Materials – General Hazards

The materials that may potentially pose a hazard to the public are identified in the table below along with potential accident scenarios. Further specific hazard information is provided in the following paragraphs.

Identified Hazard	Scenario	Potential Off-Site Consequence
Asbestos	As many buildings at AWE were constructed in the 1950s and 1960s, asbestos may be released as a result of a conventional fire affecting one of these buildings.	Contamination of individuals and properties with asbestos. Long term risk of ill health as a result of significant exposure. No short term health effects. Potential to displace limited numbers of members of the public for the medium term whilst monitoring and decontamination is completed.
Beryllium	Release of beryllium from a facility may result in contamination of downwind areas. A release of beryllium may be combined with a release of radioactive material	Contamination of individuals and properties with beryllium. Long term risk of ill health as a result of significant exposure. No short term health effects. Potential to displace limited numbers of members of the public for the medium term whilst monitoring and decontamination is completed.
Bulk storage of Transformer Oil	Escape of transformer oil in significant quantities from a facility may result in contamination of areas outside the site boundary.	Environmental pollution of drains and watercourses outside the site boundary.
Environmental pollution by chemicals	A major accident of a chemicals from a delivery vehicle on-site but near to the site boundary may result in environmental contamination outside the site boundary.	Pollution of water courses, possible limited effect on drinking water quality
Explosives	Explosive hazard may result in a cordon being instigated that extends beyond the site boundary.	Projectile hazard may require cordoning and/or evacuation of premises/areas outside the site. Road closures and diversions. Displacement of members of the public for a considerable period.
Fissile Radioactive Material	Criticality incident in certain facility may result in an elevated radiation dose at the site boundary.	Elevated (but not life-threatening) radiation dose rates within very limited areas of the site boundary. Local cordons may be required around limited areas of the site

Identified Hazard	Scenario	Potential Off-Site Consequence
		boundary and may extend across public roads.
Inert Gases	A major accident of an inert gas from a delivery vehicle near to the site boundary may result in an asphyxiating atmosphere outside the site boundary.	Potential asphyxiation of individuals that do not remove themselves or are not removed from the hazard area promptly. Potential requirement for significant cordon around the incident scene requiring short-term evacuation of members of the public.
Natural Gas	The leakage of natural gas on the site may result in a flammable atmosphere outside the site boundary.	Conflagration of flammable atmosphere resulting in blast wave, burns and blast injuries as well as property damage in very limited areas outside the site boundary.
Pressurised cylinders/containers	Reaction of a pressurised container in a fire or other initiating event may result in a projectile hazard outside the site boundary.	Projectile hazard may require evacuation of premises/areas outside the site. Road closures and diversions. Displacement of members of the public for a period of up to 24 hours.
Radioactive Material	Release of radioactive material from a facility may result in contamination of downwind areas outside the site boundary.	Significant downwind radioactive contaminations of individuals, premises, transport routes. Sheltering and subsequent evacuation of potentially contaminated areas may be required, involving the displacement of potentially large numbers of members of the public for an extended period.
Radioactively contaminated water	A release of water potentially contaminated with radioactive material from the Aldermaston or Burghfield sites may result in the contamination of water courses.	Minor pollution of water courses, with possible effect on drinking water quality.
Release of toxic chemicals	A major accident of a toxic chemical from a facility may result in a hazard requiring a cordon extending outside the site boundary.	Respiratory problems, chemical burns in localised areas outside the site boundary. Potential for a cordon requiring evacuation of very limited areas outside the site boundary in the short-term.
Smoke	A significant 'conventional' fire on the site may result in combustion products being	In certain meteorological conditions, toxic smoke may drift downwind and cause respiratory problems in members of the public.

Identified Hazard	Scenario	Potential Off-Site Consequence
	released outside the site boundary.	Traffic restrictions and limited evacuation of downwind areas may be required.
Steam	A major failure of the AWE steam main in certain locations may result in a localised steam (heat) hazard outside the site boundary.	Localised release of steam, high temperatures, poses risk of steam burns to individuals in immediate vicinity. Possible requirement for localised road closure immediately adjacent to the site boundary.

Note the term Major Accident has been used above and relates to the definition provided by COMAH 2015 legislation:

An occurrence will be a major accident if it meets the following three conditions:

- (a) It results from uncontrolled developments at an establishment to which the Regulations apply; and
- (b) It leads to serious danger to human health or to the environment, inside or outside the establishment; and
- (c) It involves one or more dangerous substances defined in the Regulations, irrespective of the quantity involved.

5.2 Radioactive Materials

The following details the radioactive materials on-site.

5.2.1 Plutonium

General Information

Plutonium metal is chemically very reactive and oxidises in moist air (or in a fire) to form plutonium oxide that can exist as fine particles, invisible to the naked eye due to their size, that may become "airborne" and be carried downwind for considerable distances (kilometres). They can land on and "contaminate" surfaces and pose an inhalation hazard. Plutonium oxide is insoluble in water but a water wash will help remove oxide dust particles (simple decontamination) and damp them down to minimise re-suspension. The levels of dispersed material would normally decrease as the distance from the event increased, until they became undetectable.

Radiological Information

Plutonium emits alpha radiation which cannot penetrate more than a few centimetres of air, a film of moisture, intact skin or clothing. It will not cause radiation burns to the skin and external radiation from a cloud or deposits is negligible. Although alpha emitters inhaled or ingested pose a potentially significant radiological hazard.

Health Hazards

If plutonium oxide is breathed in, or enters the body through a cut, then any material that is retained (and not coughed up or washed out) will slowly be dissolved by body fluids and be distributed round the body. Plutonium is taken up by the cells of the bone surfaces and the liver, from where it is slowly excreted over many years in the urine and faeces. Living cells in any organ that is exposed to alpha radiation from plutonium may be killed,

or damaged in such a way that the statistical risk of developing a cancer at some time in the future is increased.

Potential Impact relating to an Off-Site Radiation Emergency

Consideration	Impact from Plutonium
Environmental & Building Issues.	<p>Plutonium could be dispersed as particles of oxide dust into the atmosphere and would be carried along by the prevailing wind to form a "plume" of solid particles, rather like a cloud or plume of smoke.</p> <p>Dispersed radioactive material would fall to earth again; landing on surfaces to produce a fine but invisible layer of radioactive material loosely called "contamination". The area involved would extend from the origin of the event within the site to areas downwind from it. The levels of dispersed material would normally decrease as the distance from the event increased, until they became undetectable.</p> <p>Later, any activity that disturbed deposited plutonium oxide particles might lead to its re-suspension in the air and to the inhalation of airborne particles. The magnitude of the hazard would depend on the level of deposited material, the proportion of it re-suspended and the length of time for which an individual was exposed to it.</p>
Human Health Issues.	<p>Dispersed material containing plutonium could present a hazard if it were to find its way into the human body. This could occur if airborne particles of plutonium oxide were to be inhaled from the passing cloud.</p>
Food & Water Issues.	<p>If foodstuffs or water contaminated with deposited material were consumed, radioactive materials might be ingested and enter the body.</p>

Tactical Information

Precautions to be taken at or near the incident site:

Plutonium poses an internal contamination hazard. It can enter the body via the following routes:

- (a) Breathing in contaminated material from the cloud or re-suspended dust.
- (b) Absorption through wounds (cuts, grazes).
- (c) Ingestion of contaminated material e.g. by eating contaminated foods.

To minimise the hazard several precautions can be taken:

- (a) Approach from upwind (where possible)
- (b) Stay upwind and out of any smoke or vapour from the incident.
- (c) Use respiratory protection to protect yourself from inhaling plutonium oxide dust, Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus provides the best protection in heavily contaminated areas. Even a simple dust mask will provide worthwhile protection elsewhere
- (d) Report any wounds or cuts at once (existing cuts should be covered)
- (e) Forbid eating, drinking or smoking whilst working in the forward area
- (f) Wear "protective clothing".

- i. Any clothing that will keep plutonium oxide off the skin and that after use can be removed and bagged so as to leave dust behind will do
- ii. Emergency Services uniforms, overalls, chemical suits etc. will provide protection against plutonium oxide dust and the feebly penetrating radiation emitted by plutonium
- iii. Clothing once worn in the affected area should be treated as "contaminated" and should be monitored before reuse. To prevent dust or "contamination" being shaken loose from clothing it should be folded or rolled in on itself during undressing. Ideally personnel should be monitored after undressing but should in any case shower and don clean clothing when it is possible to do so.

Operational Information

For use off-site at the time of the incident

- (a) Emergency services responding to the incident should approach from an upwind direction, and stay upwind of the plume
- (b) Personnel off-site and in the downwind sheltering zone should minimise the time spent operating in the open
- (c) Where possible shelter inside vehicles with cabin air intakes turned off and windows closed
- (d) Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus, respirators or dust masks will provide protection against the risk of inhaling radioactive materials. All organisations with tasks in the affected area are responsible for ensuring that their staff are trained in using appropriate respiratory protection
- (e) Emergency services responding to the incident off-site should have their uniforms monitored for contamination
- (f) Urgent evacuation of personnel would be confined to areas of the AWE site. The public would be advised to shelter downwind of the incident. This is pre-planned advice that is subject to revision once STAC are in place
- (g) District monitoring will be initiated to determine the spread of contamination.

Strategic Information

Longer term consequences of a release of Plutonium

- (a) Material deposited downwind could pose an inhalation hazard by re-suspension
- (b) Evacuation of residents from affected areas downwind might be advised for quite some time to facilitate clean up
- (c) Monitoring of crops and foodstuffs (e.g. milk) in the affected area will be carried out and FSA might ban their consumption. Contamination of the water supply is less likely - the water authorities would have to take a decision regarding the use of water
- (d) Counselling of local residents, the Emergency Services involved and wide scale monitoring of people and of the local area (and beyond) to provide reassurances is likely to be required.

5.2.2 Uranium

General Information

Enriched Uranium is similar chemically to plutonium, but significantly less hazardous. Like plutonium it forms an insoluble particulate dust. Any precautions taken against plutonium will be more than adequate for any dispersion of enriched uranium.

Depleted Uranium is very much less hazardous than enriched uranium. Again any precautions taken for plutonium will be more than adequate for depleted uranium dispersion.

It emits feebly penetrating alpha particles. In an incident it would behave similarly to plutonium and could be dispersed by fire as particles of oxide. Particles might be inhaled from the passing cloud or by disturbing (resuspending) deposited material. Radioactive material might be ingested if contaminated substances were consumed.

5.2.3 Tritium

General Information

Tritium is a radioactive form of hydrogen gas. Tritium gas, like hydrogen gas is flammable and in a fire would burn readily to form radioactive tritium oxide and might form tritiated water by replacing an ordinary hydrogen molecule in water vapour

In the absence of fire the gas (like hydrogen) will disperse upwards rapidly due to its very low density and be of little hazard. Tritium might replace some of the hydrogen in water, oils and plastics and contaminate them.

Radiological Information

Tritium emits very low energy radiation, beta particles that have very low penetrating power. The radiation is unlikely to penetrate intact skin and clothing and will not cause radiation burns to the skin. External radiation from a passing cloud or from deposited material would be negligible.

Health Hazards

Human body tissues are composed largely of water. If tritium enters the body either as a gas (inhalation) or as tritiated water or contaminated food (ingestion) it will spread quickly through the body water and tissues. It is excreted in the urine and the detection limit in urine is a small fraction of the level believed to be of any radiological significance. If tritium is taken into the body, after about ten days the natural turnover of body water will reduce the amount by half. Drinking more fluids will increase the rate of tritium excretion.

Potential Impact relating to an off-site emergency

Consideration	Impact from Tritium
Environment & Buildings	<p>Tritium that remained in the form of gas would behave similarly to hydrogen and would disperse rapidly and upwards due to its very low density.</p> <p>Both tritiated water and tritium gas might be carried along by the prevailing wind to form a “plume” or cloud. The water content of the atmosphere and the turnover of water in the environment would ensure the rapid dispersion and dilution of any tritium or tritiated water that was released, because of this it is difficult to envisage significant levels of tritium contamination occurring outside the AWE site involved</p>
Human Health	<p>Tritium emits very low energy beta particles that are unlikely to penetrate clothing or skin. External radiation from the passing cloud or from deposited material containing tritium would be negligible.</p> <p>Dispersed tritium containing material could present a hazard if it were to find its way into the human body. This could occur if airborne tritiated material was inhaled from the passing cloud, was absorbed through the skin, or if contaminated foodstuffs were consumed.</p> <p>If tritium containing material was inhaled or ingested it would be rapidly dispersed throughout the body tissues (which themselves consist largely of water) and would be excreted in the urine. Measures can be taken to promote excretion of urine (and hence of tritium) and minimise the consequences of any intake of tritium that may have occurred.</p>

Tactical Information

Precautions to be taken at or near the incident site:

Tritium presents an immediate hazard in one of two ways:

- (a) Breathing in tritium or tritiated material as the cloud passes.
- (b) Absorption through the skin

To minimise the hazard several precautions can be taken:

- (a) Approach from upwind (where possible).
- (b) Stay upwind and out of any smoke or vapour from the incident.
- (c) Use Self Contained Breathing Apparatus at the scene to protect against the risk of inhaling tritium or tritium containing material. A dust mask is no use against tritium.
- (d) Cover exposed skin surfaces to reduce the risk of skin absorption. (Chemical suits or waterproof clothing and gloves will give good protection, can be washed down with water and bagged for later checking or disposal).
- (e) A urine sample taken after the event will indicate whether any intake of tritium has occurred.

Operational Information

For use off-site at the time of the incident:

- (a) Emergency services responding to the incident should approach from an upwind direction, and stay upwind of the plume.

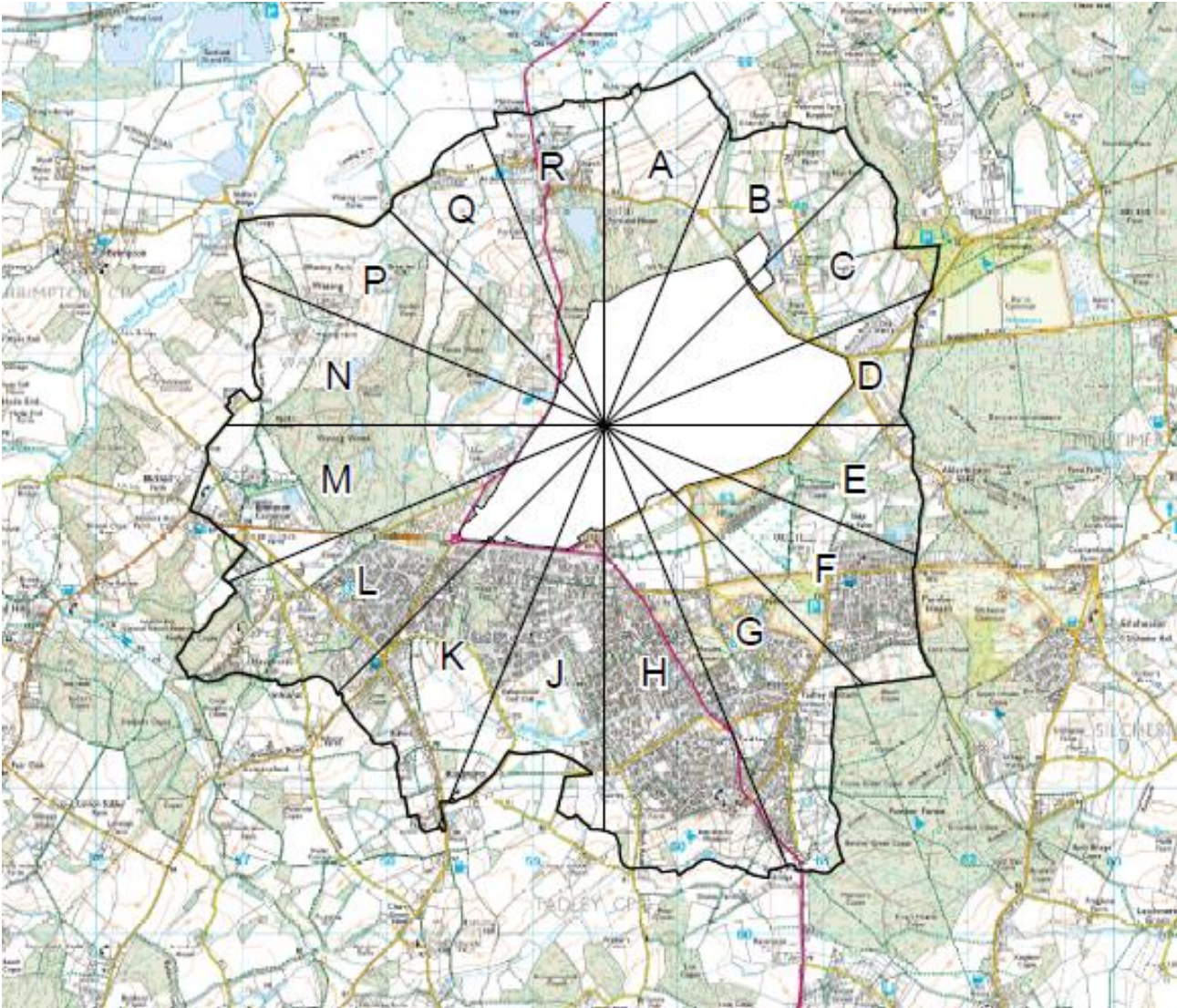
- (b) Personnel off-site and in the downwind sheltering zone should minimise the time spent operating in the open: where possible shelter inside or in vehicles with air intakes turned off.
- (c) Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus will provide protection against inhalation hazards if work in the downwind plume near to the scene is necessary for a prolonged period
- (d) The public will be advised to shelter downwind of the incident
- (e) Emergency service vehicles should be cleaned before leaving the area
- (f) Monitoring will be carried out to take water samples and vegetation for analysis.

Strategic Information

Longer term consequences of a release of Tritium

- (a) If a release of Tritium gas occurred it would be widely dispersed, combining with water vapour to form tritiated water. This and any tritiated water released would be deposited downwind of the incident. Due to the dilution effect of water already present in the environment significant off-site contamination is considered extremely unlikely
- (b) Monitoring of water supplies and vegetation would indicate whether significant contamination had occurred
- (c) Downwind of the incident it may be necessary to temporarily ban the consumption of fruit and vegetables grown in the affected area
- (d) It may also be necessary to temporarily ban the consumption of milk produced by cows grazing on affected pasture land.

5.3 AWE Aldermaston DEPZ

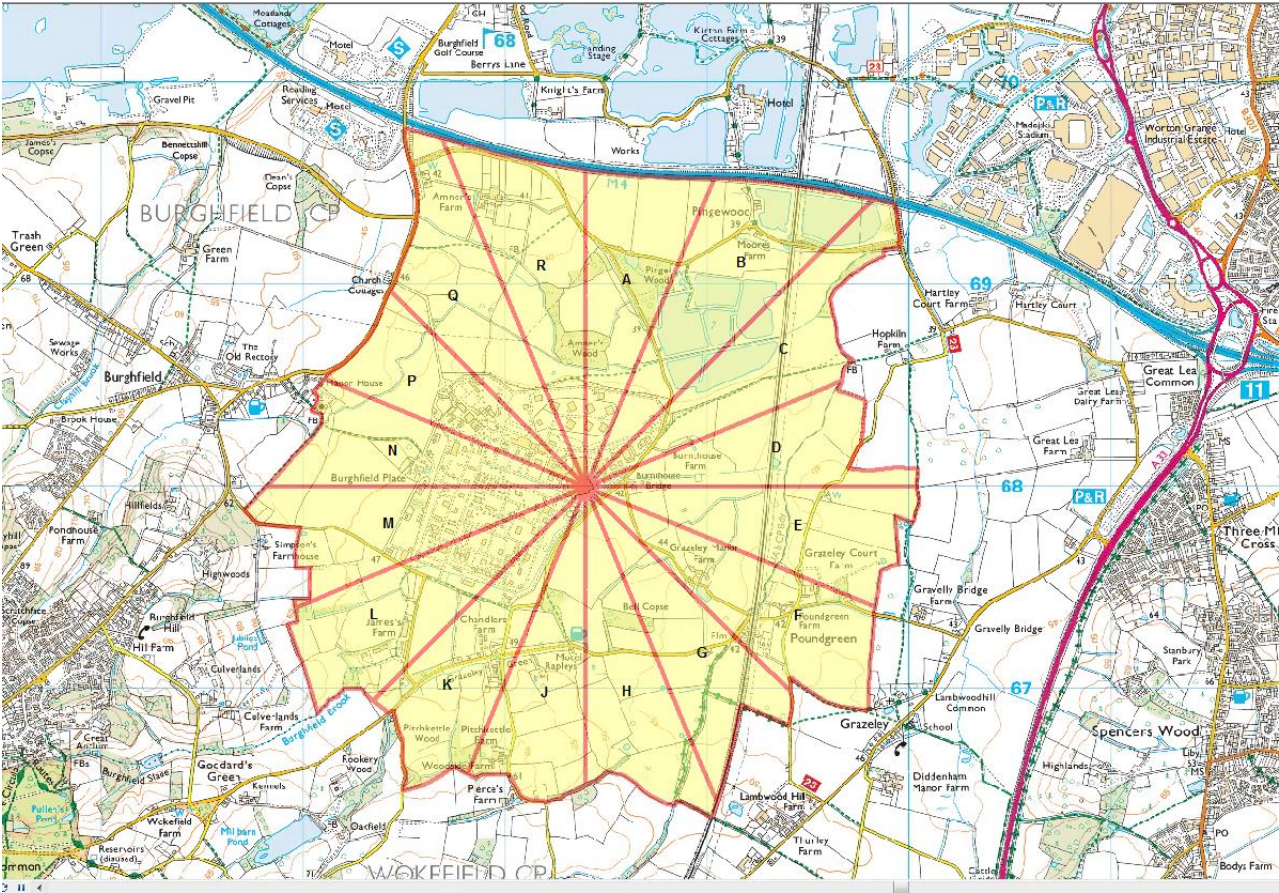


5.3.1 Aldermaston DEPZ Population Data and Area information

Source ONR as at 2018

Sector ID	Residential Properties	Residential (night time term time)	Residential (night time school holidays)	Residential (day time term time)	Residential (day time school holidays)	Work places	Workers	Care Homes	Care Home Residents	Schools	School Pupils	Childcare Population	Primary Schools	Primary School Pupils	Secondary Schools	Secondary School Pupils	Hospitals	Major Sports Venues	Farms
A	1	2	2	1	1	117	2787	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
B	11	25	26	8	12	113	3070	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
C	10	23	23	8	11	115	2677	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
D	62	143	144	47	68	95	4327	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
E	29	61	62	25	31	91	4537	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
F	846	1910	1944	776	992	67	3095	0	0	0	0	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
G	948	2255	2287	864	1166	60	1622	1	37	1	41	0	1	41	0	0	0	0	1
H	2503	5845	5900	1886	2685	55	1101	0	0	3	766	237	3	766	0	0	0	0	0
J	919	2251	2272	783	1106	48	1088	1	5	1	303	62	1	303	0	0	0	0	0
K	897	2109	2127	838	1115	57	1204	2	22	0	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
L	764	1899	1916	711	966	61	1377	2	14	1	921	74	0	0	1	921	0	0	0
M	85	206	209	72	101	68	1219	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
N	5	12	12	4	6	61	775	0	0	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
P	17	41	41	14	20	59	564	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Q	8	19	19	6	9	48	859	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
R	147	347	350	112	160	87	2743	0	0	2	223	40	2	223	0	0	0	0	1

5.4 AWE Burghfield DEPZ



5.4.1 Burghfield DEPZ Population Data and Area information

Source ONR as at 2018

Sector	Residential Properties	Residential (night time term time)	Residential (night time school holidays)	Residential (day time term time)	Residential (day time school holidays)	Workplaces	Workers	Care Homes	Schools	Childcare Count	Childcare Population	Primary Schools	Secondary Schools	Hospitals	Major Sports Venues	Farms
A	0	0	0	0	0	15	1117	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
B	7	18	18	5	8	15	1129	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
C	2	5	5	2	3	20	958	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
D	0	0	0	0	0	32	797	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
E	6	16	16	5	7	41	1043	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
F	20	52	53	16	25	42	1061	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
G	2	5	5	2	3	32	818	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
H	0	0	0	0	0	19	469	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
J	4	10	11	4	6	16	354	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
K	25	65	68	25	38	18	232	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
L	4	10	11	4	6	19	704	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
M	3	8	8	2	3	15	1107	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
N	5	13	13	4	5	18	1108	0	0	1	60	0	0	0	0	0
P	4	8	8	2	3	15	1029	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Q	4	10	10	3	4	15	1080	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
R	3	8	8	2	3	15	1118	0	0	1	30	0	0	0	0	1

5.5 *Extendibility*

This plan provides detailed information in relation to the requirement to plan in detail for the area defined by the DEPZ which is based on HIRE reports and on the basis of reasonably foreseeable accidents (i.e. the design basis accident or reference accident). Extendibility planning is deemed as good practice and related to the concept having arrangements in place, based on those for the DEPZ, to respond to events that are prolonged, or extend beyond the reasonably foreseeable accident.

In considering extendibility in relation to the two AWE sites preplanning has taken place. As a result areas of extendibility have been zoned on maps to allow ready consideration of the areas affected. The mapping below details the potential zones of extendibility for the AWE (A) site to be 15km and for AWE (B) site to be 12km. These areas of extendibility are reviewed on each revision of this plan to allow for changes in population density and sites of interest such as vulnerable people locations in relation to the capability of the responding agencies to respond. This will include changes due to Development Control with respect to large scale, sites of interest development and increases by 'creep' (one or two small scale developments but many of them).

Importantly the area of extendibility for both AWE sites would have a significant impact on the community affected and the responders in that, unlike many other nuclear sites, there are large urban areas which could be affected including Reading, Basingstoke and Newbury. Therefore there will be significant challenges.

It is important to note that there is not a detailed plan due to the improbability of such a radiation emergency. The information below provides guidance and considerations to responders should there be a beyond reasonably foreseeable radiation emergency. Should there be a radiation emergency which is assessed to be affecting an area greater than the DEPZ then the following actions and considerations would be put in place:

Responder Actions: The responders detailed in this plan will continue as described in relation to their normal responsibilities, unless otherwise directed via the normal command and control structure.

The Strategic Coordinating Group will continually assess the requirements for all the emergency and precautionary countermeasures. This may require consideration of an extension of the area to ensure maximum protection and reassurance.

Sd

Contingency Plans: A wide number of contingency plans are maintained in a wide range of organisations to deal with various civil emergencies from the industrial accident to natural disasters such as flooding. This plan along with these other 'supporting' plans should be used in an extendibility emergency.

Countermeasures: Key to the safety of the communities affected in the area of extendibility is the fact that the best countermeasure for the vast majority will be to take shelter. As a result a means of communicating and providing assurance is critical at an early stage.

Considerations: Consider the implications and issues relating to the area affected. These considerations may include the following:

- (a) Means of warning the public
- (b) Public information

- (c) Population sizes
- (d) Vulnerable people including 'closed communities'
- (e) Businesses/factories etc.
- (f) Transport hubs
- (g) Transport diversions – these will need to be extensive and some distance from the site
- (h) Information points, reception and rest centres
- (i) Resources – staff - a larger area will have a larger impact
- (j) Resources – equipment
- (k) Mutual aid.

These above considerations are already in place for the DEPZ but need to be considered for the wider area. Other considerations are set out in the table below;

Subject	Considerations	Actions
Time of day /day of week impacts	<p>A day time emergency would have a greater impact on response than night time.</p> <p>With the exception of between the hours of 0100-0500hrs any other time of day would have minimal impact since the area is busy at all times.</p> <p>There would be an equal impact if the emergency was at weekends since less people working generally in the community however the locations involved are high density in relation to leisure activities.</p>	<p>Activate LRF Communications Plan to ensure quick, effective, accurate, joined up communications to allow those in the wider area to take shelter quickly.</p>
Size & Type of Community	<p>The larger the area and the greater the population involved then the more challenges there will be due to sheer scale.</p> <p>Different communities will have different challenges see below.</p>	<p>Urgent Mutual Aid requests to be put in place by each agency as necessary. This could be supported by the Government Liaison Officer or relevant Government Departments to allow additional resources to be sourced to support.</p>
Variations in Local Communities by way of Culture	<p>Communities will vary in their ability to understand and work together therefore to treat them all the same would be wrong.</p> <p>Reading is an urban setting as is Newbury & Basingstoke however they are very different by way of the multi-cultural challenges.</p>	<p>Assess the potential community impacts by understanding the communities by:</p> <p>Engaging local responders.</p> <p>Assessing the community by reviewing community information for the area affected:</p> <p>West Berkshire click here</p> <p>BDBC click here</p> <p>RBC click here</p> <p>WBC click here</p>

Subject	Considerations	Actions
Vulnerable communities	<p>Within any community there will be vulnerable people. These people can be in closed communities (schools, care homes, hospitals etc.); individuals in their own homes who are known to the social care/health care environment, those in their own homes who do not have support but are still vulnerable.</p> <p>The impacts of an extendibility event setting in relation to vulnerable people include:</p> <p>Identifying where the people are (using Vulnerable People Plans and Information Sharing Protocols) RAG rating the support needed in short, medium terms;</p> <p>Deciding on the support needed and how to provide it – which could be resource intensive, have issues with staff and equipment going into contaminated areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activate relevant Vulnerable People Plan. • Activate relevant Information Sharing Protocol • Set up a Vulnerable People Coordination Group at TCG level at least if not at SCG. • Quickly identify closed communities • Gather data regarding vulnerable people in the community and assess requirements and support needed.
Communities response actions	<p>The response of the communities cannot be guaranteed. Whilst the aim would be for people to respond as requested there is a risk that: People would not listen to the advice – or don't trust it so do not act as requested.</p> <p>People are less knowledgeable about the site the further away they are and believe the worst – and try to leave the area.</p> <p>There is an assumption that people are in or near home or a suitable building to shelter in.</p> <p>People may not understand due to learning difficulties, language barriers or are visiting the area and don't realise they are affected.</p> <p>As time goes on people will become more anxious and the risk of not staying in shelter increases – creating more issues.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activate LRF Communications Plan to ensure quick, effective, accurate, joined up communications. • Activate Vulnerable People plan to support those with difficulties in receiving information via media. • Activate Supporting People and Rest Centre plans to consider options in relation to self-evacuation.

Subject	Considerations	Actions
	The impacts would be additional requirement for rest centres, impact on health services away for the area.	
Impact on tourism, events and local community attractions	<p>The area has a significant number of tourism attractions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kennet & Avon Canal – transient population • The River Thames • Highclere Castle, Nr Newbury • Reading Town Centre – incl The Oracle • Basingstoke Town Centre • Newbury Town Centre • Englefield House • Basildon Park • Royal family relations • Other Heritage sites <p>Significant event locations within the area of extendibility include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newbury Show Ground • Newbury Racecourse • Reading Festival • Madjeski Stadium, Reading 	<p>Review events in the area taking place or due to take place by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking with the local responders and/or checking online events information for the areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ West Berkshire here. ○ WBC click here ○ RBC click here ○ Hampshire click here • Checking mapping of locations, historical areas etc. online: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ West Berkshire here.
Impact on utility outages resulting in Public Health issues	<p>The knock on consequences of utility failures could be significant not only for lack of availability but the impacts:</p> <p>Waste / sewage issues resulting in public health issues</p> <p>Power resulting in not being able to use media so readily for messages</p> <p>BT lines out – no communications within the DEPZ.</p>	<p>Activate utility companies as part of the notification process.</p>
Responder vulnerabilities	<p>The responders may become vulnerable due to the assets they have in the areas affected</p> <p>Many responders will have assets in the areas affected which could include:</p> <p>Emergency Services Stations Agency Depots Control Rooms Water or Waste treatment plants Trunk networks for road and/or rail.</p> <p>The impact on these assets will vary but may include not being able to use all or some of the assets with the knock on consequences of no water supply; gridlock around the transport network,</p>	<p>Responders to consider in their Business Continuity Plans.</p> <p>Responders may have to be flexible in response if 'normal' assets are not available.</p> <p>Details of the locations of specific responder locations and in which sector is tabled below in this section.</p>

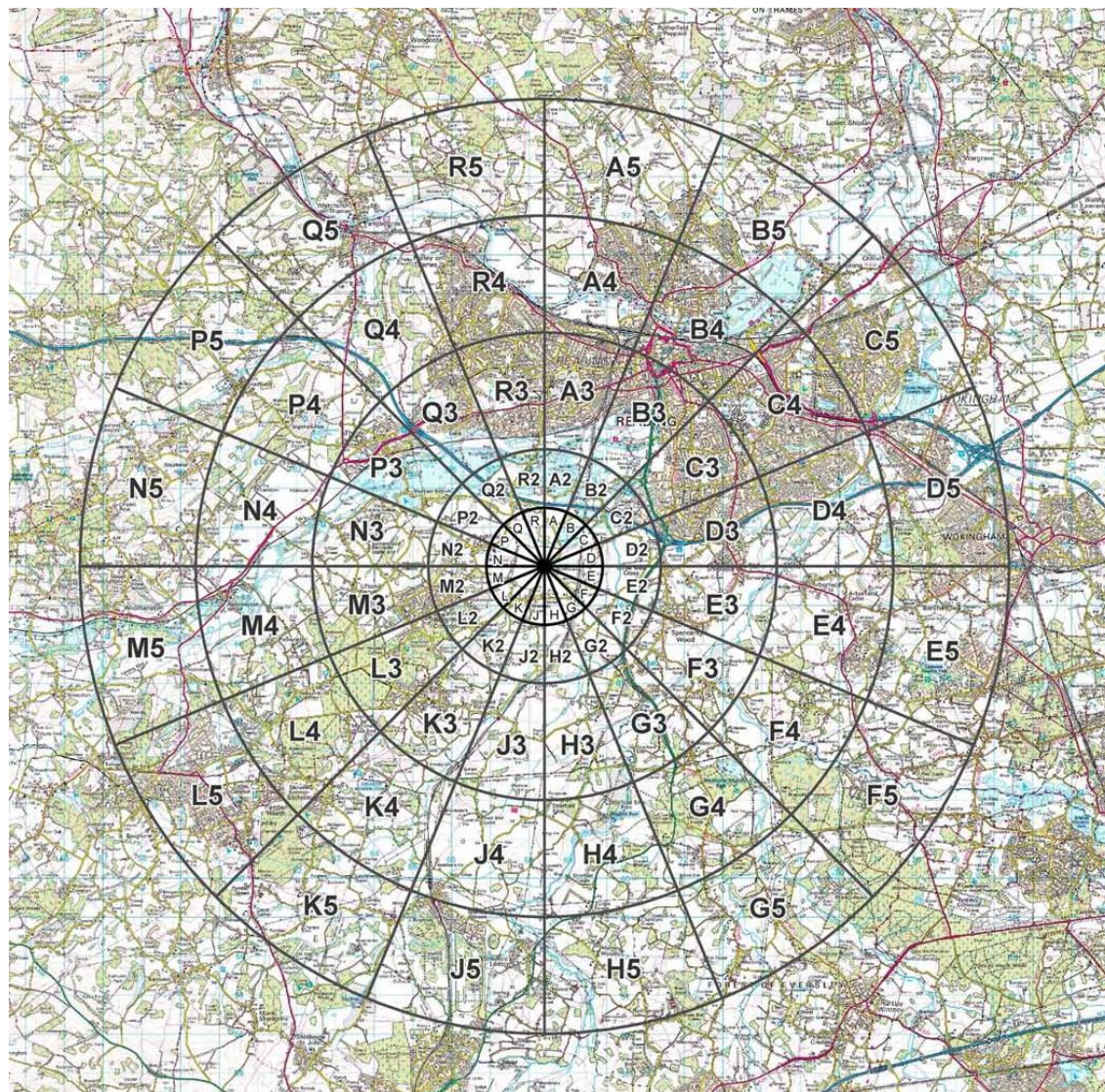
Subject	Considerations	Actions
	<p>responders being trapped in control rooms.</p> <p>Staff who live in the area affected and therefore cannot go to work since 'trapped' at home or are required to support family or indeed cannot go home.</p>	
<p>Responding agencies resources</p>	<p>Responding agencies will be stretched at an early stage of the response. There will therefore be impacts in relation to: Conflict in prioritising resources in a large scale event - early sharing of information in relation to key assets in the affected area and impact if they do not function will be required. Mutual aid is likely to be called up by most if not all responding agencies. There is likely to be an impact in relation to supporting the request due to lack of understanding of the risks, the requirements for PPE and training.</p>	<p>Urgent Mutual Aid requests to be put in place by each agency as necessary. This could be supported by the Government Liaison Officer or relevant Government Departments.</p>
<p>Impact on the South East (SE) of England</p>	<p>Due to the location there is likely to be an impact on the SE of England in a number of ways:</p> <p>Public transport implications If Reading Station is affected this would affect the network in the whole of the SE and the West Coast lines Southern and West Coast Lines are likely to be impacted – potentially all rolling stock would stop or be diverted with significant impact. Local bus networks would be stopped and diverted</p> <p>Road network implications: the M4, M3, & A34 could be directly impacted which would then have impacts on the M25, the M40 and other strategic roads and the smaller rural roads as people divert.</p> <p>If the roads and rail are 'closed' for a period of time then the impact in relation to those using the systems and financially it would be significant</p>	<p>Activate all transport leads especially network rail, local train operating companies, Highways England and the Local Highways Authorities.</p> <p>Develop a Transport coordination cell to manage the transport issues via TCG and/or SCG requests.</p>
<p>Military Involvement</p>	<p>Due to the scale of the event then there is likely to be request for Military Aid to Civil Authorities (MACA) support. In</p>	<p>Joint Regional Liaison Officer (JRLO) to alert via his Chain</p>

Subject	Considerations	Actions
	such a response then it would be expected that a request for support for the military should be a default action.	of Command potential request for MACA request.

5.5.1 Zone of extendibility around AWE Aldermaston– each ring is equivalent to 3km.



5.5.2 Zone of extendibility around AWE Burghfield Scale– inner 2 rings = 1.5km, all other rings = 3km.



5.5.3 Extendibility Sectors around AWE Aldermaston

3km	6km	9km,	12km	15km	18km
A1	A2 • Aldermaston Railway Station	A3	A4	A5	A6
B1	B2	B3 • TVP Police College, Sulhamstead	B4 • RBFRS HQ • WBDC Turnham Green Offices • Theale Railway Station • PUMA lower COMAH • 2 x Authorised processes	B5 • TVP Pangbourne Police Station	B6
C1	C2	C3 • PSD - COMAH	C4 • AWE Burghfield	C5 • TVP Three Mile Cross Traffic Base • RBFRS Whitley Wood • TW Water Treatment Works	C6 • TVP Reading Police Station • TVP Loddon Valley Police Station • Reading Borough Council • Thames Water HQ • Reading Railway Station
D1	D2	D3	D4 • National Grid Site	D5	D6
E1	E2	E3	E4	E5	E6
F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6
G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6
H1	H2	H3	H4 • Basingstoke Ambulance Station, RG24 9LY	H5	H6
J1	J2	J3	J4	J5	J6
K1	K2	K3	K4	K5	K6
L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	L6
M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	M6
N1	N2	N3 • Thatcham Railway Station	N4 • Racecourse Railway Station • Newbury Racecourse	N5 • TVP Newbury Police Station • West Berkshire District Council Offices x2 • RBFRS Station • SCAS Station • Vodafone HQ • Newbury Railway Station	N6
P1	P2	P3 • TVP Station	P4	P5 • Highways England Chieveley Depot	P6
Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4 • Frontier - COMAH	Q5	Q6

3km	6km	9km,	12km	15km	18km
R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6

5.5.4 Extendibility Sectors around AWE Burghfield

1.5km	3km	6km	9km	12km
A1	A2	A3 • Ambulance Station	A4	A5
B1	B2	B3	B4 • Ambulance Station	B5
C1	C2	C3	C4 • Loddon Valley Police Station	C5
D1	D2 • Three Mile Cross Traffic	D3	D4	D5 • Wokingham Police Station
E1	E2	E3	E4	E5
F1	F2	F3	F4	F5
G1	G2	G3	G4	G5
H1	H2	H3	H4	H5
J1	J2	J3	J4	J5
K1	K2	K3	K4	K5
L1	L2	L3	L4	L5
M1	M2	M3 • Sulhamstead Training Centre	M4	M5
N1	N2	N3	N4	N5
P1	P2	P3	P4	P5
Q1	Q2	Q3 • RBFRS HQ • WBDC Turnham Green Offices	Q4	Q5 • Pangbourne Police Station
R1	R2	R3	R4	R5

5.6 Strategic Coordinating Centre (SCC)

As detailed in [Section 4](#) of this plan the SCC is the location where the Strategic Coordinating Group (SCG) will make the policy/strategic decisions in relation to the response to the incident.

This section provides some guidance to those attending the SCC with respect to an incident at an AWE Site.

5.6.1 Staffing of the SCC

All responding agencies with staff attending the SCC should ensure their staff are trained and understand their roles.

All agencies should consider the number of staff required to support the SCC effectively this is likely to include:

- (a) SCG rep
- (b) SCG supporting officer (to stay at the agency desk when SCG rep in meetings or deputise as necessary)
- (c) STAC rep
- (d) MAC rep
- (e) RCG rep
- (f) Multi-Agency Information Cell (MAIC) rep
- (g) Loggists
- (h) Others as necessary

All agencies must put plans in place to resource the SCC for a long period of time 24/7 since an AWE incident is unlikely to be resolved in a few hours.

All agencies should ensure the staff attending the SCC are equipped to operate independently of any other support by way of IT, telecoms, paperwork etc.

There are likely to be a large number of staff at the SCC and since space will be limited then only staff with a direct role should be in attendance.

5.6.2 Agency Attendance at SCC

The attendance, ideally in person or via teleconferencing, at the SCC includes representatives (as required) from:

- (a) Thames Valley Police
- (b) Hampshire Constabulary (depends on location of off-site incident)
- (c) West Berkshire District Council
- (d) Other Local Authorities as appropriate and depending on the location of the incident i.e.
 - i. Basingstoke and Dean Borough Council
 - ii. Hampshire County Council
 - iii. Reading Borough Council
 - iv. Wokingham Borough Council
- (e) Royal Berkshire Fire & Rescue Service
- (f) Hampshire Fire & Rescue Service (depends on-site location)
- (g) MOD
- (h) Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)
- (i) Environment Agency (EA)
- (j) Public Health England South East (PHE SE)
- (k) Public Health England - Centre for Radiation Chemical and Environmental Hazards (PHE CRCE)
- (l) NHS England South Central
- (m) South Central Ambulance NHS Foundation Trust

- (n) Food Standards Agency (FSA)
- (o) MHCLG Resilience and Emergency Division
- (p) AWE
- (q) Met Office
- (r) Thames Water
- (s) Highways England
- (t) Network Rail
- (u) British Transport Police
- (v) Other Utility companies as necessary

And others as deemed necessary at the time.

5.6.3 SCC Internal Communications

In order to ensure all within the TVP SCC in the different 'cells' are aware of the current status and issues being raised then the Information Management System CLIO is used. This allows an audit trail and allows all cells to see the same information including minutes, Common Operating Picture (COP) etc. A TVP rep will be able to assist the operation of the system.

It is however expected that staff within the SCC will seek out information if they cannot find it on the system by talking to others within the SCC.

It is expected that all agencies maintain their own logbooks and notes following meetings and engagement with other agencies. These should be kept for audit/investigation purposes.

5.6.4 SCC External Communications

In order to ensure agencies outside the SCC are up to date with the current situation a number of options are available to agencies attending individually or in a coordinated manner as follows:

- (a) *Situation Report (SITREP)* – this is a document created by all agencies in the SCC to allow a picture of current situation, actions and issues to be shared out to all agencies. This is coordinated by the Information Cell.
- (b) *Common Operating Picture (COP)* a more formal report which is shared with other agencies and government departments.
- (c) *Information Sharing of Documents* tends to be via email to respective agencies or via ResilienceDirect.
- (d) *Teleconferencing* – in order to speed up the initial coordination meetings many be arranged using teleconferencing facilities. The dial in details will be sent out shortly after the initial notification process.
- (e) *Other communications* will depend on agencies but will normally include mobile phones and/or airwave radios.

5.6.5 SCC Location

The location is normally at TVP South Headquarters, Kidlington, Oxfordshire. An alternative location in the Thames Valley is the Police Training College at Sulhamstead, Berkshire.

When being set up the management of the SCC is under the control of the Duty TVP Gold Officer.

If a significant population within Hampshire is affected by the incident, a similar approach may be taken by Hampshire Constabulary with representatives from both police forces in the other control and command locations to ensure consistency and clarity. Normally their SCC location would be Netley, Hampshire.

5.6.6 Strategic Coordinating Group (SCG)

The Strategic Coordinating Group is made up from nominated senior members of the statutory agencies involved in the response to the incident. Each member must be able to make executive decisions in respect of resources within their agency and have authority to seek the aid of other agencies in support of their role.

Not all agencies at the SCC will be represented at the SCG instead the chair will invite attendees.

The SCG Chair may increase or reduce representation at the meetings to ensure efficient management.

In addition some agencies may work in the STAC or the RCG, in which case only the chair of the STAC and the RCG are standing members of the SCG.

5.6.7 Role of the SCG

The SCG has a wide role, which may encompass central government assets and handling requests for advice and assistance from individual services and agencies.

The function of the SCG is to:

- (a) Review what has occurred in the period following the last meeting
- (b) Formulate plans of action for the next period at strategic level
- (c) Discuss policy and strategic issues referred to it by the Tactical Commanders, and take action accordingly.
- (d) Coordinate the efforts of all the cells and agencies
- (e) Coordinate the media output – via the MAC
- (f) Allocate strategic resources

5.6.8 Initial SCG Meeting/Teleconference Guidance

Suggested initial SCG membership for an AWE incident:

- (a) Thames Valley Police – Chair, Minute taker and rep from Ops.
- (b) RBFRS
- (c) SCAS
- (d) West Berkshire District Council
- (e) AWE
- (f) MOD
- (g) STAC Chair – prior to the establishment of the STAC expert advice may be sought via PHE CRCE
- (h) RCG Chair – if nominated
- (i) Hampshire representatives – including Police, FRS, Local Authority (BDBC)

5.6.9 Suggested initial agenda for AWE SCG meetings

Initial SCG Agenda
Introductions
Strategic priorities
Strategic assessment by SCG Commander
Urgent Items
Review of previous actions/minutes
Review of SITREP – provided in advance via Information Cell
Review of Intelligence report - provided in advance via Information Cell
Community Impact Assessment
Resourcing
Logistics
Welfare

Media & Warning & Informing/Community Messages
Any other business
Review of decisions/actions

5.6.10 Sub Groups to SCG

There are likely to be a number of supporting subgroups to the SCG at the SCC the details relating to them and an AWE incident are detailed in the other sections.

- (a) Scientific and Technical Advisory Cell (STAC)
- (b) Recovery Coordinating Group (RCG)
- (c) Media Advisory Cell (MAC)
- (d) Radiation Monitoring Unit (RMU)
- (e) Resource Cell
- (f) Multi-Agency Information Cell (MAIC)

5.7 Scientific and Technical Advisory Cell (STAC)

5.7.1 STAC Role

The provision of timely/effective technical and health advice would be given by the multi-agency Scientific and Technical Advisory Cell (STAC).

The STAC is an advisory group and depending on the nature of the incident may be led by Health or non-health organisations. Its remit is to:

- (a) Take advice on the scientific and health aspects of the incident from a range of experts;
- (b) Provide advice to the SCG on the health consequences of the incident including the consequences of any evacuation or sheltering policies;
- (c) Confirm with the SCG the advice to be given to the public on the health aspects of the incident;
- (d) Keep a written record of decisions made and the justifications for those decisions.

If necessary, the STAC will:

- (a) Liaise with Department of Health and Social Care, DEFRA and other governmental bodies
- (b) Formulate advice to health professionals involved in the incident, such as hospitals, ambulance services, general practices and NHS Direct formulate advice on strategic management of the health service response to the incident.

For an AWE incident with off-site radiological consequences, a STAC should be set up automatically. In non-radiological incidents, a STAC may be requested by the Police Incident Commander but may be recommended by a senior public health professional due to the potential impact on health and the local population from an actual or evolving incident.

The composition and function of the STAC will be incident specific and tailored to local requirements and to provide the best advice to the SCG for decisions to be made.

5.7.2 STAC Membership

The likely membership of the group for an AWE incident will include:

- (a) Public Health England
- (b) Public Health England – CRCE
- (c) West Berkshire District Council – Environmental Health
- (d) Berks LA Shared DPH Consultant
- (e) Other LA - Environmental Health - dependant on area affected.
- (f) MOD

- (g) Environment Agency
- (h) Food Standards Agency
- (i) Thames Water
- (j) AWE
- (k) ONR
- (l) Met Office
- (m) and others as deemed necessary at the time.
- (n) STAC Chair and Support

The STAC if called will be chaired by PHE as per the PHE South East STAC Plan. In order to support the STAC chair often a non STAC member is included to support the coordination. A TVP inspector has undertaken this role.

5.7.3 STAC Considerations re: AWE Incident

Due to the nature of the site some of the initial considerations will be:

- (a) What agents are we are dealing with? Radiation? Chemical? Both?
- (b) How much is there of it?
- (c) Where is it?
- (d) What are the likely health effects?
- (e) What is the monitoring strategy?

5.7.4 STAC Quick Guide to AWE Incident Considerations

In considering items in [Section 5.4](#) the following table provides some guidance:

(a)	<p>The main types of radioactive materials used at AWE are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plutonium • Uranium • Tritium. <p>There are other sources of radioactivity used for safety checks and normal industrial purposes (e.g. sources for radiography). These are well controlled, pose no threat to the public and have no potential for any off-site emergency response action</p> <p>See Section 5.1 & 5.2</p>
(b)	<p>A release of radioactive material off-site from either the Aldermaston or Burghfield licensed sites is unlikely to lead to a significant dose to a member of the public.</p> <p>A release of radioactive material would not lead to acute (deterministic) radiation effects.</p>
(c)	<p>Atmospheric releases may be accompanied by a visible plume of smoke. However, given the properties of the radioactive material, the association of any visible smoke plume with the deposition of radioactive material may not be accurate.</p>
(d)	<p>In the event of a major release of radioactive material, the dose to the general public would be minimised by the appropriate imposition of off-site countermeasures, as implemented by Local Authorities and their support services. These include the issue of instructions for the public:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to shelter, which reduces the inhalation and irradiation doses, and • to evacuate (short term relocation may be a better term), which prevents further exposure by moving the public from the affected area. <p>The closer to the site boundary the greater the risk for the need for urgent evacuation particularly out to approx 150m with subsequent evacuation needed out to 600m.</p>

	Vulnerable sites are more likely to need evacuation.
(e)	There will be no acute effects amongst the public outside the site boundary as a result of exposure to radioactive material. Ill-effects experienced among the public are likely to be psychological.
(f)	Contaminants may be detectable outside the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone (DEPZ) for each site following an incident.
(g)	Key to the decisions is monitoring data and a monitoring strategy. See 5.11

5.7.5 Link to other Groups

During the response phase the STAC would be in place in order to support the SCG. The STAC would also share information with SAGE (Scientific Advisory Group in Emergencies), which is the national advisory group advising the Cabinet Office Briefing Room (COBR) in an emergency. More information in relation to the procedures is found on ResilienceDirect.

The STAC would also provide advice to support the Recovery Coordinating Group (RCG). Once the response phase had been completed and hand over from the Police to the Local Authority to lead on the recovery has been achieved it may be necessary for the STAC in full or elements of it to continue to exist in order to support the RCG. If this is the case the chair of the RCG should raise this with the chair of the STAC and agree a way forward. It may be that elements of the STAC become part of the RCG main group or as part of a sub group as necessary.

5.8 Countermeasures

There are a range of countermeasures that may be implemented following an incident on an AWE site. Specific countermeasures will be dependent upon the nature and scale of the incident. The decision as to what countermeasures to put in place will be taken, at any command level, following advice from the site and/or the STAC.

5.8.1 Principles of Countermeasures:

The three principles are:

- (a) **Justification** – the measure should be used if it is expected to achieve more good than harm;
- (b) **Optimisation** – the quantities criteria used for introducing and withdrawing countermeasures optimizes public protection; and
- (c) **Avoid Deterministic Effects** – use countermeasures to keep doses to levels below thresholds for deterministic effects.

5.8.2 Assessment of Appropriate Countermeasure

On activation of the off-site plan then the implementation of the automatic sheltering countermeasures will be put in place. This allows for the immediate initial countermeasure for all people in the affected area to go inside and stay inside.

Subsequent countermeasure decisions about public protection measures will need to be made based on environmental monitoring.

5.8.3 Monitoring Strategy to support Countermeasures

AWE has a capability to undertake initial monitoring of the local environment around the Aldermaston and Burghfield sites in the event of a release, or suspected release of radioactive material. The results from this monitoring would be supplied to the SCG once it is operational.

Initial results may be used to inform any immediate countermeasures implemented by the emergency services taking advice via ECOSA (Emergency Coordination of Scientific Advice).

Once Strategic Command is operational overall responsibility for environmental monitoring and therefore guidance with respect to countermeasures passes to the STAC.

5.8.4 Countermeasure Options

The default countermeasure for the community outside the site is for shelter i.e. to go inside and stay inside. There may be situations however when an urgent evacuation or subsequent evacuation may be necessary. Countermeasures will be based on monitoring and expert advice.

The countermeasures that may be implemented in an emergency at AWE are summarised below.

5.8.5 Countermeasure Options and Actions

Counter-measure	Description	Potential scenarios / areas for which this countermeasure may be implemented	Process	Limitations / Issues – including actions in place or to consider to over come
Sheltering	Going inside and staying inside buildings closing doors and windows closed and following advice given by the authorities via local and national media will substantially reduce the risk of contamination and risk to health of the population in the affected area. (Distance and shielding would be provided).	Automatic countermeasure in downwind sectors of Detailed Emergency Planning Zones once a radiation emergency has been declared. Exceptionally, sheltering may be advised across a wider area see 5.4 & 5.9. PHE CRCE Emergency Reference Dose Level for Sheltering is 3 milliSieverts.	<p>Automated public telephone altering system activated by AWE.</p> <p>The specific sectors that would be advised to shelter - the sectors alerted would be dependant primarily on the wind direction at the time of an emergency.(see monitoring)</p> <p>Advice provided would be to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • go in or remain indoors, close all windows and doors and switch off any ventilation or air conditioning system • Remove outer clothing, blow nose and have shower or wash face and hands if out in the open at time of incident • switch on a radio or television and listen for any information about the incident <p>In particular the following local stations would be used.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heart Berkshire - 97, 102.9 & 103.4 MHz • Heart Oxfordshire - 102.6 MHz • FOX FM - 102.6 MHz, • BBC Radio Berkshire - 94.6, 95.4 104.1 & 104.4 MHz • Local Independent TV 	Not all premises in the DEPZ will have land lines to receive the alert – leading to additional resources needed in the area affected to ensure all inside. Reliant on businesses to inform people on-site and look after them for a period of time – leaflet issued every 3 years, businesses encouraged to have an emergency plan.

Counter-measure	Description	Potential scenarios / areas for which this countermeasure may be implemented	Process	Limitations / Issues – including actions in place or to consider to over come
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local BBC TV • Plus others as appropriate Prevent others entering the area – REF Road Closures Plan.	
Immediate evacuation	Evacuation of people without any delay to remove them from an immediate threat to their safety.	Immediate Evacuation (at the direction of emergency services at the scene) may be required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For non-radiological scenarios - e.g. areas within cordons in incidents involving explosives or other materials posing an immediate risk to life (e.g. asphyxiate gases, conventional smoke) • For radiation emergencies properties and persons in close proximity to the site boundary (e.g. incidents involving the transport of radioactive materials on the site, or severe accidents) but such evacuation would normally be subject to careful consideration by STAC taking into account the potential 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action will be based on information from Site or STAC which will be informed by initial monitoring results from on and off the site and associated Modelling; REF: LRF Evacuation Plan • Immediate door knocking and supported evacuation by emergency services (TVP/SCAS/RBFRS) • Encouraged to get a grab bag in advance if time allows • Support by way of an urgent reception centre; REF: LA Rest Centre Plans • Transport needed to support some/all people – emergency services • Monitoring of people evacuated prior to going to more formal rest centre; REF: LRF RMU Plan • Wash facilities and clothing may be needed. REF: LA Rest Centre Plans • Longer term support in recovery to their property Ref: LRF Recovery Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency services approaching respective premises in PPE which may alarm those involved; • Resourcing the evacuation by way of emergency services - mutual aid by other emergency services and other responders • Resourcing transport/drivers to enter into a contaminated area.

Counter-measure	Description	Potential scenarios / areas for which this countermeasure may be implemented	Process	Limitations / Issues – including actions in place or to consider to over come
		<p>dose saving (or increase in public dose) that would result, but could perhaps be usefully classified as “Early Evacuation”.</p>		
<p>Priority evacuation</p>	<p>Evacuation of priority groups (e.g. vulnerable people) which may require extra resource</p>	<p>Care homes, schools, caravan sites, individual vulnerable clients may require extra support in areas affected – in order to get this support effectively the clients may need to be evacuated.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decisions made with support from STAC and cross referencing with the needs of the vulnerable involved. REF LRF Vulnerable People & Information Sharing Plans to identify and share vulnerable clients’ details. • Decisions made as to best way forward for supporting the clients depending on the incident – stay where they are with support coming in or evacuation to a safe location for support to be provided. REF: LRF Vulnerable People Plan • Contact will be made to the clients or carers and thereafter the necessary support arranged. • Support needed will be in relation to: • Suitable alternative accommodation in short and potentially long term • Transportation of the clients • Making sure they have all relevant medication, clothing and personal effects to use over the time they may be expected to be out of their homes for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evacuating large care homes – all have been given advice in developing their emergency plans to keep residents on-site and inform next of kin etc. • Resourcing the evacuation by way of emergency services - mutual aid by other emergency services and other responders • Resourcing transport/drivers to enter into a contaminated area.

Counter-measure	Description	Potential scenarios / areas for which this countermeasure may be implemented	Process	Limitations / Issues – including actions in place or to consider to over come
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of pet evacuations REF: LRF Vulnerable People & LA Rest Centre Plans. 	
Subsequent evacuation	Displacement of members of the public from their homes and businesses to facilitate longer term recovery and remediation of affected areas	<p>May be required in the days/weeks in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • people taking cover in buildings such as factories, offices and other work places • Those sheltering areas may not be suitable in terms of providing support for the people there for any length of period due to lack of facilities, food and bedding • This will need to be considered at an early stage depending on the zones affected <p>Following monitoring of the area for levels of radiation (or other) contaminants Evacuation of the public from their homes may be necessary to facilitate the recovery process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring of the area for contamination • Guidance received via STAC following the analysis of the monitoring requirements • A map recce and cross reference to the information in this plan needs to be undertaken to establish what is in each sector- this will vary according to time of day etc. • A specific joint Evacuation Cell to agree the process and the notification routes for the community to be set up • the process for subsequent evacuation will be communicated via the media to those affected <p>REF: LRF Evacuation & LA Rest Centre Plans.</p>	

Counter-measure	Description	Potential scenarios / areas for which this countermeasure may be implemented	Process	Limitations / Issues – including actions in place or to consider to over come
Self-Evacuation	Where residents in the area decide to evacuate themselves rather than shelter or without the support of emergency services.	Where people hear/see others leaving the area this may lead to self-evacuation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control will be less manageable • Ideally all self-evacuating should be encouraged to be processed at an agreed site (rest centre or RV point) • If they do not go through a registration process or it would be too resource intense to manage then a helpline or website registering system should be put in place to allow people to register remotely their details. 	
Remaining Away from the area.	People out of the area when an incident takes place.	Where people are at work or out of the area when an incident happens.	<p>Media messages to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay away from the area; • Stay with friends and family; • Register as in self-evacuation • Provision of a drop in centre away from the area to get more information. <p>REF: LA Assistance Centre Plan.</p>	
Restrictions on water consumption	This is not likely to be required due to the way the water supplies are delivered.	This is unlikely to be needed as an immediate countermeasure by the nature of how water is abstracted in the area and the length of time any radiation may take to get into the supply network. It may be slightly different for a chemical incident at the site however and therefore should not be discounted.	<p>The STAC should be the main source of information for decisions. Thames Water will be lead for public water supplies information. For private water supplies the EHOs within Local Authorities will have details of such supplies in the affected area and will be able to support the decision making process.</p> <p>REF: TVLRF Water Disruption Plan.</p>	

Counter-measure	Description	Potential scenarios / areas for which this countermeasure may be implemented	Process	Limitations / Issues – including actions in place or to consider to over come
Restrictions on food production	Advice or specific restrictions on food producers not to consume food sourced from a potentially contaminated area to minimise the potential ingestion of radioactive materials following a radiation emergency incident.	May be required following a radiation emergency where areas are found to have been contaminated with radioactive or other hazardous materials. Intervention levels for implementing this countermeasure are flexible and would be scenario-dependent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The STAC should be the main source of information for decisions; • Trading Standards & Animal , Plant and Health Agency should be involved re animals welfare, crops/gardens and food safety etc.; • Food Standards Agency should be involved in relation to food safety; 	
Restrictions to transport movements Road Rail River & Canal	By restricting road, rail and other transport movements in and around the area allowing emergency vehicles access and reduce the risk of resuspension of radioactive particles.	May be required to facilitate the response and the recovery and reduce the resuspension of particles.	<p>There is a road closure plan in relation to the initial response and ‘closing’ down of the area to traffic to support access to site and allow emergency service access. REF: Road Closure Plan</p> <p>Agencies involved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highways England for M4 • LA Highways & Transport Team (West Berkshire, Hampshire, Reading and Wokingham). • Network Rail- If AWE (Burghfield) site is affected including zones B, C, D, E, F, G & H then the Rail line between Reading and Basingstoke should be requested to close as a 	

Counter-measure	Description	Potential scenarios / areas for which this countermeasure may be implemented	Process	Limitations / Issues – including actions in place or to consider to over come
			<p>precaution in the early stages of the incident. A plan is available for the initial closure phase.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canal & River Trust. <p>Reopening would be on advice from the STAC.</p>	
Public Rights of Way Restrictions	By restricting access to the public rights of way (PROW) then access to the public to the affected area is limited.	To prevent locals and others using the PROW in the area the paths would need to be formally closed.	A number of footpath and other rights of ways exist within the DEPZ of both sites. Any decision to close footpaths should be referred to the relevant Councils' Rights of Way teams in order for them to identify what paths can be closed.	

5.9 SHELTER as a Countermeasure

Shelter is the default countermeasure for a radiation emergency at either of the AWE sites since distance and a barrier (a building) will afford protection.

On notification the community should go to the nearest building to take shelter.

Some of the issues for responders relating to shelter include:

- (a) Vulnerable communities and individuals requiring support
- (b) Visitors to the area
- (c) People sheltering in businesses
- (d) People living in the area who were outside the area at the time
- (e) Friends and Family worried about those within the area
- (f) How long are people likely to be told to stay in shelter?

Most of these issues are addressed in other parts of this plan. The key element however will be the provision of information.

5.10 EVACUATION as a Countermeasure

Evacuation as a countermeasure may be necessary in the early stages of an emergency particularly for premises closest to the site boundary. Immediate or urgent evacuation may be necessary at the following distances from the site:

- a. 150m from site boundary – likely to require immediate evacuation.
- b. 600m from the site boundary – likely to require urgent evacuation. This will depend on levels of projected contamination and the vulnerability of the community in the area.

In order to support the assessment of need the table below shows the number of premises in each of the sectors for both sites as at Nov 2017.

AWE Aldermaston					AWE Burghfield				
Sector	COMMERCIAL		RESIDENTIAL		Sector	COMMERCIAL		RESIDENTIAL	
Distance (m)	0 - 150	150 - 600	0 - 150	150 - 600	Distance (m)	0 - 150	150 - 600	0 - 150	150 - 600
A	0	1	0	0	A	0	0	0	0
B	0	0	0	6	B	0	1	0	0
C	0	6	0	7	C	0	0	2	0
D	6	25	3	53	D	0	0	0	0
E	0	10	1	10	E	0	0	0	0
F	0	1	0	116	F	0	0	0	0
G	0	0	0	9	G	0	0	0	0
H	0	0	5	20	H	0	0	0	0
J	2	0	51	4	J	0	2	0	2
K	0	0	0	0	K	0	1	0	24
L	70	76	6	0	L	0	9	0	4
M	2	0	22	1	M	1	0	2	0
N	5	9	4	0	N	0	0	6	0
P	11	25	0	1	P	0	0	3	0
Q	1	0	0	3	Q	0	0	0	2
R	0	2	0	1	R	0	0	0	0

The process of evacuation should follow the TVLRF Evacuation and Shelter Framework and Hampshire & Isle of Wight LRF Mass Evacuation & Shelter Guidance.

A summary some of the key points in relation to evacuation are set out below.

Action	Process for AWE sites
Decision	<p>AWE will, in conjunction with the MOD Coordinating Authority; make recommendations to Thames Valley Police (and Hampshire Constabulary) Strategic Coordinating Group(s) as to whether any evacuation of the general public is recommended.</p> <p>In urgent evacuation this would be made at a lower command level (operational or tactical).</p>
Notification to community	<p>If evacuation is recommended, the Police (and other emergency services) will be responsible for advising residents in the affected area that they shall be evacuated and will direct them to reception centres or rest centres or alternative accommodation as appropriate for onward transportation.</p> <p>The community would be advised as to what to take with them should they be evacuated.</p>
	<p>Media messages will also provide the information – this will need to be detailed with respect to the areas affected and why them and not other areas.</p>
Transportation	<p>Inside the contaminated area the transportation would be arranged by the Police Service/Emergency Services with support in sourcing the vehicles by the Local Authorities via their normal contractual arrangements.</p>
	<p>Outside the contaminated area the Local Authorities would arrange transport – arranged via an exchange rendezvous point (RVP).</p>
Reception Centres	<p>Arrangements are in place to shelter communities within the existing Detailed Emergency Planning Zone (DEPZ) for either site if considered necessary for public safety or for operational advantage.</p>
	<p>People leaving the affected area shall initially be requested to report to a designated Reception Centre/Rest Centre/RVP set up by the appropriate Local Authorities. This will help the Police and Local Authority (LA) to maintain records of movement and records of vacated premises.</p>
	<p>All persons with homes in this area who wished to enter or re-enter before it was considered safe to do so would be advised to report to a Reception Centre outside the sheltering zone to await clearance. The Reception Centre would act as the central information point for persons excluded from their homes as well as the location to which any persons had been evacuated would be sent initially. Special arrangements exist for children at school. Where necessary the Police and Local Authorities would make appropriate arrangements for their care and for the notification of parents and guardians. Children at school outside the affected area, but who live inside the affected area, would be taken to nominated Reception Centres where they will be looked after by their teachers and local authority staff until they were reunited with their families.</p>
Radiation Monitoring Unit (RMU)	<p>A Radiation Monitoring Unit, as appropriate, will be provided where the public can be monitored for possible radioactive contamination.</p>

Action	Process for AWE sites
Information	Thames Valley Police (and, if appropriate, Hampshire Constabulary) will be responsible for the issue of authoritative information about evacuees and casualties. Specific telephone numbers to enable this information to be obtained will be announced by them, via the media, at the time of an emergency.

5.10.1 AWE Staff Evacuation

All personnel on the AWE site, except those directly involved in the response to the incident would be directed to take shelter inside the nearest suitable building. Later they would be evacuated from affected areas in a controlled manner as appropriate. As a matter of administrative convenience, personnel not involved in responding to the emergency would then either be sent home or to a Reception Centre /Rest Centre if they lived inside the affected area. This site exit strategy would be presented to the AWE duty team to consider and raise with the Tactical Coordinating Group (TCG) in order to ensure a coordinated site evacuation and to minimise any impact on the resources engaged in responding outside the site.

5.10.2 Uncontrolled Community Self Evacuation from Area

The possibility of self-evacuation by members of the public at any time cannot be ignored. The impact of which may cause disruption to the response and may make the situation worse should radioactive particles be resuspended. Case studies show that there is greater risk of accidents during such self-evacuation than a situation of shelter and controlled evacuation if needed.

Public Information and local control will be needed to reduce the risk of this taking place.

5.10.3 Extending the areas for Countermeasures

It is a long standing guiding principle of nuclear emergency planning that detailed plans covering the area defined in the DEPZ should be drawn up on the basis of the reasonably foreseen accident (i.e. the design basis accident or reference accident). This plan must be capable of being extended using general contingency plans to deal with a larger, even less likely accident. The improbability of a larger accident means that the absence of a detailed plan will not significantly increase the risk to the public.

[Section 5.4](#) details the potential geographic area of extendibility and the management of the situation.

5.10.4 Basis for Lifting (removing) Countermeasures

Countermeasures will not be lifted until the Strategic Coordinating Group (SCG) and at a later stage by the Recovery Coordinating Group (RCG), advised by specialist agencies in the STAC are convinced that the risk to the public is the same, if not less than if the countermeasures were to remain in force.

5.11 Monitoring Strategies – Environment

The STAC is responsible for the development of the Monitoring Strategy.

AWE plc is responsible for environmental monitoring out to approx. 15km in the first instance.

PHE CRCE is responsible for the coordination of the monitoring as detailed in their [website](#) beyond and in addition to the operator. PHE CRCE maintain a capability to deploy radiation monitoring teams capable of measuring environmental contamination and undertaking measurements of radioactivity on or in people. Teams can be deployed from Chilton, Leeds and Glasgow. Their deployment and tasking is controlled by the Monitoring Control team leader based in the Chilton Emergency Centre who reports directly to the PHE CRCE Operations Director.

In addition to deployment and management of CRCE monitoring teams, PHE also has a national monitoring coordination role during radiation emergencies, which is managed by CRCE. PHE will coordinate the monitoring resources made available to it in the event of an emergency and prepare a monitoring strategy for approval by the Strategic Coordinating Group (SCG). This responsibility covers the responsibility for monitoring people and the environment. It does not change or re-allocate any existing responsibilities that organisations might hold with regards to radiation monitoring. PHE has no power to commandeer resources and PHE would not expect to take direct tactical control of any resources made available.

Each organisation is responsible for ensuring that their staff are properly trained, and its resources are adequately maintained. Operational responsibility would be retained at each monitoring organisation's emergency centre. PHE CRCE will periodically provide organisations with what information it has as the incident develops, this should include:

- (a) A summary of the incident situation
- (b) PHE CRCE local rules for its own monitoring teams being deployed
- (c) PHE CRCE radiological risk assessment for its own monitoring teams being deployed

Organisation's monitoring teams will however need to:

- (a) Be self-sufficient in respect of their own accommodation, transport, meals, communications, etc.;
- (b) Have appropriate health physics skills to competently carry out the agreed monitoring tasks;
- (c) Work under the supervision of their own management structures; and
- (d) Be self-sufficient in terms of PPE (including RPE where appropriate).

5.11.1 Other Agencies Monitoring Responsibilities.

Some agencies have specific monitoring responsibilities and capabilities including:

- (a) The **Environment Agency** has contracts in place to deploy environmental monitoring and sampling in the event of a radiation emergency. This will form part of the monitoring plan that is based on modelling and developed in consultation with PHE in support of their role.
- (b) The **FSA** is responsible for monitoring food in order to establish areas where restrictions on food may or may not be required
- (c) The **water companies** are responsible for ensuring water is monitored.

In order to support the monitoring strategy and to understand the impact of the radiation emergency then a number of modelling procedures are normally involved including:

- (a) Knowledge of meteorological conditions is vital before monitoring data can be assessed

- (b) PACRAM (Procedures and Communications in the event of a release of Radioactive Material) available from the Meteorological Office (EMARC - the Environment Monitoring and Response Centre)
- (c) Met Office NAME (Numerical Atmospheric Modelling Environment)
- (d) RIMNET (Radioactive Incident Monitoring Network)
- (e) PHE-CRCE has various other models available.

5.11.2 Limitations to Monitoring:

- (a) Whilst PHE CRCE will activate their normal processes including all their sites, support from other nuclear licensed sites and other private contractors. All this takes time to activate and be on-site.
- (b) There is no point in monitoring deposition until the release has stopped – this prolongs the situation. Unless the objective is to obtain confirmation of a contamination hazard and where the wind direction has changed such that deposition is no longer occurring within an area being monitored
- (c) Initial monitoring resources will be few and so expect 1-2 readings per hour for the first few hours
- (d) Data will be ‘raw’ and so will need interpretation
- (e) Some analysis can take 1-2 hours per sample and there are likely to be a great number of samples needed to confirm level of contamination and therefore there will be a time lag in providing advice to the responders and the public
- (f) The information provided to the SCG needs interpretation to prevent inappropriate decisions to be made. The STAC chair is advised to take a suitably qualified radiation expert.

5.12 Monitoring – Strategies - People (Radiation Monitoring Unit)

5.12.1 What is a Radiation Monitoring Unit (RMU)?

In some circumstances, evacuated casualties, members of the public and emergency service personnel will require monitoring and, if necessary, decontamination. Monitoring of workers, casualties and members of the rescue services at a major nuclear site will be carried out by a mixture of the operator's staff and other health professionals. Apart from those individuals on-site and responders, there will be a need to monitor those individuals who may be contaminated (or who think they may be contaminated). This need may be fulfilled by the NHS through the setup of an RMU.

5.12.2 The need for an RMU

RMUs are needed in order to assess the need for decontamination or possible medical treatment for a large volume of people. They perform the function of reassurance for those who may be concerned about possible contamination. They serve to keep records of levels of any contamination observed. Early monitoring of uninjured people shall be carried out in suitable facilities away from A&E departments to ensure that these do not become overcrowded.

5.12.3 Activation of an RMU

NHS England is responsible for people monitoring as a result of a radiation incident. The need for an RMU will be as result of recommendations to the SCG/RCG from the STAC. Further information on RMU planning may be obtained from the NHS emergency planning guidance and the draft TVLRF and Hampshire & Isle of Wight LRF RMU Plans.

5.12.4 Location of RMUs

The RMU shall normally be located at, or adjacent to, a reception centre/ rest centres established by the Local Authority and specified in the site Emergency Plan. However, suitable NHS or other premises nearby may need to be used. Police and the Local Authority should be consulted when selecting a site.

It may be necessary that following monitoring people would need to go through the decontamination process. Therefore the site selected needs to account for enough real estate to be available for a RMU and a Decontamination unit to be available prior to onward movement to the Reception/rest centre.

5.12.5 Staffing

Staffing will be drawn from hospitals and facilities outside the areas affected by the incident. This way local staff will remain to ensure the smooth running of local hospitals and other functions.

Typical staffing might be:

- (a) Senior medical physicist to supervise the monitoring and decontamination function
- (b) Medical physicists/technicians (or similar grade staff from other organisations)
- (c) AWE staff
- (d) Nurses
- (e) Administrator
- (f) Clerks.

Arrangements exist in many areas for the nuclear site operator to provide additional staff capable of carrying out monitoring measurements. Public Health England – CRCE may also be able to provide staff to assist with monitoring.

5.12.6 Links to other sections/plans

Any rest centre set up will accommodate people who have been evacuated following urgent countermeasures. These people are a priority with regard to monitoring.

5.12.7 Concerned public across the UK

An NHS direct hotline (111) may be set up to deal with concerned persons. The algorithm to deal with calls would be provided by the Public Health England – CRCE.

5.12.8 Decommissioning an RMU

The physicist in charge will be responsible for planning and carrying out decommissioning of the unit.

5.13 Decontamination of People

After an off-site emergency from an AWE site there are likely to be concerns regarding contamination. These concerns could be related to contamination of people, animals, pets and property including gardens, homes and businesses.

The amount of any contamination will vary according to the amount released in the first place and the weather conditions as detailed in other areas of this document.

This section relates to decontamination of people only.

The decontamination process, if needed, would take place sometime after the initial response phase and normally after the risk of any further contamination from the site had stopped.

The process for decontamination would be done in a number of ways and for a number of reasons as detailed below.

5.13.1 Self-Decontamination

Initial countermeasures it is very likely that the initial guidance to the community affected would be:

- (a) GO IN - STAY IN – TUNE IN.
- (b) Take off clothes and place outside in a bag
- (c) Blow your nose
- (d) Have a shower/wash face and hands. Do not use any conditioner and do not scrub the skin such that it is abraded.

As a result if there was any contamination then it is anticipated that at least 85% would be removed by the removal of clothing alone.

5.13.2 Mass Decontamination Process

This process of people decontamination would be led by the Health services, supported by the Fire & Rescue Service (FRS).

There are two types of decontamination systems operated by Health and the Fire & Rescue Service as detailed below:

The **Fire & Rescue Services** undertake the mass decontamination using a large tent system. It includes areas for taking clothes off, shower facilities (for a period of 3 minutes in the shower) and an area to dress into robes provided. It is anticipated that for each system a maximum of 150 people per hour may be decontaminated.

The actual size of the response would depend on the number of people in the sectors affected, the time intended to process everyone and the land available to undertake the work.

It is a relatively crude system, however for large numbers it is effective.

There will always be modesty issues and people for a variety of reasons may be frightened or feel it is against their beliefs to remove all clothing, and in front of others. Explanations will be given and all efforts will be made to accommodate such issues however decontamination is the main effort in order to protect their own and other people's health.

The Fire and Rescue Service System is also used for decontamination of responders.

Ambulance Service System. This is a tented system where the contaminated people are assisted in the cleaning process if they are injured or ambulant.

There may also be the need for decontamination units at hospitals to be activated as well as lock down due to contaminated and worried people attending A&E at any hospital in the UK. This information would be activated via advice from the STAC and via the Health communication routes.

It is very likely that both systems would be set up as a matter of course.

5.13.3 Decontamination Process Location

The mass decontamination location(s) would be decided on the day following a multi-agency meeting and would take into consideration the numbers, the weather and the extent of the contamination.

There would normally be one site but it may be that more would be needed.

Regardless, of the location, the actual structures would be upwind of the incident in a controlled location for security and privacy reasons. They would also be on the edge of the warm (likely to be contaminated due to movement etc. rather than the incident itself) and cold (non contaminated area) zones.

5.13.4 *Informing and Movement of People to Decontamination Locations*

Following a period of time the community affected will be informed that they need to leave their initial place of safety in order for further remedial works to be undertaken.

The means of communicating this to the community would be via the media and/or via door to door knocking. This may be somewhat alarming for residents initially because depending on the scale of contamination and the period of time that responders may be in the contaminated area the people knocking on the door may be in protective equipment more than the residents will be requested to wear. This will have been considered by the STAC and the full health considerations taken into account.

The movement of the people may vary according to the situation but may involve streets at a time being moved in a controlled manner to the decontamination locations. This movement would be the responsibility of responders who are equipped and trained to go into the contaminated and warm zones including police, fire, ambulance and military personnel.

Prior to moving the people affected may be required to take off their own clothes and don the modesty suits, shoes and masks provided by the Fire and Rescue Service.

The control of the residents within the decontamination area before the decontamination is undertaken will be by the police in the main with assistance from the other responders involved.

Once the decontamination has been completed then the responsibility for welfare and onward movement passes to the local authority.

5.13.5 *Post Decontamination*

Once decontamination has been completed the people involved will be moved by the Local Authority transport to reception centres, rest centres and other accommodation as necessary.

The evacuees post decontamination will be in modesty suits and are likely to have no other personal effects with them. As a result at the next stage of evacuation they will need to be provided with:

- (a) Clothing
- (b) Medical care as necessary including prescription drugs
- (c) Money
- (d) Keys to get into homes if outside the area and keys left behind etc. Access to locksmiths/carpenters may be necessary to support this
- (e) Mobile phones for use by evacuees, chargers
- (f) Access to internet.

The people and agencies that should be considered to be present at the reception centre or on standby include:

- (a) GP's for medical advice
- (b) Pharmacy on standby
- (c) Locksmiths
- (d) Carpenters
- (e) Representatives from finance re cash etc.
- (f) LA phone officers with respect to extra mobile phones for use
- (g) ICT Officers re use of Laptop terminals.

More information regarding post decontamination reception centres / rest centres and recovery are in other sections to this plan.

5.13.6 Water & Waste

Water waste from the decontamination of people needs to be contained in order to prevent discharges to the environment, the Environment Agency will advise on how to dispose of the waste and water which has been collected.

5.14 Rest Centres

It is the responsibility of the LA where the residents are affected to prepare rest centres for displaced people for overnight provision.

During any major incident there is the reality that people will become displaced. This can be due to a number of factors including:

- (a) Evacuation from their home as a result of the risks associated with staying in their home
- (b) People who as a result of the time of the incident are out of their homes and cannot return to them
- (c) There will normally be no need for the urgent evacuation of areas outside of the AWE sites in the event of a radiation emergency therefore there should be some time to plan the centres
- (d) Urgent evacuation may be necessary however since the cause of the radiation release may be as a result of explosion/fire etc. which could have an impact on the community outside the site. The risks of urgent evacuation needs will be greatest to those premises closest to the site
- (e) Subsequent evacuation of the public in some areas outside the incident site boundary might be necessary. This will depend on the results of ground monitoring and will normally be carried out to reduce contact with deposited material and to facilitate decontamination and restoration.

Staff on the AWE site, including contractors' personnel will shelter initially until the release was over. Later they will be evacuated from affected areas as appropriate by AWE these too may also need to go to a rest centre.

5.14.1 Reception Centres

A reception centre is a building that can provide:

- (a) Shelter – for people who have been evacuated from their homes or are in need of emergency accommodation following an incident
- (b) Registration – to identify who is in the Rest Centre and to enable details of casualties/evacuees to be passed to the Police Casualty Bureau
- (c) Refreshments – for people evacuated
- (d) Welfare – provision of basic support to those evacuated.

5.14.2 Information – for evacuees

In an AWE incident a number of reception centres may be necessary depending on the scale, wind direction and therefore the number of households affected. Initially a reception centre would be set up as a registration area in order to allow safe evacuation from the affected area. The main aim at that point would be allow onward movement to a more suitable rest centre location or to other accommodation.

It may be necessary to set up a number of reception centres for the general public. In addition there may be a need for one for the AWE Staff evacuees.

It is also very likely that reception centres will be needed in more than one authority therefore communication links will be key in order to ensure as far as possible that families are united etc.

5.14.3 Reception Centre Locations

There are a number of pre-assessed reception/rest centres that have been identified as detailed in 5.14 A. These may be used as registration points prior to onward movement of people to more permanent emergency accommodation.

5.14.4 Centre Choice

The decision as to which centre(s) are to be used will depend on the incident, wind direction and areas affected. This will be made at TCG level with information from the LA's essential.

5.14.5 Staffing & Equipping of Rest Centres

The respective Local Authorities have the responsibility of staffing and equipping of rest centres.

Authorities will follow their Major Incident and Rest Centre plans with respect to staffing and equipping the centres. Movement on from Reception Centre to Rest Centres and more permanent accommodation.

Once people have been evacuated, or cannot get back to their own homes due to the incident, have registered then, depending on the longer term options, the LA will make preparations for their onward movement to a rest centre or more permanent accommodation.

If the evacuation is only for a short period then people will be encouraged and assisted to stay with friends and family in the area. If this were not possible then the LA would prepare a more suitable rest centre with bedding etc.

If it is likely that they are going to be out of their homes for a prolonged period of time then more permanent accommodation will be looked for in the local area in order to maintain cohesion of the community, allow for school and work to carry on as far as possible as normal. This may be difficult if large numbers are involved.

Due to the very large numbers which may be involved, depending on the sectors affected, then it may be that support from neighbouring LAs and MHCLG REDS will be requested. Should the evacuation from the homes be for a prolonged period it may be that arrangements will need to be made for a return to the home to be arranged with removal vans in order to retrieve valuables, furniture and clothing. The items removed from properties will need to undertake reassurance monitoring

All this movement of people may result in a number of vehicles coming to the area. Therefore any centre used needs to have car parking capability and some control on vehicle movements.

5.14.6 Transport to and from Reception / Rest Centres

In order to move people to and from reception centres and rest centres a number of considerations will need to be taken into account including:

- (a) Communicating the message to the people involved as to why they are being asked to move to rest centres, when this will be happening and how it will happen. Reassuring what the reason for the move is and reassuring that everyone affected will be moved in due course so as to ensure people do not make unnecessary moves to get on the transport
- (b) Considering meeting points for people to move to or how the pick up from the houses directly is going to be arranged
- (c) How to prevent transport and people becoming contaminated as they move to the transport. This may involve the issuing of disposable shoe covers, damping down pavements and house paths etc.
- (d) Consideration of protective equipment and clothing for the responders assisting the evacuation and for the community as they move. This will very much depend on the contamination involved and the weather conditions but may involve the issuing of paper masks to residents as a precaution.

The Local Authority (LA) would be charged normally with the transportation of evacuees. However due to the nature of the incident and the fact that the LA are not equipped or

trained to operate within the affected area then the people in the affected area would be moved by other organisations onto the rest centres.

To move people from the site or the sheltering locations then support may be requested from the emergency services, AWE and the MOD via Military Aid to Civil Authorities (MACA) formal requests.

Onward movement may be via a Radiation Monitoring Unit and/or a decontamination unit. It will normally only be after this monitoring or decontamination that the LA will pick up the evacuees at an RV point for onward movement to reception and rest centres.

The PHE CRCE will give guidance as to the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) needed for staff entering the area.

In order to prevent re-suspension of contaminants during the movement of people the vehicles will move slowly. In addition the roads may be misted with water in advance and following the vehicles movement out of the contaminated area they will be washed down in particular the wheels and tyres. This will be undertaken in a controlled manner with advice from the Environment Agency and PHE CRCE.

After the moves are completed the vehicles will then be checked for contamination inside and cleaned appropriately with guidance from PHE CRCE.

5.14.7 Clear up of Rest Centre Post Incident

Whilst the intention will be to ensure as far as practicable beforehand that all people entering the rest centre are not contaminated there may be a risk of this happening. As a result regardless of known contamination or not, there will be an expectation from the community and the owners of the building that the site will be effectively cleaned.

As a result due to the nature of the incident it will be essential to ensure that any Rest Centre used is cleaned satisfactorily afterwards in order that it is suitable for use thereafter.

Many of the proposed Rest Centres are schools and Community Centres and therefore the public must be reassured that the site is clean for future use.

PHE CRCE in conjunction with the site owners and the recovery group should ensure that all are satisfied the site is clean and the public are assured of this fact.

Specific areas of concern re Rest Centres following an AWE off-site incident

5.14.8 Contaminated People

There may be a fear that people in the rest centre are contaminated. This may be reality or perception however as a result the reception should be as near to the door as possible, shall be readily cleansed and the reception desk should have a trained health professional in place in order to give on the spot advice or guidance on monitoring. If someone presents themselves at the rest centre that may be contaminated then they shall be directed to the decontamination unit.

5.14.9 Contaminated Pets

As above there may be a fear of pets being contaminated. Therefore at an early stage suitable pet accommodation shall be made available outside the centre and suitably trained veterinary staff should be available in order to give on the spot advice.

5.14.10 Media Intrusion

Due to the nature of the incident there will no doubt be media interest in those being evacuated be they residents, business people or staff from the site. The rule will be that no media shall be allowed in reception centres and rest centres due to the sensitive nature of the situation and the potential vulnerability of the people involved. Those using the reception centres and rest centres should be reminded not to use social media to protect

themselves and others. As a result the involvement of the Police at the entrance will almost certainly be required. It may be that once the situation has settled down the media may be allowed to enter certain areas with the knowledge of the evacuees. Interviews will be strictly controlled in order not to intrude on the evacuees. Corporate Communications support will be recommended to be present from the LA.

5.14.11 Specific Requirements

Due to the fact that the evacuees coming to the reception centres may have had to go through a decontamination unit then they will normally be without some basics as detailed in [Section 5.12](#).

5.14.12 Link to Radiation Monitoring Unit (RMU)

As part of the health monitoring programme agreed at SCG then it may be that people evacuated from the affected area or people who have been in the area when the incident occurred will be screened in a RMU.

This RMU will be located at the same site or very close to a reception centre/rest centre and/or the decontamination unit. [Section 5.12](#) gives more details on these units.

5.14.13 Extendibility Response

Should there be an emergency which is beyond the reasonably foreseeable, then the other LAs will activate their plans to support the response.

5.14.14 Reception and Rest Centre Locations, Information and Contact Details

West Berkshire District Council:

Name	Address	Capacity
Theale Green School	Theale, Berkshire	~300
Willink Secondary School	Burghfield Common, Berkshire	~300

Others are detailed in the Council's Rest Centre Plan

Basingstoke & Deane BC area BUT activated via Hampshire CC:

Name	Address	Capacity
Hurst Community College & Leisure Centre	Brimpton Rd, Baughurst, Tadley, Basingstoke	500 + 500
Popley Fields Community Centre	Carpenters Down Road, Popley, Basingstoke	500
Fieldgate Centre	Fox's Lane. Kingsclere, Basingstoke	200
Hatch Warren Community Centre	Long Cross Lane, Hatch Warren, Basingstoke	250
Lodden Vale Bowling Club	West Ham Leisure Park , Basingstoke	200
Tadley Community Centre	New Church Road, Tadley, RG26 4HN	300
The Gill Nethercott Centre	Winchester Street, Whitchurch, RG28 7HP	100

5.15 Vulnerable People

Supporting the vulnerable throughout a major incident is always difficult due to the number of agencies involved, the different vulnerabilities of people and the ever changing vulnerability of people due to the incident type.

The TV LRF and WBDC Vulnerable People Plans will be used to support this plan.

The main issues with respect to an incident at an AWE site and the vulnerable include:

- (a) Looking after vulnerable individuals and
- (b) Looking after groups of vulnerable people including residential and nursing care homes, schools and children's nurseries.

5.15.1 Vulnerable Individuals

What constitutes a person as "vulnerable" cannot be completely determined as it will depend on the circumstance of the event. For example, someone who is agoraphobic would be vulnerable if they were expected to evacuate but not if sheltering in their own home.

The identification of an individual or group of people who are particularly vulnerable due to particular circumstances in an emergency could, in the extreme, be a matter of life and death.

No single organisation has the need, ability or responsibility to maintain the entire dataset needed for the discharge of this task. As a result there is a need for the many varied organisations, particularly the Local Authority Social Services and the Health organisations, to work together to create a list of all the known vulnerable in the area affected.

The local community leaders including Councillors and Parish Members are also an invaluable source of knowledge relating to people who may not be on any service database.

The process for alerting and dealing with vulnerable people will normally be through the LA Control Rooms, with the information being fed to SCC for consideration and recommendations for action as necessary.

5.15.2 Vulnerable Groups

Section 5.14.4 details Vulnerable Group Locations within the DEPZ's of both sites. Individual vulnerable people are not identified due to the changing nature of these vulnerable individuals.

5.15.3 Awareness Issues

All vulnerable people and group locations are issued with the REPPIR leaflet along with all other addresses in the area.

All vulnerable group locations e.g. schools and residential care homes are provided with advice from the respective Local Authority on the following:

- (a) Preparing and testing site plans
- (b) Informing and training staff
- (c) Ensuring all users of the site are aware of the emergency procedures and what the location will do in an emergency and what the guardian/family of the vulnerable people should do
- (d) Ensuring in their Business Continuity Plans, and linked to their emergency plan, have detailed alternative suitable sites for their vulnerable people that are not within any sector of the DEPZ. This plan should include potential transport plans etc.

5.15.4 Vulnerable Group Locations within DEPZ's

Within AWE Aldermaston DEPZ area.

Schools

Name & Address	Type of premises	Additional Information	Tel. No.	Responsible LA area	Zone
Alder Bridge School Bridge House, Mill Lane, Padworth, Berkshire, RG7 4JU	Primary School			West Berkshire District Council	A2
Jubilee Day Nursery Paddock Road, Padworth, Reading, RG74JD	Nursery	Monday – Friday 7:30am – 6:00pm 160 + under 5's		West Berkshire District Council	B2
Padworth, School Road, Lower Padworth, Reading, Berkshire RG7 4JA	Nursery			West Berkshire District Council	B2
Padworth College, Padworth, Berkshire RG7 4NR	Private School	International Students	Removed due to inclusion of personal contacts.	West Berkshire District Council	B2
Padworth College Padworth, Berkshire RG7 4NR	Summer School	Summer School Contacts		West Berkshire District Council	B2
Impstone Pre-School Committee of Management, Pamber Heath Memorial Hall, Pamber Heath Road, RG26 3TQ	Pre-School Play Group	26 Attendees		Hampshire County Council	F/G
Tadley Court School Common Road, Tadley, RG26 3TA	Private Boarding School	Student's aged 5 to 19, who are diagnosed as being on the autistic spectrum with associated learning difficulties. Up to 46 residents		Hampshire County Council	G

Name & Address	Type of premises	Additional Information	Tel. No.	Responsible LA area	Zone
Tadley Under Fives Pre School Community Centre, New Church Road, RG26 4HT	Pre-School Play Group	30 Attendees		Hampshire County Council	G
Greenacre Pre-School Bishopwood Co Infant School, Barlows Road, RG26 3PG	Pre-School Play Group	26 Attendees		Hampshire County Council	H
Bishopswood Infant School Barlows Road, Tadley RG26 3NA	Infant School	177 Students aged 4-7		Hampshire County Council	H
	Afterschool and Breakfast Club	Up to 30 attendees			
	Junior School	230 Students			
St Pauls Pre-School Church Hall, The Green, RG26 3PG	Pre-School Play Group	16 Attendees		Hampshire County Council	H
Tiny Town Kindergarten 1 Mount Pleasant, RG26 3AU	Day Nursery	Estimated 30 Students		Hampshire County Council	H
Bo-Peeps Day Nursery The Old Coach House, Church Road, RG26 3AU	Day Nursery	Estimated 30 Students		Hampshire County Council	I
Tadley Community Primary School The Green, Tadley, RG26 3PB	Primary School	Students aged 4-11		Hampshire County Council	I
The Saplings Pre School Burnham Copse Infants School, New Church Rd RG26 4JH	Day Nursery	Estimated 30 students		Hampshire County Council	J
Burnham Copse Primary School New Church Road, Tadley RG26 4HN	Primary School	270 Students aged 4-11		Hampshire County Council	J
The Hurst Community College (Specialist Science Status)	Secondary School	903 Students		Hampshire County Council	L

Name & Address	Type of premises	Additional Information	Tel. No.	Responsible LA area	Zone
Brimpton Road, Baughurst, Tadley RG26 5NL					
Tall Trees Out of School Club Brimpton Road, Baughurst, Tadley. RG26 5NL	Out of School Day Care Holiday Scheme	After school club		Hampshire County Council	L
Miss Polly's Kindergarten Brimpton Road, Baughurst, Tadley RG26 5NL	Day Nursery	Estimated 75 students		Hampshire County Council	L
Butterflies Pre School Heath End Village Hall, Heath End Road, RG27 5KY	Pre School	Estimated 30 Students		Hampshire County Council	L
The Children's House Grantham Farm, Baughurst, Tadley, RG26 5JS	Pre School			Hampshire County Council	L
Little Stars Pre School Heath End Village Hall, Baughurst, Tadley RG26 5LU	Pre School			Hampshire County Council	L
Boot Farm Kindergarten Back Lane, Brimpton Common, RG7 4RG	Nursery			West Berkshire District Council	M
Brimpton CE Primary School, Brimpton Lane, Brimpton, RG7 4TL	Primary School	No Kitchen		West Berkshire District Council	N2
Aldermaston Primary Wasing Lane, Aldermaston RG7 4LX	Primary School	138 Children (Primary)		West Berkshire District Council	R
Aldermaston Primary Wasing Lane, Aldermaston RG7 4LX	School Club	08.00 to 08.45 and 15.15 to 18.00		West Berkshire District Council	R
The Cedars School Church Road, Aldermaston,	Private School			West Berkshire	R

Name & Address	Type of premises	Additional Information	Tel. No.	Responsible LA area	Zone
Berkshire RG7 4LR				District Council	
Silchester Church of England Primary School School Lane, RG27 2NJ	Primary School	Estimated 210 Students		Hampshire County Council	OUTSIDE PIZ

Care Homes

Name & Address	Type of premises	Additional Information	Responsible LA area	Zone
Bethany Residential Home 17a Pamber Road, Tadley, RG26 3TH	Care Home only (Residential Care)	Care home without nursing	Hampshire County Council	F/G
Wakeford Court, Silcester Road, Pamber Heath, Tadley, Hampshire, RG26 3XD	Retirement/ sheltered housing	20 flats Non-resident management staff Leasehold	Hampshire County Council	G
21 Searing Way, Tadley, Basingstoke, RG26 4HT	Care Home only (Residential Care)	Voluntary Ownership 5 Residents Learning Disabilities	Hampshire County Council	J
Fairview 2 Pinks Lane, Baughurst, Tadley RG26 5NG	Care Home only (Residential Care)	Privately Owned 6 Residents Learning Disabilities 18+	Hampshire County Council	L
Fir Tree Lodge Heather Drive, Tadley, Basingstoke, RG26 4R	Care Home only (Residential Care)	Voluntary Ownership 6 Residents Learning Disabilities Physical Disabilities Sensory Impairments 18+	Hampshire County Council	L

Within AWE Burghfield DEPZ area.

None

Caravan/Mobile Home Locations within or directly on the border of DEPZ's

Address	No. of units	Responsible LA	Sector
Pinelands Mobile Home Park Padworth Common Padworth RG7 4BQ	~38	West Berkshire District Council	C
Padworth College Morton Hall Rectory Road Padworth RG7 4NR		West Berkshire District Council	B1
Ravenswing Mobile Home Park Aldermaston RG7 4PY	~23	West Berkshire District Council	G
32 Tadley Hill – Tadley Tadley RG26 3PW	2	Hampshire/BDBC	H
Cross Lanes Gully Paices Hill Aldermaston		West Berkshire District Council	P
Old Stocks Farm 7 Old Stocks Farm Paices Hill Aldermaston RG7 4PG	~28	West Berkshire District Council	P

Private Water Borehole Supplies Locations

Location	GRID REF
AWE (A) site	N/A
AWE (B) site	N/A
Manor House Hotel	459660 164763
Portland House	459451 164888
Old Mill Hotel	459096 166217

5.16 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Each agency has responsibilities under Health and Safety legislation with respect to the appropriate PPE for staff.

Under the Ionising Radiations Regulations 2017 (IRR17) employers with staff who are working/exposed to Ionising Radiation are required to ensure they have competent advice from a [Radiation Protective Adviser](#).

A key element of the response regarding AWE involves understanding the risks to health and taking appropriate precautions.

5.16.1 Varying PPE Requirements

There are a number of situations which require the responder to enter potentially contaminated areas including:

- (a) On-site incident response
- (b) Off-site incident response
- (c) Undertaking normal business in the affected area.

5.16.2 Radiation Protection Advisors (RPA)

The emergency services and site operators in the Thames Valley and Hampshire have appointed RPA's to provide advice to their staff as to what they should and should not do, including any PPE to be worn.

The main considerations of the RPAs as they develop their advice is:

- (a) What is the contaminant?
- (b) How much is there in the affected area?
- (c) What are the responders likely to be doing?
- (d) How long will they be doing it?

Whilst the information is known in outline for the above considerations a dynamic risk assessment is necessary to confirm the arrangements in advance of emergency services responders going to site.

5.16.3 Responders with no RPA contract

Several of the responding agencies do not have a contract in place with an RPA since 'normally' they would not need to go into a contaminated area and are not required to otherwise.

These responding agencies may have to go into the affected area to undertake normal, but lifesaving or life maintenance work in order to support the vulnerable or support the response as a whole.

In order to support the response then an RPA would be sourced – via advice from PHE or AWE in the first instance to attend a TCG.

5.16.4 Personal protection advice for the community

Normally PPE would not be needed for the community- not least since they will be under shelter.

IF the community or elements of the community in the affected area are to be evacuated then it may be that PPE would need to be considered to protect people being evacuated. The advice in relation to any protection necessary would be sought from the STAC (for the community) and a RPA (for responders). The advice should take into consideration:

- (a) What is the contaminant?
- (b) How much is there in the affected area?
- (c) What are those being evacuated likely to be doing – walking/carried etc.?

- (d) How long will they be exposed to the contamination?
- (e) What will the responders be wearing?
- (f) How will it be provided?
- (g) How will it be disposed of?

5.16.5 Other Considerations

Other issues the STAC & Emergency Services RPA's should consider as part of the response include:

Following the authority for responders to enter the affected area:

- (a) Is there an entry RV point
- (b) Is there a different exit RV Point
- (c) what is the exit policy for these responders when they leave the area? Remove clothing? Full decontamination and if so by whom, where etc.?
- (d) Who is responsible on-site to ensure all are correctly wearing their PPE?

If vehicles enter into the affected area:

- (a) Do they go in and stay in affected area acting as shuttles to the cordon?
- (b) Do they come out and get decontaminated
- (c) If so by whom and how?
- (d) If not consider transfer of patients and what about the staff?
- (e) What are the differences in the PPE variation for responders?
- (f) What about the public perception regarding the differences for responders and what they may be asked to do?
- (g) What, if any, PPE should the public be advised to wear if evacuated?
- (h) What sources of suitable PPE are available for the tasks being asked of responders?
- (i) Is mutual aid provision of PPE between responders a possibility?
- (j) What about responding agency staff that were in the affected area at the time of an incident?
- (k) How can the PPE be safely disposed of and where?
- (l) What follow-up monitoring and dosimetry is required for responders?

5.16.6 Types of PPE

There are a large number of variations on PPE that could be worn ranging from full suits with breathing apparatus to ordinary face masks, goggles, disposable paper coveralls and disposable footwear.

All the above could be used in differing locations as a result of the incident and at different times. E.g. in the initial stages when minimum is known about the levels of contamination and therefore the risk then full body suits with breathing apparatus may be used by certain responders performing specific tasks, however as time progresses then face masks (FFP3) may be all that is necessary.

It may however be necessary to provide some degree of protection to the members of the public that require evacuation from potentially contaminated areas at any point during an incident.

5.16.7 Emergency Exposure Levels (EELs)

The table below identifies the EELs adopted by AWE and the blue light emergency services responding under this plan.

Agency	Emergency Reference Levels
AWE Fire and Rescue Service	20 mSv annual limit for all fire fighters (as classified radiation workers). Female fire fighters of reproductive capacity are additionally legally limited to 13mSv in any consecutive three month period.

Agency	Emergency Reference Levels
	<p>100 mSv dose limit of informed fire fighter volunteers to make safe plant or equipment that is likely to prevent or significantly mitigate a radiation emergency on an AWE site. Deployment only after dis-application of the dose limits prescribed in the IRRs by the AWE Emergency Manager, guidance from Health Physics and authorisation by a senior AWE FRS Officer.</p> <p>500 mSv dose limit of informed fire fighter volunteers to safe life on an AWE site during a radiation emergency. Deployment only after dis-application of the dose limits prescribed in the IRRs by the AWE Emergency Manager, guidance from Health Physics and authorisation by a senior AWE FRS Officer.</p>
AWE Ambulance Crews	20 mSv total for all AWE ambulance crew members per year (as classified radiation workers. Female ambulance crew members of reproductive capacity are additionally legally limited to 13mSv in any three month period.
Ministry of Defence Police	1mSv annual limit for operational MDP officers.
AWE Personnel (non-emergency services)	1 mSv limit for all AWE non-classified radiation workers per year 20 mSv legal limit for all AWE classified radiation workers per year. Female classified radiation workers of reproductive capacity are additionally legally limited to 13mSv in any three month period.
South Central Ambulance NHS Foundation Trust	<p>1 mSv total for all staff per event. After such an event, a review will be held to examine exposures and identify any improvements in working practices to reduce potential exposures in future events;</p> <p>Annual Dose Limit (Whole Body) 20 mSv – Under normal circumstances this would only be applied to the Hazardous Area Response Team (HART). Reference levels 1 and 2 would apply to other ambulance staff.</p> <p>The maximum dose for life saving operations where the casualty cannot be immediately removed from the area of high dose rate or contamination is 100 mSv; all ambulance staff can volunteer to be exposed to this level provided that they have been fully briefed and understand the implications.</p>
Local Authority Fire and Rescue Service	<p>5 mSv per incident. Wherever possible. Follow the principle: try to work to the dose constraint. Where not possible work to dose limit but ALARP (as low as reasonably practicable) still applies</p> <p>20 mSv annual limit for all firefighters. If FRS policy permits deployment, women firefighters of reproductive capacity are additionally legally limited to 13mSv in any three month period. Public not likely to receive more than 5mSv in following year as a result of the incident.</p> <p>100 mSv dose limit of informed fire fighter volunteers. Deployment only after guidance from Hazardous Material Environmental Protection Advisor (HMEPA) and authorised by Brigade Manager. Emergency exposure to save life or maintain critical infrastructure.</p>

Agency	Emergency Reference Levels
	Public likely to receive more than 5mSv in following year as a result of the incident.
Home Office Police	1mSv annual limit for all police officers. Any entry into potentially contaminated environments must be clearly justified and advice from the Police Radiation Protection Adviser must be sought prior to entry.

5.17 Warning and Informing

5.17.1 Legal Requirements

The duty to provide information to the public during an off-site emergency is that of the local authority under the Radiation Emergencies Preparedness and Public Information Regulations (REPPiR). This duty can only be carried out with the support and cooperation of all the agencies responding to the emergency.

In addition under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 there is a requirement for Category 1 responders to warn & inform the community regarding emergencies.

Warning & Informing the community involves all stages of an emergency – before, during and after and all agencies.

Coordination can be via the SCC Media Advisory Cell (MAC). However this does not stop individual agencies focusing on their areas of responsibility and getting messages out.

In the recovery phase of the incident the coordination of information to the public will be transferred to the local authority.

5.17.2 AWE Warning & Informing the Community Process

This takes place before, during and after an event in a number of formats.

Reference should also be made to West Berkshire District Councils Major Incident Plan and TV LRF Communications Plan.

The key pillars of the requirements to warn and inform the public include:

The public will need to know:	The public will want to know:	Broadcasters will require:
Basic details of the incident - what, where, when (and the who, why and how, if possible) Implications for health and welfare; Advice and guidance (e.g. stay indoors, symptoms, preparing for evacuation etc.); Reassurance.	Other practical implications such as the effect on normal routine, power supplies, telephones, schools, water supplies, food etc.; A helpline number; What is being done to resolve the situation?	Well-thought-out and joined-up media briefing arrangements between emergency services, local authority and other organisations, capable of providing agreed information at speed; An immediate telephone contact; A media rendezvous point close to the scene.

5.17.3 Before a Radiation Emergency

- (a) **REPPiR Leaflet:** On a 3 yearly basis AWE & West Berkshire District Council, in consultation with the partner agencies, produce a REPPiR leaflet.

The aim of the leaflet is to provide information to the local community as to what they should do should there be an incident at AWE sites which may affect them.

The current version of the leaflet can be found on [West Berkshire District Councils website](#).

- (b) **Local Liaison Committee (LLC):** A committee involving elected members from the Town, Parish, County, District and Borough Councils which are in the DEPZ areas. These representatives communicate to their respective communities.

There are normally four meetings a year where AWE provides updates and the Members have the opportunity to challenge the operator. More information is on the AWE website [Local Liaison Committee | AWE](#)

- (c) **Connect Leaflet.** A [leaflet](#) sent out quarterly to a large area of the community. This raises awareness of the site with messages being put in place in relation to what to do should there be an incident.
- (d) **Websites:** Information relating to the plans and the sites are held on West Berkshire District Councils website.
- (e) **Specific Vulnerable Groups:** Agencies from the AWE Off-Site Planning Group work with schools, early year settings, care homes and traveller sites in order to raise awareness and encourage on-site emergency plans so they can support the responding agencies.

5.17.4 *During the Response to an Emergency*

When this plan has been activated the following warning & informing of the affected areas would take place:

- (a) **Immediate:** For a Radiation Emergency AWE will initiate the automatic telephone alerting system to households round the affected site. The public will be advised to go inside, stay inside the nearest suitable building and to tune into the radio and television to hear public service broadcasts.
The transcript of the message is set out below:

This is an alert message from AWE.

There has been an incident at AWE.

For your safety please go indoors, stay indoors, close your doors and windows and tune in to your local radio or TV station where further information will be made available.

Press any key on your phone so we know you have received this message.

It should be noted that the automatic telephone alerting system to households around the site operates on an 'opt out' basis. Therefore, it is intended that the majority of people within the area will receive a call should they be in the area potentially affected.

- (b) **Use of Media Outlets:** Information and warnings about the emergency will be regularly reported via TV, local and national radio; social media including AWE Twitter account, and websites as appropriate. This will be managed by all agencies and coordinated by the Media Advisory Cell
- (c) **Other activities** such as loud hailers etc. may be employed to ensure messages are going out. All means necessary will be used to get the messages across
- (d) **Emergency Media Briefing Centres** may also be put in place
- (e) **Emergency Help Lines:** The SCG will decide if there is a need for an emergency help line to be activated during the response phase.

5.17.5 *During the Recovery from an Emergency*

After the initial warnings and advice has been given to the public it is essential that more information is provided quickly in order to reassure the public and to ensure they know what to do if the incident is of a prolonged nature.

There are some generic answers to these points covered in the Recovery Section ([Section 5.19](#)) to this plan. However, for any incident prior to offering the advice a review of the information against the actual situation must be undertaken.

The RCG will coordinate the information dissemination for the recovery phase. The TVLRF Recovery Plan gives guidance as to how this may be done but it may include:

- (a) Leaflets
- (b) Press releases
- (c) Information centres
- (d) Public meetings
- (e) Websites for responding agencies.
- (f) Notification of All Clear

Just as important as notification of the incident is the notification of the all clear.

As a result of the monitoring undertaken the all clear will be given as soon as possible. This would be given via the automatic telephone system in consultation with, as a minimum, AWE and the Police.

The timing of the all clear may be at a very early stage or if the incident goes on for a long period and widespread then the time for the all clear to be given may be longer.

The release of the information will be agreed and coordinated by the SCG/RCG as appropriate.

5.18 Media

It is anticipated that the media interest in an incident occurring at either of the AWE sites would be large and that the media would be on scene quickly after the incident. In the absence of a reliable source of information, the media will seek information from any source that they can find which will include responders, the local community, 'experts' and pressure groups. Given the public apprehension about radioactivity, it is important that a reliable source of information is established as soon as possible following an incident, and that it is seen to be independent and objective.

During an incident the media will be contacting all responding agencies in order to build their story. As a result a coordinated response is necessary in order to ensure consistency and accuracy of information.

It is also essential that all agencies develop an open relationship with the media in order to lessen the likelihood of the dissemination of inaccurate or misleading information that could lead to unnecessary public alarm.

Media communications are essential particularly in the early stages when the community affected are under shelter and the advice is to 'tune in'. Hence the media forms a key role in warning and informing the community.

5.18.1 Information Control

In order to support the information coordination there are a number of plans relating to the media response including:

- (a) TVLRF Communications Plan.
- (b) Joint AWE/MOD Emergency Communications Plan

Thames Valley Police Press Office is responsible for the coordination of the messages to the media during the response phase of the incident and will appoint a Public Information Officer to manage this task. This responsibility will be transferred to the Local Authority for the recovery phase.

Each agency has its own press officer(s) or communication teams who have responsibility for their agencies information. This does not mean that agencies cannot confirm what their own response measures and business continuity plans are, however, they should not speculate on others and the overall picture without the exact details being available. Coordination is managed by setting up a multi-agency Media Advisory Cell (MAC) at the TVP SCC or via teleconference.

Press Officers from the agencies are likely to be at a number of locations as detailed below:

- (a) Their own organisation location
- (b) The Emergency Media Briefing Centre (MBC) – in support of their media spokesperson or to act as their agency spokesperson
- (c) At MAC at TVP SCC
- (d) At other response locations e.g. Reception Centre / Rest Centres.
- (e) SCC Media Advisory Cell for AWE Incident
- (f) Thames Valley Police will set up a Media Advisory Cell at TVP SCC.
- (g) Representatives of the Police, Local Authority, PHE, EA, AWE, MOD and other responding agencies will staff the cell.

This combined media cell will support the responses to press inquiries addressed to TVP and will maintain contact with other Media Briefing Centres and Press Cells set up elsewhere e.g. nearer the scene in order to maintain consistency of information.

The MAC will coordinate the information given to the media via the Media Briefing Centre. It is not envisaged that the media will be attending TVP SCC; instead Press Conferences will be scheduled at the Media Briefing Centre.

5.18.2 *Emergency Media Briefing Centre (MBC)*

TVP are responsible for the facilities provided at the Emergency MBC.

Within the MBC a press cell will be established, consisting of press officers from the Police, MOD, Local Authority Press officers, health related agencies such as DEFRA, PHE, etc. and others as required.

This press cell will manage the queries received from the media coordinating the response in line with the MAC including requesting information from the MAC if not known.

The location chosen should have the following as a minimum:

- (a) Reasonable proximity to the AWE sites, whilst being out of the Detailed Emergency Planning Zones (DEPZ)
- (b) Easy Access and car parking, capable of dealing with media vehicles
- (c) A large room for the agencies press cell – to include: tables, telephones, photocopiers, fax machines, ICT capability and media monitoring equipment – for the press cell
- (d) A room for the media representatives
- (e) A room for a press conference – tables, chairs will be necessary
- (f) Toilets
- (g) Basic refreshment capabilities.
- (h) Media Briefing Sites.

A number of sites will potentially suit most of the above requirements including:

- (a) Newbury Racecourse, Newbury
- (b) Wokefield Park Hotel, Mortimer
- (c) The Comfort Inn, Padworth
- (d) Regus Office complex, Theale
- (e) Pincents Manor Hotel, Pincents Lane, Tilehurst.

The site chosen on the day will very much depend upon the site affected, the wind direction, availability of the site and where the press are naturally attracted to, although safety and ensuring the response to the incident must be the priority.

The Emergency MBC does not need to be equipped with technology for the media attending to use – most come self-sufficient.

5.18.3 *Press Statements*

In the AWE/TVP joint media plan there are a number of joint statements that can be released with basic information without the approval of the SCG media cell. These statements allow for accurate information to be sent out quickly and allow the SCG media cell to meet and confirm in more detail at a later stage the information to be released.

Once the MAC has convened, statements will be sent from there.

It is important that all press releases sent out are copied to all agencies involved in order that everyone is aware of the reports going out should they be questioned on the release.

5.18.4 *Specific Public Information relating to AWE Incident Concerns*

The table below covers some of the common questions asked following an AWE incident. There is also some agreed draft statements and advice plus the lead agency or coordinating group to go to get final confirmation of the data prior to release.

Issue	Specifics	Draft Information/advice to be used	Sources of further guidance for Press Officers: Plan section, Lead Organisation or coordinating groups.
Shelter & Evacuation Countermeasures	Concerns in relation to whether to shelter or evacuate and specific actions to be taken.	<p>Everyone is advised to go into the nearest building to where they are.</p> <p>Close all the windows and doors.</p> <p>Tune into the local radio, TV or internet.</p> <p>If outside at the time of the incident then if possible: Blow their nose, take off outer clothing – bagging it somewhere safe and wash their face and hands.</p>	<p>REPPIR leaflet</p> <p>STAC/SCG</p>
Personal Health	People will be concerned about their health or of friends/relatives who are in the affected area.	<p>There is no risk of an immediate impact of any radiation contamination.</p> <p>In order to reduce any risk then people who were outside at the time should: Blow their nose, take off outer clothing – bagging it somewhere safe and wash their face and hands.</p> <p>If they are still concerned then they should contact their GP.</p>	<p>REPPIR leaflet</p> <p>STAC when in place or AWE/PHE CRCE in the initial phase.</p>
Vulnerable People	What about the vulnerable in the	There are plans in place to support the vulnerable in the community.	<p>STAC/SCG</p> <p>TV LRF Vulnerable People Plan.</p>

Issue	Specifics	Draft Information/advice to be used	Sources of further guidance for Press Officers: Plan section, Lead Organisation or coordinating groups.
	community e.g. school children, elderly etc.?	<p>Initially they should take shelter like everyone else in the affected area.</p> <p>Schools and care homes in the affected area will be getting contacted to check on the support they need and plans put in place to support them.</p> <p>Individuals in their own home who get support should contact their carer to see what can be done to help them, if they have not contacted them. Support will be confirmed on an individual basis depending on their needs.</p>	There are also site specific plans for schools etc. to help schools plan to support the children, staff and parents.
Pet Health	People will be concerned about their pets – either if they were or are outside at the time of the incident and if they are evacuated from their home.	<p>Pets which were inside at the time of the incident should have no issues.</p> <p>Pets that were outside may be brought under cover – into kennels, chicken coup or if necessary into the house but not petted. This should be done ideally without going outside so as not to put the owner at risk.</p> <p>If you need to be evacuated then you will be given advice as to what to do with your pets.</p> <p>Based on the characteristics of the incident guidance will be issued at the time following consultation with experts</p>	<p>STAC/SCG/RCG</p> <p>Veterinary assistance and guidance will be sought via the RSPCA, Defra and Animal Health in order to determine the best advice and actions in relation to pet health</p>

Issue	Specifics	Draft Information/advice to be used	Sources of further guidance for Press Officers: Plan section, Lead Organisation or coordinating groups.
Public Water Supplies	Concerns about water safety from contamination	<p>It is very unlikely that the public water supplies will be affected by radiation since there are no treatment plants in the area and the public supply is contained in pipes.</p> <p>If there is chemical contamination then water may be contaminated – however due to the water treatment processes it should not get into the water supply.</p> <p>Monitoring will be undertaken to check this remains the case.</p> <p>Portable supplies would be put in place if this were not the case.</p>	<p>STAC/SCG</p> <p>Water suppliers, PHE and Environment Agency will be able to provide more information.</p> <p>TV LRF Water Distribution Plan</p>
Private Water Supplies	Concerns about water safety from contamination	<p>There are some private water supplies in and around the respective DEPZ of both sites.</p> <p>These are supplies that come from private wells, natural springs or other ground water sources.</p> <p>The risk of this water being contaminated is very low since the radiation needs to enter the groundwater which would take time.</p> <p>Chemical contamination may be more of a risk which may result in restrictions on the use of water being considered.</p>	<p>STAC/SCG</p> <p>West Berkshire District Councils' Environmental Health service will be responsible for advising those with private water supplies on their potability in conjunction from the advice from the STAC.</p> <p>The PHE CRCE will support the Council with respect to sampling, analysis of results and advise as to whether the water is safe to drink.</p>

Issue	Specifics	Draft Information/advice to be used	Sources of further guidance for Press Officers: Plan section, Lead Organisation or coordinating groups.
			<p>Sampling may be necessary for some time after the event. This should be considered by the Recovery Coordinating Group.</p> <p>If water restrictions are necessary they the Council along with the premises owner will review temporary alternative water supplies.</p>
Waste	There are a number of types of waste that may arise as a result of the incident including:		
Domestic Waste.	What do people do with household waste.	<p>It is likely that domestic waste collection for the area affected will be suspended mainly to allow responders to access the area and to protect the refuse collectors.</p> <p>All waste should be left in situ with further guidance provided when the collections will start again – this may be a few days since the priority is to make sure people are safe. If adding rubbish to the bins it is advised to wear gloves and wash hands afterwards.</p> <p>Most of the bins used by the Councils are wheeled bins however there are approx 23</p>	<p>STAC/RCG</p> <p>The resumption of waste collection will depend upon a risk assessment based upon the specifics of the incident and dialogue with the contractor – with info from the STAC/TCG.</p> <p>Will provide the advice to the Councils.</p>

Issue	Specifics	Draft Information/advice to be used	Sources of further guidance for Press Officers: Plan section, Lead Organisation or coordinating groups.
		dwellings in BDBC area who chose to continue to use bags.	
Clothing Waste	What to do with clothes that people have worn if outside at the time of the incident and may therefore be contaminated (as per guidance in REPPIR leaflet).	<p>If you have taken off clothes you have had on outside when the incident happened then you should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Put the clothes inside a bag. Then put that bag inside another bag (double bagging) • The bagged clothing should be left outside the door • More information will be provided as to what to do with the bagged clothes following more detailed monitoring around the site perimeter have been completed • They may include guidance as to how to dispose of the bag or how to clean the clothes. 	STAC/RCG Will provide guidance to the Councils.
Drainage Waste	Are the sewerage works likely to be contaminated?	<p>The waste water companies are working with all the other agencies and checking for the risk of radiation contamination.</p> <p>They will also be monitoring the effluent and the sludge material prior to discharge to check there is no contamination going into the environment.</p>	STAC/RCG Involving the Environment Agency and DEFRA along with the water companies who will advise on drainage and sewerage coming from the affected area. It is likely that the majority of any radioactive waste entering the

Issue	Specifics	Draft Information/advice to be used	Sources of further guidance for Press Officers: Plan section, Lead Organisation or coordinating groups.
			sewage system will settle out in the sludge in the local sewage treatment works (depending on capacity); so disposal of the sludge will be managed by the water company. The Environment Agency can advise on appropriate disposal methods and routes.
Contaminated Land Waste	Is the land contaminated and if so what is happening with it.	A comprehensive monitoring regime is being put in place to check for any radiation contamination. Once the full scale of the situation is known then a more detailed clean-up programme, if needed will be put into place.	STAC/RCG It is the Local Authorities responsibility to investigate and determine if land is to be designated as contaminated land under the Environmental Protection Act 1990. If the LA designate the land as a 'Special Site' under the legislation then the Environment Agency will be responsible for remediation. Public Health England will provide environmental assessments in conjunction with the Environment Agency and will give advice on remediation options and the associated cost of implementing these.

Issue	Specifics	Draft Information/advice to be used	Sources of further guidance for Press Officers: Plan section, Lead Organisation or coordinating groups.
Gardens	What can I do in the garden? What do I do with the vegetables etc.?	<p>It is recommended that directly after the incident then gardens do not work in their garden.</p> <p>In particular no one should do things that may mean any contamination being resuspended and therefore potentially breathed in.</p> <p>Monitoring of the area will be taking place and as soon as the results from that are known then more detailed advice will be given.</p>	<p>RCG.</p> <p>Public Health England CRCE will provide environmental assessments in conjunction with the Environment Agency and will give advice on remediation options. Part of the remediation plan will include gardens. This process will vary depending on the contamination and the concentration. Issues that will need to be considered include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grass and hedge cutting • Flower removal • Vegetable removal • Paths/Drives/Decking cleansing/disposal. • Furniture and ancillary cleansing/disposal. • Long Term use of land.
Food – General	Is my food safe to use?	Any food that was inside the home or offices when the incident happened will not be affected, in particular tins and packaged goods, so can be used.	<p>STAC/RCG</p> <p>Food Safety is the responsibility of Food Standards Agency (FSA), who will give advice to the public about the safety of food and milk</p>

Issue	Specifics	Draft Information/advice to be used	Sources of further guidance for Press Officers: Plan section, Lead Organisation or coordinating groups.
		<p>Any food that was outdoors at the time of the incident should not be used until further sampling and information is available.</p>	<p>in the event of an off-site emergency. FSA advice to the public is likely to cover both what foods are unaffected and safe to eat, together with advice on potentially contaminated foodstuffs.</p> <p>The area over which food is affected is likely to be much larger than the areas where people have been asked to shelter in their homes or evacuate. Sheltering and evacuation are necessary to avoid people breathing in radioactivity or receiving direct radiation from the plume for the short time that it passes overhead. However, it is possible that some people may eat large quantities of contaminated foods from the affected areas (e.g. vegetables from allotments) over prolonged periods. It is therefore, necessary to limit radioactivity in food at a cautious level which, in turn, leads to a relatively large area being affected. The following</p>

Issue	Specifics	Draft Information/advice to be used	Sources of further guidance for Press Officers: Plan section, Lead Organisation or coordinating groups.
			are some of the issues the FSA will consider with a basic outline as to the likely advice subject to the actual event.
Livestock	What do I do with livestock?	All livestock should be left where they are in the short-term until the environmental monitoring results are known. If there are specific welfare issues such as feeding, milking, lambing/calving then they should contact the Councils Animal Health team.	STAC/SCG Animal Welfare: The responsibility for animal welfare issues lies with DEFRA, Animal Health and Trading Standards Services. Food Safety: The Food Standards Agency will assess the potential for meat from livestock to be contaminated and, if necessary, the FSA can control of the movement and slaughter of livestock using the powers invested by Food & Environmental Protection Act 1985 (FEPA 85).
Crops	Are the farm crops safe to use?	No crops or foodstuffs should be harvested in the affected area until more detailed environmental monitoring results are known. Crops and foodstuffs exposed to a chemical or radiation release may become	The Food Standards Agency (FSA) will undertake the sampling and testing of foodstuffs produced and/or stored in areas affected by the incident.

Issue	Specifics	Draft Information/advice to be used	Sources of further guidance for Press Officers: Plan section, Lead Organisation or coordinating groups.
		<p>contaminated in the downwind sector from the site of the incident. This can be either immediate contamination through direct deposition, or may occur over a longer time period due to uptake of contamination into growing plants.</p> <p>In the early stages of the response farmers (and gardeners) will not be encouraged to harvest crops or eating other foods that may be contaminated.</p> <p>Advice on the temporary closure of any outdoor markets etc. in the area may also be provided.</p>	<p>Emergency measures necessary to control the consumption and distribution of agricultural products will be implemented as appropriate by the FSA, who would liaise with the STAC.</p> <p>If necessary a statutory ban on the harvesting, movement and sale of foodstuffs coming from the affected area will be imposed by the FSA under the Food & Environmental Protection Act 1985.</p>
Fish	Is locally caught fish safe to use?	<p>The Kennet & Avon Canal is within the DEPZ of AWE (A) and there are a number of fishing lakes near both sites.</p> <p>Initial advice is that no fishing should take place and certainly no consumption of any fish caught when the release was ongoing until such time as sampling had been undertaken.</p>	<p>STAC/RCG</p> <p>The FSA leads on the assessment of the likelihood of contamination of fish or shellfish in watercourses or the marine environment and may apply restrictions on fishing in the areas affected in order to protect human health</p>
Milk	Is locally produced milk safe to use?	Any milk purchased through shops will be safe to use.	STAC/RCG.

Issue	Specifics	Draft Information/advice to be used	Sources of further guidance for Press Officers: Plan section, Lead Organisation or coordinating groups.
		<p>Any milk sold directly by the farmer from his farm should not be used until further monitoring results are known.</p> <p>Contamination of milk may occur in the downwind sector as a result of the animals ingesting contaminated pasture. Although contamination levels on pasture may be low, cows and goats are efficient grazers and can cover a considerable area of land each day. Contaminant taken in by the animals can concentrate in the milk, which may then exceed acceptable levels of the contaminant in milk.</p> <p>It takes at least 24hrs for the contaminant to appear in the milk and may take a few days for peak concentrations to be reached.</p>	<p>The FSA will take action, including introducing restrictions under FEPA 85 to prevent contaminated milk getting into the human food chain.</p> <p>The FSA will liaise other members of the RCG to ensure arrangements are put in place for milk unable to enter the food chain.</p> <p>Sampling of milk will be undertaken by the FSA and West Berkshire District Council Environmental Health Officers. This is likely to occur on a scale larger than the DEPZ.</p> <p>Consideration will also be given to ensure appropriate arrangements are made for collection and disposal of contaminated milk. The Environment Agency will provide advice and guidance in conjunction with other appropriate.</p>

Issue	Specifics	Draft Information/advice to be used	Sources of further guidance for Press Officers: Plan section, Lead Organisation or coordinating groups.
			Trading Standards and Animal Health will consider the welfare of the animals in relation to continued milking.
Housing	If I have to move out of my home where can I go?	<p>If residents are evacuated or cannot get home due to the incident or cordons in place then people are advised to try to stay with friends or relatives in the first instance</p> <p>If this is not possible then residents will be supported at a reception centre where they can get registered and be provided with basic provisions (sleeping bags, basic wash kit, some refreshments etc.</p> <p>In the longer term then options would to stay with friends or family, check with insurance companies for alternative accommodation or be put into emergency housing. The latter may be some distance from the area.</p>	SCG/RCG There are short term and longer term solutions to find. The lead for this will normally be the local authority.
Financial Implications	I have a business and lost money? I am a home owner and have had to move out who pays for this?	Anyone who believes they are being financially penalised as a result of the incident should check with their insurance company in the first instance making notes of all the expenses caused by the incident.	RCG

Issue	Specifics	Draft Information/advice to be used	Sources of further guidance for Press Officers: Plan section, Lead Organisation or coordinating groups.
	Who pays for the clean-up?		

5.19 Recovery

Whilst the timely response to an incident is essential in order to prevent additional consequences from the initial incident, the recovery phase has as much if not more importance in order to bring the community back to normality as soon as possible after the event.

More information on recovery can be obtained in the TVLRF Recovery Plan and Hampshire & Isle of Wight LRF Recovery Plan.

5.19.1 Role of Recovery

The overall aim of any recovery process is to consider what is required in order to bring the area and the community back to 'normality' as quickly as possible. In so doing there is support provided to assist the affected community towards management of its own recovery. It is recognised that where a community experiences a significant emergency, there is a need to supplement the personal, family and community structures which have been disrupted.

The Recovery Coordinating Group (RCG) should support strategic planning at the TVP SCC.

5.19.2 Thames Valley LRF Recovery Plan

The TVLRF Recovery Plan (and where appropriate Hampshire & Isle of Wight LRF Recovery Plan) shall be used at an early stage in providing guidance to the Recovery Coordinating Group (RCG). This group will automatically be set up should an off-site incident occur at an AWE site.

The plan provides details of who would be part of the group, the role of the group, suggested terms of reference and strategies, potential subgroups plus a draft agenda.

5.19.3 Other Radiation Recovery Guidance

- (a) [Guidance on decontamination of buildings, infrastructure and open environment](#)
- (b) [PHE Radiation Recovery Guidance](#)

5.19.4 Recovery Coordinating Group Activation & Location

A Recovery Coordinating Group (RCG) shall normally be put in place as soon as possible after an Off-Site Emergency has been declared in order to start looking at the recovery requirements at an early stage.

All agencies as per the agreed membership will be invited to confirm representation and attend meetings or teleconferences in the early stages to start scoping the requirements. The RCG will initially normally convene at the SCC or via teleconferencing. After the emergency response phase is over the group would move to a suitable agreed location nearer to the affected area to manage longer term recovery.

It may be possible to establish a RCG outside of the SCC, if the main area of concern lies outside of the TVP area. However, this will only be acceptable, if close communication links are being kept between the RCG and the SCG and STAC.

5.19.5 Membership & Chairing of RCG

The group will normally be chaired by a Director, or senior manager from West Berkshire District Council. However depending on the area affected this may transfer, with agreement, to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council.

The Recovery Coordinating Group membership will vary however as a minimum the membership will include:

- (a) West Berkshire District Council (lead) (Chair, Vice chair and minute taker) plus a number of service representation including:

Highways & Transportation Service

- (a) Environmental Health
 - (b) Rights of Ways
 - (c) Waste Service
 - (d) Community Care
 - (e) Public Health & Wellbeing
 - (f) Education
- (b) Neighbouring LA's as necessary plus service representatives as necessary
 - (c) Thames Valley Police
 - (d) Hampshire Constabulary
 - (e) Berkshire West and Hampshire CCGs
 - (f) PHE CRCE
 - (g) Berkshire FRS & Hampshire FRS
 - (h) South Central Ambulance NHS Foundation Trust
 - (i) Environment Agency
 - (j) Food Standards Agency
 - (k) Highways England
 - (l) Network Rail
 - (m) MHCLG RED
 - (n) ONR
 - (o) AWE staff
 - (p) MOD staff
 - (q) Government Decontamination Service
 - (r) Met Office
 - (s) Thames Water
 - (t) Canal & River Trust
 - (u) British Transport Police
 - (v) Relevant Utilities companies

5.19.6 *Specific AWE Recovery Considerations*

Whilst the Thames Valley Recovery Plan gives a good generic guide for members of recovery groups in general, an incident at an AWE site will provide additional challenges due to the nature of the sites and the potential contamination issues. Some considerations for the first meeting are detailed below:

	Issues	Considerations
(a)	A common aim of the RCG would be to recover all affected areas to an agreed standard so that they are 'suitable for use' for their defined future purposes. The difficulty in this case would be initially determining how clean is clean? This can be difficult due to expectations of the population and the fact that there are always some background natural levels of radioactive substances in the environment.	There has been a great deal of environmental sampling in this area over many years therefore there is known data which will be of assistance in guiding the recovery group to the background levels. Independence of information may be necessary for public reassurance.
(b)	Agreement of environmental management systems to make the best use of technical and manpower resources and sharing information to avoid unnecessary duplication of effort.	There are a number of agencies that can get involved including AWE, PHE, EA, Local Authority, Utilities etc. therefore determining who is doing what and ensuring consistency of approach is essential to determine at the first meeting of the RCG.
(c)	Determining the priority areas for tie-down and decontamination; identification of environmental contamination containment and remediation options and propose/initiate action.	Essential here is to get accurate sample results to assess the spread of any contaminants and to what levels. Thereafter due to the location of the contaminants the priority for decontamination etc. can be prepared
(d)	Implementing a systematic and balanced remediation plan, using best practical environmental options, that is rapid and economical and produces minimal amounts of controllable wastes and disruption.	Contributors to this plan would include the Government Decontamination Service (GDS) for appropriate contractors and the Environment Agency with respect to disposal.
(e)	Liaising with higher authorities, through each agency's management chain, to ensure that early containment and remediation is not impeded or delayed by conflicts of interest between departments.	Clarity on who is doing what and when is to be set out at the first meeting and then communicated up the chains of command. This is important to ensure a swift response. Minutes are therefore essential to assist in this process.
(f)	Identifying the statutory responsibilities and regulatory powers of participating organisations and agreement of management responsibilities and inter-	As with (e) above this needs to be clearly set out to prevent issues further down the recovery process.

	Issues	Considerations
	relationships during the initial phases of remediation	
(g)	Limiting the spread and re-suspension of contamination and protection of public health. This will be important not only in terms of preventing the spread of any contamination and therefore making the recovery process longer but having regard to public reassurance and prevention of public health concerns over a wider area than would be necessary.	Methods of operations need to be considered Speed of controlling the spread/re-suspension is important.
(h)	Determining, as necessary, a health monitoring programme of the local community and advice for other health services should there be concern from people who were in the area at the time of the incident.	A Radiation Monitoring Unit (RMU) may already be set up as part of the response by the Health agencies. If not it may be considered as part of the recovery. Guidance should be prepared for health agencies across the UK and abroad in order that self-presenters get consistent accurate support and advice.
(i)	The practicalities of the recovery also need to be considered including:	Who does the work? What equipment would be used? Where does any contaminated waste go to? What equipment is needed to prevent contamination of clean areas? Is health monitoring of personnel required?

5.19.7 Remediation Phases & Considerations

The early phase (days) involves prompt tie-down or containment of contamination and the recovery of items. The intermediate phase (weeks) involves the treatment of the heaviest or most significant contamination. The late phase (months) involves reduction of environmental contamination to acceptable levels.

Immediate actions include:

- (a) Identification of the significant environmental effects of the incident and preparation of a register of environmental effects.
- (b) Identification of human health effects.
- (c) Determination of 'interim' responsibilities for operational control in respect of tie-down, containment and initial remediation.
- (d) Consideration of shelter/evacuation issues when remediation produces short-term re-suspension.
- (e) Advice on containment and tie-down measures undertaken and assessment of their implications for long term radioactive and conventional remediation.

Medium term actions include:

- (a) Identification of remediation options for all the affected areas and proposal of a remediation plan (with priorities, objectives, end-points and timescales) to higher authorities.
- (b) Identification of waste management, assay, transport and storage issues.
- (c) Identification of relocation issues.
- (d) Coordination of environmental reviews, audits and reports undertaken at the request of higher authorities.
- (e) Consideration of wider issues of public confidence and regeneration and the measures necessary to convince the public that it is safe to return to the area.

Longer term actions include:

- (a) Preparation of a long-term plan to outline the resources and support needed by the local authority for the management of the longer-term remediation issues and public consultation.
- (b) Modification of plan to suit changes in requirements.
- (c) Confirmations that appropriate radiological end-points have been chosen.
- (d) Obtaining certification for reuse of remediated areas.

5.19.8 Remediation Options

There are a number of remediation options available. However, each option needs to be considered in connection with the release, location and potential other impacts by using that form of remediation. It will be the responsibility of the group to move through this decision making process with the evidence available to them at the time.

A common strategy is to divide up the contaminated area into zones according to land use and contamination level. Then a range of alternative options is detailed for each zone. The performance of each option is assessed using indicators such as: the percentage of contamination removed and dose reduction, the volume of waste produced, the resources required, the rate of working and cost. In addition, the advantages and limitations of each option are also considered. Hence, a recommended option is selected for each zone.

5.19.9 Some of the options are detailed below:

Various tie-down reagents (e.g. water, bitumen emulsion, strippable paints etc.) may be applied to reduce the spread of contamination and reduce re-suspension risks. Selection of the appropriate material and application technique is dependent on many factors (e.g. surface type, weather conditions, coverage required etc.).

Non-aggressive decontamination techniques (e.g. vacuum, brushing, hosing etc.) are relatively quick and cheap and generally produce small amounts of controllable waste. These are more applicable in areas where contamination is low level and loosely bound to the surface.

Aggressive decontamination techniques (e.g. road planning, high-pressure water, grit blasting etc.) may be required in areas where contamination is higher level and fixed to the surface. These are much slower and expensive and can generate large volumes of waste.

5.19.10 Recovery Communications

An essential part of recovery will be engagement and information to the local community quickly after the event. This process must continue thereafter on a regular basis in order to ensure everyone is aware of what is happening, why, how and when.

If during the response people have been evacuated the communications must also be made to those displaced residents and businesses in order to ensure they are kept engaged and understand the process.

Due to the nature of the site there will no doubt be a great deal of media interest and therefore it will be important to ensure the correct information is distributed in order to maintain reality on the recovery process and to prevent unnecessary panic.

Regular communications to the staff of responding organisations, town and parish councils and members is also essential to maintain during the recovery process in order to ensure everyone is accurately informed

5.19.11 *Link to Scientific and Technical Advisory Cell (STAC)*

During the response phase the STAC would be in place in order to support the SCG. It would also support the RCG. The RCG will work closely with the STAC in order to share scientific and technical information and expertise. Agencies with a remit in both cells need to consider their number of attendants at the SCG

Once the response phase has been completed and hand over from the police to the local authority to lead on the recovery has been achieved, it may be necessary for the STAC in full or elements of it to continue to exist in order to support the RCG. If this is the case the chair of the RCG should raise this with the chair of the STAC and agree a way forward. It may be that elements of the STAC become part of the RCG main group.

5.19.12 *Recovery Coordinating Group (RCG) Closure*

At an early stage the group should ensure that the aims and objectives clearly define a point at which the group would no longer be necessary and the work is business as usual, or near usual, for the majority of agencies involved. This may have a proviso that the group may be reconvened should a group action or decision be necessary.

5.20 *Financial Arrangements*

Financial issues arise before, during and after a Major Incident. The following gives guidance and links to other more appropriate plans.

5.20.1 *Before a Major Incident:*

In the planning, reviewing and exercising of the plan the costs of such activity by the LA is recovered from the Operator on an annual basis.

5.20.2 *During a Major Incident:*

The cost of response and recovery whilst important is not the highest consideration as to how to respond. The main issue is having regard to the best way to respond, saving and protecting human life and further environmental damage.

5.20.3 *After a Major Incident:*

There are various issues which need to be considered via the recovery process. There is more guidance on this in the TVLRF Recovery Plan. Some of the issues include:

- (a) The Department of Social Security (Supplementary Benefits commission) is empowered to make various loans to persons who find themselves in urgent financial need as a result of a major accident or natural disaster.
- (b) Authorities or Services placing demands on outside agencies for assistance, services or materials would be responsible for the settlement of any charges which may arise

- (c) Local Authorities may be able to invoke Bellwin Scheme arrangements for the recovery of a proportion of essential costs.
- (d) Recovery of costs will, normally, be directed at the site owners.

5.21 Rendezvous Points (RVPs)

There are a number of RVPs associated with this plan in relation to where responders could collocate in advance of going forward. RVPs close to the site will be identified based on a risk assessment at the time having regard to the direction of any radiation contamination.

Other RVPs have been identified in relation to bringing in additional resources from outside the area and taking into account road closures. Set out below are some predetermined locations:

- (a) West Berkshire District Council, Padworth IWMF, Padworth Lane, Lower Padworth, West Berkshire, RG7 4JF
- (b) Chieveley Services, J13 of M4.
- (c) Reading Services, Between J11 & J12 of M4
- (d) Tothill Services, Nr Newbury on A34
- (e) Membury Services, between J14 and J15 on M4

Section Six

6 Specific Joint Plans To Support this Plan

6.1 AWE Roads Tactical Plan – THIS IS STORED ON RD UNDER AWE PLANS

Not available in public document for purpose of safety and security.

Section Seven

7 Roles and Responsibilities

It is essential in any response to a major incident that the roles and the responsibilities of responding agencies are clear and understood by the other agencies.

It is also essential that the different services within an agency know what their roles are in order to keep focused on the response and thereafter the recovery.

The following section give details as to the responding agencies and their roles, alerting procedures and responsibilities.

- 7A AWE
- 7B Police
- 7C AWE Fire & Royal Berkshire Fire & Rescue Service
- 7D South Central Ambulance NHS Foundation Trust
- 7E Health Services Other than SCAS & PHE CRCE
- 7F PHE Centre for Radiation Chemical and Environmental Hazards (CRCE)
- 7G West Berkshire District Council
- 7H Wokingham & Reading Borough Councils
- 7I Blank
- 7J Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council
- 7K Hampshire County Council
- 7L Resilience & Emergency Division
- 7M Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)
- 7N MOD Coordinating Authority (MCA)
- 7O Other Government Departments and Agencies
- 7P Environment Agency
- 7Q Food Standards Agency
- 7R Radioactive Incident Monitoring Network (RIMNET)
- 7S Met Office
- 7T Government Decontamination Service (GDS)
- 7U Action by Utilities
- 7V Network Rail
- 7W Other Organisations
- 7X Highways England

7A AWE

Role

As the site(s) operator, AWE has three primary roles in an Off-Site Emergency:

- (a) To take such action as is necessary to stabilise the emergency on the affected site. This might include saving and protecting life, preventing or mitigating the release of hazardous materials, and monitoring to establish the extent of any contamination resulting from an emergency.
- (b) Initiate the cascade call out to responders and the alerting system to those in the community.
- (c) To provide information and advice to other responders on AWE's hazards and the status of the on-site emergency to enable other responders to discharge their own responsibilities under this plan.

Alerting Procedures

On-site there are a number of alerting procedures to warn of an on-site incident, these include:

- (a) Local alarms and alerts that apply to a single building or a small group of buildings,
- (b) A site Public Address system that enables a site alarm to be sounded on each site, directing persons on-site to shelter, and directive and/or advisory messages to be broadcast to person on the site as appropriate. The systems are tested and exercised routinely, and may be heard outside the site (depending on the wind direction).
- (c) No action should be taken by the public if such signals or messages are overheard in this way at any time.
- (d) If the Emergency Manager (A) or Emergency Manager (B) believes that there may be a risk to the public outside the site, they will contact Thames Valley Police with the recommendation that this Off-Site Plan is activated for certain sectors of the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone around the site based on wind direction (see Annexes 2 and 3). Real-time local weather information is available on both sites.
- (e) Outside normal working hours when the Emergency Manager (A) (or Emergency Manager (B)) is not present on-site, other staff have the authority to declare an off-site emergency.
- (f) For an off-site emergency occurring at either AWE site, the Emergency Manager (A) would notify the Office for Nuclear Regulation and the Environment Agency, as well as the Ministry of Defence Coordinating Authority on-call officer that activation of these arrangements had been recommended to Thames Valley Police.
- (g) AWE will also activate the telephone alerting system, which will result in landline numbers within the relevant sectors of the affected site's DEPZ being dialled and, if answered, given an initial advisory message.

Actions

Action to stabilise the incident will be taken on the affected site under the direction of the Emergency Manager (A) or Emergency Manager (B) as appropriate. Some or all of AWE's on-site emergency services will be deployed as appropriate in response to the incident. Off-site emergency services may also be requested to attend the site via pre-planned arrangements. These arrangements, including those for briefing, access and liaison with external emergency services are detailed in the relevant tactical plans. AWE on-site emergency services include:

- (a) *Ministry of Defence Police*. The MOD Police (MDP) have officers based on both sites 24 hours a day. In an emergency, MOD Police officers provide security and access controls to the incident scene and facilitate proper access to responding services and are the primary point of contact for disseminating information between AWE's various emergency response organisations

- (b) *Fire and Rescue Service.* The AWE Fire and Rescue Service has its own appliances and crews at each site, is trained in dealing with the hazards presented by AWE special materials, and has close links with neighbouring Fire and Rescue Services, training/exercising regularly with them.
- (c) *Medical/Ambulance Service.* Emergency medical support is available at both AWE sites during working hours. At other times, a nursing officer and a doctor are both on-call to provide specialist advice on the medical aspects of an emergency at AWE. AWE Fire and Rescue Service also operate an ambulance service on each site.
- (d) *Safety Shift.* Engineering staff are on duty twenty four hours a day and conduct safety patrols of facilities routinely outside normal working hours. Automatic alerting systems monitor for the presence of abnormal conditions including fire and the release of radioactive materials.
- (e) *Radiological Protection (Health Physics).* A capability to measure radioactive materials and radiation, including advice to AWE and external emergency services is always available with AWE (B) calling on additional support from AWE (A) when required

Activation of the cascade callout.

Initial monitoring both on and off the affected site will be undertaken by AWE's own personnel. The results of this monitoring will be passed via the Emergency Manager to other agencies as appropriate.

The Emergency Manager will assemble a team of personnel to respond to the Aldermaston Command Post, led by a Senior Scientific Adviser (SSA). The team will also include a Radiation Protection Advisor and a Radiological Assessment Team with material dispersion Modelling capabilities, as well as a media representative.

An AWE media team, accompanied by AWE senior management representatives will deploy to the Media Briefing Centre that will be set up by Thames Valley Police.

AWE will, if requested, also send representatives to other locations such as TCG centres. As the response progresses, external agencies will be represented at the Aldermaston site as appropriate to facilitate inter-agency liaison at the site level. Specific agencies expected at the Aldermaston Command Post (ACP) would include:

- (a) Emergency Services
- (b) Local Authorities
- (c) ONR
- (d) Environment Agency
- (e) Public Health England

Until the Strategic Coordinating Group (SCG) is operational, the Emergency Manager will be the source of authoritative advice on the status of the incident on the affected site and the potential risk to the public. Once SCG is operational, the AWE SSA will become the source of advice to the SCG Commander, and will remain in regular contact with the Emergency Manager (A).

The actions detailed above (with the exception of radiological advice and monitoring) could also be taken if a non-radioactive material posed a hazard to the public as a result of an incident at an AWE site. AWE specialist advice on the hazardous substance or substances involved in the incident would be made available to other responders as appropriate.

7B POLICE

Role

The Thames Valley Police (TVP), with the support of the Hampshire Constabulary as necessary, will control and coordinate the off-site response for dealing with an incident at AWE Aldermaston (AWE(A)) or AWE Burghfield (AWE(B)) with actual or potential off-site consequences with other agencies having legislative responsibilities. Other services and agencies will provide resources and technical advice so as to offer a combined and structured response to the incident.

Other roles for the police include:

- (a) In conjunction with other agencies protect and preserve the scene as necessary and thereafter lead or assist in any post incident investigation.
- (b) Support, with other agencies, the collation and dissemination of casualty information.
- (c) Support, with other agencies, the identification of casualties and coordination of the management of casualties including the remains of any deceased.
- (d) Coordination of the media response
- (e) Coordination of the public information during the response phase
- (f) Coordination and implementation of public safety measures
- (g) To assist, with other agencies, the return to normality.

Alerting Procedure

The Thames Valley Police Control Room will be notified by the AWE (A) MOD Police, acting on behalf of the Aldermaston Emergency Manager, when an actual or potential off-site emergency has occurred. The AWE (A) Emergency Manager will subsequently confirm the alert and establish contact with TVP.

Thames Valley Police will notify:

- (a) RBFRS
- (b) South Central Ambulance Service
- (c) West Berkshire District Council
- (d) Hampshire Constabulary and other police forces as necessary
- (e) MHCLG – RED
- (f) Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) if No Fly Zone required.
- (g) SCG Activation Procedure including activation of:
 - i. Highways England
 - ii. British Transport Police and Network Rail (if the rail network is affected)
- (h) Public Information Services such as relevant radio and television stations, also relevant cable company service providers

On receipt of information from TVP, Hampshire Constabulary will notify:

- (a) Hampshire Fire & Rescue Service
- (b) Hampshire County Council

Actions

On declaration by the AWE (A) Emergency Manager that an off-site emergency at either AWE Aldermaston or AWE Burghfield has occurred, or on declaration by the AWE (B) Emergency Controller at Burghfield that an off-site emergency at Burghfield has occurred and subsequent notification to TVP, TVP will:

- i. Designate safe approach routes for the emergency response personnel, based upon available meteorological information.

Send Liaison Officers as necessary to:

- (a) the Aldermaston Command Post (ACP) at AWE (A).

(b) The respective Tactical and Strategic Command Centres.

Establish:

- (a) A Tactical Coordination Centre at the most appropriate location
- (b) A Strategic Coordination Centre at TVP Headquarters (Kidlington) or suitable alternative
- (c) A Casualty Bureau if appropriate
- (d) An Emergency Media Briefing Centre if required
- (e) Coordinate a plan to divert non-essential traffic and keep routes open for the emergency services and vehicles used for evacuation from the area if necessary.
- (f) Support local Authorities with road closures
- (g) Provide advice to the public in the early stages of an emergency. This is likely to recommend sheltering as the safest option
- (h) Will implement if necessary an evacuation plan. This will be jointly coordinated with the Police and Local Authority

Hampshire Constabulary will mirror TVP actions as necessary and will support TVP with Mutual Aid if required.

When affected areas have been declared safe, the Police will inform those people and organisations notified during the emergency phase. The same notification routes apply as for the initial notification.

7C AWE FIRE & ROYAL BERKSHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE (& HAMPSHIRE FRS)

Role

The Fire & Rescue Service core remit includes:

- (a) Saving of life in conjunction with other emergency services
- (b) Assuming control of the incident when a major fire is involved
- (c) Rescue trapped casualties
- (d) Prevention of further escalation of the incident by tackling the fires, dealing with released chemicals, other hazardous situations and public decontamination, where required
- (e) Gathering of information and hazard assessment to give to the police on the need to evacuate members of the public
- (f) Liaison with the police regarding the establishment of an inner cordon and subsequent control of the inner cordon
- (g) Sectoring of the incident and to effectively define and relay this information to the Police, Ambulance Service and other agencies attending
- (h) The safety of all the personnel involved in rescue work. This includes ensuring that all non-fire service personnel entering the inner cordon are aware of and conform to the Fire and Rescue Service safety procedures and, in particular the use of the evacuation system and nominal roll procedures
- (i) Consider the effect and actions to minimise any dangers to the environment
- (j) Body recovery, in conjunction with the police as required. Participation in investigations and preparation of reports with supporting evidence for subsequent inquiries
- (k) Standing by during the non-emergency/recovery phase as appropriate

AWE has its own full-time Fire & Rescue Service and appliances at Aldermaston and Burghfield, with staff trained to deal with AWE special materials, including radioactive materials and explosives, as well as conventional fire hazards. If required, additional assistance would be sought from the Royal Berkshire Fire & Rescue Service and/or Hampshire Fire & Rescue Service as appropriate to deal with an incident on an AWE site. AWE Fire & Rescue Service trains regularly with external Fire & Rescue Services.

The Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service would coordinate assistance from other County Fire and Rescue Services, should they be called upon to assist with a fire on-site, and operate within the site as agreed with the AWE Fire and Rescue Service. The senior RBFRS Officer would assume control with advice from the AWE Senior Fire Officer.

The Fire & Rescue Service also has the role of decontamination of people. In such circumstances then the deployment of specialist equipment to enable people affected or potentially affected to be decontaminated immediately on-site, reducing any adverse effects on their health. They can then be transported safely to hospitals or shelter for further treatment or support without the risk of contaminating others. There are such resources available to local services but additional equipment and trained fire fighters would be called upon as necessary to support.

Alerting Procedure

The Royal Berks Fire & Rescue Service will be notified by Thames Valley Police in the formal channels. However through their own standing operating procedures they should also be notified by the AWE Fire and Rescue Service and/or MOD Police of an incident on or off the site.

If it is an off-site incident then the RBFRS will notify:

- (a) West Berkshire District Council
- (b) Environment Agency

- (c) Health and Safety Executive
- (d) Hampshire Fire & Rescue Service
- (e) Met Office.

Actions

The RBFRS will attend any incident to which it is requested to respond in accordance with agreed attendance protocols. Detailed arrangements exist for the Service to attend and to effectively deal with incidents in collaboration with the AWE Fire and Rescue Service and personnel. These arrangements provide for a tailored response to incidents and make provision for reinforcement and attendance at the site by appliances and personnel from other Services.

It is anticipated that any incident with off-site consequences requiring the activation of this plan will have resulted from an on-site incident to which the Fire Service will have been alerted.

In the event of the activation the following additional resources of the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service will be deployed:

- (a) 1 x Principal Officer + Staff Officer to the Strategic Coordinating Centre
- (b) 1 x Senior Officer to TVP Tactical Coordinating Group

FRS activity at the incident will be directed by the Senior Fire Service Officer present. The effective control of an incident will best be achieved by the effective utilisation of personnel, equipment and information. Detailed information, equipment, including monitoring equipment and knowledge of the site is available from on-site personnel. Suitably trained personnel should be incorporated into the Incident Command Support structure adopted for the incident.

The FRS may also request for a PACRAM or information relating to the weather via the Met Office.

The FRS has the role of decontamination of people. This will take some consideration including:

- (a) There may be a role for decontamination from conventional chemical contamination or radiation contamination. Therefore at an early stage of activation the New Dimensions decontamination process will be considered by the service and by STAC and SCG.
- (b) Any decontamination process will normally be set up at the edge of the contaminated area in order that once people are decontaminated they can quickly move to a clean area and onwards to a suitable rest centre or a radiation monitoring unit (as set up by the Health Agencies).

The exact location of the decontamination unit will be decided by the SCG on consultation with the STAC and the LA.

A large area will be required in order to allow for the equipment, potentially large numbers of people from the affected area and potentially people who were in the area at the time of the incident who may be worried that they are contaminated returning.

A strict access route and flow of people will have to be administered in order to ensure 'dirty' and 'clean' are kept separate.

7D SOUTH CENTRAL AMBULANCE NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

Role

NHS England have the responsibility for the NHS Services to the population around the AWE sites but this responsibility has been delegated to West Berkshire Clinical Commissioning Group and Ambulance Trust. These bodies are responsible for ensuring the satisfactory Health Service arrangements are in place for dealing with major incidents. In the event of such an incident at AWE they would work in conjunction with the AWE Medical Adviser or their representative and would fulfil the following functions:

On-site treatment and evacuation of casualties, including those who might be contaminated by radioactive material.

Responsibilities

The Ambulance Service responsibilities are:

- (a) the saving of life, in conjunction with other emergency services,
- (b) the treatment and care of those injured at the scene, either directly or in conjunction with medical personnel,
- (c) to provide a focal point at the incident, through a Mobile Ambulance Control Unit, for all NHS resource,
- (d) to provide an Ambulance Incident Officer to the incident and a Medical Incident Officer if necessary,
- (e) the determination of the priority evacuation needs of those injured, either directly or in conjunction with medical personnel
- (f) to determine the main designated "Receiving" and "Supporting" hospitals for the receipt of those injured,
- (g) to arrange the most appropriate means of transporting those injured to the main "Receiving" and "Supporting" hospitals,
- (h) to ensure that adequate medical personnel and support equipment resources are available at the scene,
- (i) the provision of communications facilities for NHS resources at the scene and the ability to communicate with the other emergency services present.
- (j) initial alerting of appropriate NHS Agencies and Trusts following notification by Thames Valley Police.

ALERTING PROCEDURES

In the event of an off-site emergency being declared at AWE Aldermaston or AWE Burghfield, The South Central Ambulance Service (SCAS) will be notified by the Thames Valley Police, and will in turn notify:

- (a) Public Health England Centre South East
- (b) NHS England South (South Central)
- (c) NHS England (Wessex)
- (d) CCG's
- (e) Designated Receiving Hospitals
- (f) Royal Berkshire Hospital
- (g) Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust on call

Actions

Detailed arrangements exist for the SCAS to attend and assist the onsite services to deal with incidents involving casualties as required. These arrangements provide for a tailored response to incidents and make provision for reinforcements and attendance at the site by Ambulances and personnel from other NHS Ambulance Trusts.

It is anticipated that any incident with off-site consequences requiring the activation of this plan will result from an onsite incident. Where casualties have been sustained on-site, SCAS resources will already have been deployed.

In the event of a decision by the SCG to evacuate any residents in the affected area, to assist with those who are ill or disabled at home, calling on the support of the Voluntary Agencies as required.

Where on-site casualties have been sustained, dispatch if required:

- (a) an Ambulance Incident Officer to the TCG
- (b) a Senior Ambulance Officer to SCG. SCAS resources may already have been deployed as the result of an on-site incident

7E HEALTH SERVICES OTHER THAN AMBULANCE SERVICE

NHS ENGLAND

Role

The aim of NHS England in an incident involving AWE would be to lead and coordinate the response of all health organisations in the south.

Responsibilities

In the event of an incident at AWE NHS England teams across the south would:

- (a) Establish, maintain and disseminate the best possible understanding of the incident and its impact on the health sector;
- (b) Ensure that all necessary and available support is provided to local health responders;
- (c) Establish command, control, coordination and communications arrangements in accordance with its Incident Response Plan (IRP) and those IRP's of local regional offices;
- (d) Establish and maintain a reporting mechanism and daily cycle of command across all health organisations;
- (e) Liaise with local regional offices initially leading the incident and agree whether and how to conduct a handover with NHS England South for a regional response;
- (f) Analyse reports received to identify strategic priorities and support required;
- (g) Implement mutual aid arrangements to identify strategic priorities and support required;
- (h) Link NHS organisations in the NHS South area with the appropriate resources and capacity out of the area;
- (i) Liaise with NHS England national team on identification of and access to national resources if required;
- (j) Set up and maintain an Incident Coordination Centre and an Incident Management Team;
- (k) Local Regional Teams will attend SCG meetings in coordination with assistance from local commissioning groups attending and TCG's that may be set up;
- (l) Provide a regional media / comms response;

Alerting Procedure

NHS England would be alerted by South Central Ambulance Service Foundation Trust.

HOSPITAL ARRANGEMENTS

Role

The Chief Executive of a "Receiving Hospital" is responsible for ensuring that the resources of the hospital are fully mobilised to manage casualties. This shall include:

- (a) alerting/ calling in all necessary and additional staff and managing volunteer helpers;
- (b) establishing a Major Incident Control Team and an effective Control Centre;
- (c) organising essential facilities for the reception, treatment and admission of casualties, including (as necessary) the relocation of patients to provide sufficient accommodation including contaminated casualties;
- (d) making comprehensive arrangements for the reception and care of relatives and friends, religious and voluntary services support;
- (e) providing the media with controlled access, authoritative information and necessary administrative support in close liaison with the Police;
- (f) ensuring that tight security arrangements are in place, particularly to protect victims and relatives from unauthorised media intrusion;
- (g) activating the hospital's casualty documentation system and ensuring an effective link with the Police documentation team at the hospital;

- (h) providing the Police with appropriate office, communication and welfare support arrangements;
- (i) briefing other patients (as necessary) regarding changes in procedure due to the major incident response;
- (j) activating arrangements to preserve property and evidence;

Alerting System

The Major Incident Plans of Receiving Hospitals will be triggered by an appropriate call from Ambulance Control;

Actions

The Royal Berkshire Hospital NHS Foundation Trust is the immediate hospital designated to accept casualties and to advise on, and to assist, with the decontamination of personnel as part of the National Arrangements for Incidents involving Radiation (NAIR) scheme;

Should circumstances and/ or the number of casualties make it necessary other hospitals may also be utilized;

A number of hospitals have been designated to minimise the distance which a person injured in an accident has to travel in order to receive appropriate treatment. They include Royal Berkshire Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Reading and Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospitals.

Each hospital will:

- (a) Maintain site security ensuring that sites can be locked down to ensure the security of the site
- (b) Establish local command control and coordination arrangements
- (c) Provide NHS England local regional office with situation reports
- (d) Monitor capacity and manage local resources appropriately
- (e) Provide a clinical response to all casualties
- (f) Ensure recovery is addressed in organizational strategic incident management meetings.

CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP

Role

Support NHS England to manage the local impacts of the incident;

Actions

- (a) Lead on escalation aspects of the incident
- (b) Ensuring that critical functions are maintained
- (c) Establishing internal command and control structures in conjunction with NHS England
- (d) Attending local multi-agency meetings as required by NHS England
- (e) Identifying and releasing clinical and administrative staff to support the response subject to availability and service impact

7F PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND (PHE) CENTRE FOR RADIATION CHEMICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS (CRCE)

Role

PHE-CRCE is responsible for the provision of expert advice and information relating to the radiological protection aspects of an emergency to government and any strategic group set up to manage the response. PHE publishes guidance on Emergency Reference Level (ERLs) to protect the public. This guidance is accepted as a basis for the current nuclear emergency arrangements.

Actions

On receipt of an alert, PHE-CRCE will determine the appropriate level of its response to the emergency. This level of response might include all or some of the following:

- (a) Deployment of senior staff to a number of key locations. These would include:
- (b) The SCC (to provide advice on the Strategic Coordinating Group (SCG), the Scientific and Technical Advice Cell (STAC)) and the Recovery Coordinating Group (RCG) on radiological protection aspects of the emergency
- (c) The Media Briefing Centre (MBC)
- (d) Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE)
- (e) Set up an emergency operations centre at CRCE HQ, Chilton. The key functions of this centre will be to gather relevant information (particular radiation monitoring information), to assess this information and to provide expert advice on the basis of this information.
- (f) Recommend and support sourcing an RPA for the TCG to support the non-emergency services with safety advice
- (g) Deploy radiation-monitoring teams capable of measuring environmental contamination and measurements of radioactivity on or in people. Support will be provided to Radiation Monitoring Units (RMUs) as appropriate and where resources allow
- (h) Undertake the role of national radiation monitoring coordination
- (i) Provide expert advice on radiological issues for the recovery phase
- (j) Liaise effectively with, but not confined to, the key stakeholders in the response at a local, regional and national level including the Food Standards Agency (FSA), the Environment Agency (EA), Local Authority, Environmental Health Departments and water companies.
- (k) Collate, interpret and submit to RIMNET, personal monitoring results from NHS medical physics departments.

7G WEST BERKSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Role

The main role of West Berkshire District Council includes:

- (a) Support to the emergency services
- (b) Alerting other agencies as detailed in the activation section ([Section 3.1](#)) and set out below
- (c) Coordination and management of reception and rest centres
- (d) Coordinating the recovery process

Alerting Procedure

AWE and TVP control will, on receipt of an appropriate alert, notify West Berkshire District Councils Civil Contingencies or if Out of Hours they will inform the Duty West Berks Council Emergency Manager via the Emergency Contact Operators

Actions

WBDC will:

- (a) Record full details of the incident, immediately open a log and call back to AWE and TVP Control to verify the message.
- (b) Initiate the alerting process as detailed in the Councils' Major Incident Plan.

Activate the external alerting processes as follows:

Agency	Notes
Internal Services	who start the internal actions for the services
Hampshire County Council as appropriate	For AWE (A) Incident (or B if wind direction appropriate) request rep to go to SCC/TCG as appropriate.
Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council as appropriate	For AWE (A) Incident (or B if wind direction appropriate) request rep to go to SCC/TCG as appropriate.
Reading Borough Council as appropriate	For AWE (B) Incident (or A if wind direction appropriate) request rep to go to SCC/TCG as appropriate.
Wokingham Borough Council as appropriate	For AWE (B) Incident (or A if wind direction appropriate) request rep to go to SCC/TCG as appropriate.
All Schools and nurseries in WBDC area	Normally by Education Services
Any Residential Care Homes in WBDC affected area	Normally by Adult Social Care Service
Resilience & Emergency Division	As per contact list
Food Standards Agency	
Highways England	As per contact list
Network Rail	As per contact list
Thames Water	As per contact list
Canal & Rivers Trust	As per contact list
Town & Parish Councils in area including local ward members	As per contact list
Other LA's in Berkshire	To be prepared to support with mutual aid
Voluntary Sector	as necessary

Arrange for the following command and control arrangements to be supported:

Location	Whom	Roles
ECC	As per MIP	As per MIP

Location	Whom	Roles
TVP SCC - SCG	Local Authority Liaison Officer (LALO) to SCC to be the SCG representative. This person is normally a Director or other senior officer as nominated by the Chief Executive	To inform the WBDC ECC Controller of requests made to the local authorities for support or action To provide local authority support and information to the Emergency Services. To authorise expenditure on behalf of the LA as necessary
TVP SCC	Senior Officer	To support the Local Authority Liaison Officer (LALO). This is a competent officer who understands emergencies, in particular AWE and the role of the LA. They shall be able to stand in for the LALO as necessary. Their main role is to support and to link in with the LALO at TCG Location and the Councils ECC.
TVP SCC – Media Team	Public Relations (PR) Officer	To work with the SCG media team
TVP SCC – STAC	Principal Environmental Health Officer	To attend the STAC
TVP SCC – RCG	Head of Service(HoS)/Senior Officer	Chair Recovery Coordinating Group
TVP SCC – RCG	Snr Officer	Deputises for chair of RCG
TVP SCC- RCG	Loggist	To record RCG key decisions
ACP at AWE (A)	Duty Emergency Manager	LALO at the AWE SCC To inform the WBDC ECC Controller of requests made to the local authorities for support or action To update the LALOs and WBDC ECC of up to date info regarding the incident.
TCG	Duty Emergency Manager (DEM)/HoS/Third Tier Manager	LALO at the TCG To inform the WBDC ECC Controller of requests made to the local authorities for support or action To provide local authority support and information to the Emergency Services.
Emergency Media Briefing Centre (MBC)	PR Officer	LALO at MBC
Other LALO Locations		

Location	Whom	Roles
Hampshire TCG	WBDC LALO	To inform the WBDC ECC Controller of requests made to the local authorities for support or action To ensure cross border consistency.

Initial West Berkshire District Council considerations include:

Staff Deployment:	Deploy staff to the relevant command locations as necessary
Open Emergency Operations Centre (ECC): In accordance with the WBDC Major Incident Plan	Establish the ECC at the council offices and open all necessary communication links, including links to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, Reading and Wokingham Councils as appropriate.
Road Closures:	Initiate relevant Road Closures, as indicated in Section 6 and on RD in conjunction with the police in Thames Valley and Hampshire. These road closures may move closer or further out from the incident as necessary.
Assist Establishment of Media Briefing Centre:	
Place Services on Stand-by: including:	EHOs with respect to water pollution to drinking supplies, contaminated land, food supply chain etc.
	Trading Standards with respect to animal health and welfare matters
	Countryside Rangers and Rights of ways staff with respect to closure of footpaths etc.
	LA Highways officers with respect to road closures and diversions
	Rest Centre Staff
	Voluntary agencies to assist with rest centres.
	Adult Social Care for vulnerable adults
Education Services in relation to vulnerable children and schools	
Consider the need for one or more Rest Centres	On basis of need and guidance from SCG rep open suitable rest centres
Consider the support required for a Radiation Monitoring Unit	The provision of a Radiation Monitoring Unit (RMU) may be requested at the SCG level, perhaps as a result of a number of worried well presenting themselves at hospitals or

	<p>as a result of genuine concern regarding contaminants</p> <p>The provision of the RMU is the responsibility of health agencies however it is likely that there will be a request for a suitable location/building to be used. As a result a number of locations have been identified and considered suitable.</p> <p>Section 5.12 details the locations and the key information relating to this plan and the radiation monitoring unit plan.</p>
<p>Consider the need for Mutual Aid.</p>	<p>Due to the nature of the incident, the potential scale and as a result press and Government interest plus the potential for a long term response and recovery consideration at an early stage should be given to mutual aid support from other LA's and Voluntary Agencies.</p>
<p>Consider the Initial, Medium and Long Term Recovery Process</p>	<p>Recovery is led by the Local Authorities but it is still a Multi-agency process.</p> <p>More details on recovery are in Section 5.19.</p>

7H WOKINGHAM & READING BOROUGH COUNCILS

Role

Wokingham & Reading Borough Councils (with assistance from neighbouring Councils if necessary) would be responsible, in conjunction with West Berkshire District Council, for providing assistance to the Emergency Services in the event of an incident at AWE Burghfield with actual or potential off-site consequences.

Alerting Procedure

In the event of an offsite incident at AWE Burghfield, Wokingham & Reading Borough Council would be informed by West Berkshire District Council.

Actions

The Council Resilience Team or Duty Emergency Manager will:

- (a) Record full details of the incident, immediately open a log and call back to West Berkshire District Council in order to verify the message
- (b) Activate as necessary the Council emergency response in accordance with the MIP.

Wokingham & Reading Borough Council will provide for an incident at AWE Burghfield:

Location	Whom	Roles
ECC	As per MIP	As per MIP
TVP SCC - SCG	Local Authority Liaison Officer (LALO) to SCC to be the SCG representative. The SCG rep will normally be the SCG rep for West Berkshire District Council	To inform the ECC Controller of requests made to the local authorities for support or action To provide local authority support and information to the Emergency Services. To authorise expenditure on behalf of the LA as necessary
TVP SCC	Senior Officer	To support the LALO This is a competent officer who understands emergencies, in particular AWE and the role of the LA. They shall be able to stand in for the LALO as necessary. Their main role is to support and to link in with the LALO at TCG Location and the Councils ECC.
TVP SCC – Media Team	PR Officer	To work with the SCG media team
TVP SCC – RCG	Snr Officer	Rep on RCG
TCG	DEM/HoS/Third Tier Manager	LALO at the TCG To inform the Councils ECC of requests made to the local authorities for support or action To provide local authority support and information to the Emergency Services.
Emergency Media Briefing Centre (MBC)	PR Officer	LALO at MBC.

Initial Wokingham & Reading Borough Council considerations include:

Staff Deployment:	Deploy staff to the relevant command locations as necessary.
Open ECC: In accordance with the WBC Major Incident Plan	Establish the Emergency Operations Centre at the council offices and open all necessary communication links, including links to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, Reading/Wokingham and West Berkshire District Councils as appropriate.
Assist Establishment of Media Briefing Centre:	
Place Services on Stand-by: including:	EHOs with respect to water pollution to drinking supplies, contaminated land, food supply chain etc.
	Trading Standards with respect to animal health and welfare matters
	Countryside Rangers and Rights of ways staff with respect to closure of footpaths etc.
	LA Highways officers with respect to road closures and diversions
	Rest Centre Staff
	Voluntary agencies to assist with rest centres.
	Adult Social Care for vulnerable adults
Education Services in relation to vulnerable children and schools	
Consider the need for one or more Rest Centres	On basis of need and guidance from SCG rep open suitable rest centres
Consider the support required for a Radiation Monitoring Unit	The provision of a Radiation Monitoring Unit (RMU) may be requested at the SCG level, perhaps as a result of a number of worried well presenting themselves at hospitals or as a result of genuine concern regarding contaminants
	The provision of the RMU is the responsibility of health agencies however it is likely that there will be a request for a suitable location/building to be used. As a result a number of locations have been identified and considered suitable.
	Monitoring – Strategies - People (RMU) Section 5.12 details the locations and the key information relating to this plan and the radiation monitoring unit plan.
Consider the need for Mutual Aid.	Due to the nature of the incident, the potential scale and as a result press and Government interest plus the potential for a long term response and recovery consideration at an early stage should be given to mutual aid support from other LA's and Voluntary Agencies.
Consider the Initial, Medium and Long Term Recovery Process	Recovery is led by the Local Authorities but it is still a Multi-agency process.
	More details on recovery are in Section 5.19 .

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7J BASINGSTOKE AND DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Role

Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council (with assistance from neighbouring Councils if necessary) would be responsible, in conjunction with West Berkshire District Council, for providing assistance to the Emergency Services in the event of an incident at AWE Aldermaston with actual or potential off-site consequences.

Alerting Procedure

In the event of an offsite incident at AWE Aldermaston, BDBC would be informed by West Berkshire District Council, the Emergency Services or the HCC Duty Officer in accordance with the procedure in the Emergency Plan.

Actions

The Councils Duty Emergency Manager will:

- (a) Record full details of the incident, immediately open a log and call back to West Berkshire District Council in order to verify the message.
- (b) Activate as necessary the Council emergency response in accordance with the Borough Emergency Plan.

In the event of an incident at AWE Aldermaston Basingstoke & Deane BC will consider deploying officers to the following locations:

Location	Whom	Roles
ECC	As per MIP	AS per MIP
TVP SCC - SCG	Local Authority Liaison Officer (LALO) to SCC to be the SCG representative. The SCG rep will normally be the SCG rep for West Berkshire District Council but when an incident at AWE is affecting communities in BDBC are then a rep will be sent to the SCG. Liaison between HCC and BDBC will take place to establish which authority will deploy personnel to the locations below to avoid over-representation	To inform the ECC Controller of requests made to the local authorities for support or action To provide local authority support and information to the Emergency Services. To authorise expenditure on behalf of the LA as necessary
TVP SCC	Senior Officer	To support the LALO This is a competent officer who understands emergencies, in particular AWE and the role of the LA. They shall be able to stand in for the LALO as necessary. Their main role is to support and to link in with the LALO at TCG Location and the Councils ECC.
TVPSCC – Media Team	PR Officer	To work with the SCG media team
TVP SCC – RCG	Snr Officer	Rep on RCG
TCG	DEM/HoS/Third Tier Manager	LALO at the TCG To inform the Councils ECC of requests made to the local authorities for support or action

Location	Whom	Roles
		To provide local authority support and information to the Emergency Services.
Emergency Media Briefing Centre (MBC)	PR Officer	LALO at MBC

Initial Basingstoke & Deane BC considerations include:

Staff Deployment:	Deploy staff to the relevant command locations as necessary
Open ECC: In accordance with the WBC Major Incident Plan	Establish the Emergency Operations Centre at the council offices and open all necessary communication links, including links to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, Reading/Wokingham and West Berkshire District Councils as appropriate.
Assist Establishment of Media Briefing Centre:	
Place Services on Stand-by: including:	EHOs with respect to water pollution to drinking supplies, contaminated land, food supply chain etc. Countryside Rangers and Rights of ways staff with respect to closure of footpaths etc.
Consider the support required for a Radiation Monitoring Unit	The provision of the RMU is the responsibility of health agencies however it is likely that there will be a request for a suitable location/building to be used. As a result a number of locations have been identified and considered suitable. Section 5.12 details the locations and the key information relating to this plan and the radiation monitoring unit plan.
Consider the need for Mutual Aid.	Due to the nature of the incident, the potential scale and as a result press and Government interest plus the potential for a long term response and recovery consideration at an early stage should be given to mutual aid support from other LA's and Voluntary Agencies.
Consider the Initial, Medium and Long Term Recovery Process	Recovery is led by the Local Authorities but it is still a Multi-agency process. More details on recovery are in Section 5.19 .

7K HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Role

Hampshire County Council (with assistance from neighbouring Councils if necessary) would be responsible, in conjunction with West Berkshire District Council, for providing assistance to the Emergency Services in the event of an incident at AWE Aldermaston with actual or potential off-site consequences.

Alerting Procedure

In the event of an offsite incident at AWE Aldermaston Hampshire County Council may be informed by West Berkshire District Council, the Emergency Services or BDBC, in accordance with the procedure in the County Emergency Plan.

Hampshire County Council will notify Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council.

Actions

The HCC Emergency Planning & Resilience Team or Duty Emergency Planning Officer will:

- (a) Record full details of the incident, immediately open a log
- (b) Activate as necessary the Council emergency response
- (c) Provide support and assistance to Basingstoke and Deane BC as required

Provide for an incident at AWE Aldermaston including:

Location	Whom	Roles
ECC activated	As per MIP	AS per MIP
TVP SCC - SCG	Local Authority Liaison Officer (LALO) to SCC to be the SCG representative. This person is normally a Director or other senior officer as nominated by the Chief Executive	To inform the HCC & BDBC ECC of requests made to the local authorities for support or action To provide local authority support and information to the Emergency Services. To authorise expenditure on behalf of the LA as necessary
TVP SCC	Senior Officer	To support the LALO. This is a competent officer who understands emergencies, in particular AWE and the role of the LA. They shall be able to stand in for the LALO as necessary. Their main role is to support and to link in with the LALO at TCG Location and the Councils ECC.
TVPSCC – Media Team	Corporate Communications Officer to liaise with Basingstoke and Deane BC on all public information issues.	To work with the SCG media team.
TVPSCC – STAC	Public Health Consultant	To attend the STAC
TVP SCC – RCG	Snr Officer	
TCG	DEM/HoS/Third Tier Manager	LALO at the TCG To inform the HCC ECC Controller of requests made to the local authorities for support or action

Location	Whom	Roles
		To provide local authority support and information to the Emergency Services.
Emergency Media Briefing Centre (MBC)	Corporate Communications Officer	LALO at MBC.
Other LALO Locations		
West Berkshire ECC	LALO	To inform the HCC ECC of requests made to the local authorities for support or action To ensure cross border consistency.

Initial HCC considerations include:

Staff Deployment:	Deploy staff to the relevant command locations as necessary
Open ECC: In accordance with the WBC Major Incident Plan	Establish the Emergency Operations Centre at the council offices and open all necessary communication links, including links to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, Reading and Wokingham Councils as appropriate.
Road Closures:	Initiate relevant Road Closures, as indicated in Section 6 in conjunction with the police in Thames Valley and Hampshire. These road closures may move closer or further out from the incident as necessary.
Assist Establishment of Media Briefing Centre:	
Place Services on Stand-by: including:	Trading Standards with respect to animal health and welfare matters.
	LA Highways officers with respect to road closures and diversions.
	Rest Centre Staff
	Voluntary agencies to assist with rest centres.
	Adult Social Care for vulnerable adults
Education Services in relation to vulnerable children and schools.	
Consider the need for one or more Rest Centres	On basis of need and guidance from SCG rep open suitable rest centres.
Consider the support required for a Radiation Monitoring Unit	The provision of a Radiation Monitoring Unit (RMU) may be requested at the SCG level, perhaps as a result of a number of worried well presenting themselves at hospitals or as a result of genuine concern regarding contaminants.
	The provision of the RMU is the responsibility of health agencies however it is likely that there will be a request for a

	suitable location/building to be used. As a result a number of locations have been identified and considered suitable.
	Section 5.12 details the locations and the key information relating to this plan and the radiation monitoring unit plan.
Consider the need for Mutual Aid.	Due to the nature of the incident, the potential scale and as a result press and Government interest plus the potential for a long term response and recovery consideration at an early stage should be given to mutual aid support from other LA's and Voluntary Agencies.
Consider the Initial, Medium and Long Term Recovery Process	Recovery is led by the Local Authorities but it is still a Multi-agency process.
	More details on recovery are in Section 5.19 .

7L MHCLG RESILIENCE & EMERGENCY DIVISION (RED)

Role

The role of MHCLG RED is to:

- (a) Provide accurate and timely information on the incident and response to central government departments and COBR if activated
- (b) Provide a single point of contact to central government for local responders
- (c) Represent the interests of central government departments to local responders
- (d) Provide appropriate information, advice and support as required by local responders or central government departments
- (e) Provide a point of contact for neighbouring areas
- (f) Arrange visits to affected areas by Ministers and other government officials.

Alerting Procedure

RED will be formally alerted by TVP and West Berkshire District Council that an Off-Site Emergency has been declared at an AWE site and that the “Off-Site Plan” is being implemented.

Actions

Once an off-site incident has been confirmed, RED will activate its own Emergency Response Plan. The Regional Resilience Team (RRT) will always lead the RED response, but it may be necessary to call upon staff from other teams to support the response. RED will:

- (a) Send Government Liaison Officer to SCG
- (b) Set up their Operations Room
- (c) Inform Civil Contingencies Secretariat (CCS) and other Whitehall Colleagues
- (d) Start collecting correct information for a report to Whitehall
- (e) Confirm the “timetable” of reporting and meetings for/in Whitehall
- (f) Coordinate any Ministerial visits.

7M Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)

Role

To provide advice to Central Government, the PHE CRCE, and the Government Technical Advisor at the SCG.

Alerting Procedure

ONR will be alerted via AWE Plc.

Actions

In order to fulfil its role and function following confirmation that the site has been involved in an off-site emergency then the ONRs approved emergency plan will be activated this will include the ONR initiating the following actions:

- (a) Activate the Redgrave Court Incident Suite (RCIS)
- (b) Attending the ACP at AWE (A)
- (c) Attend Strategic Coordinating Centre
- (d) Monitoring events on-site and the actions taken to restore the site to a safe condition

7N MOD incl MOD Coordinating Authority (MCA)

Role

The Ministry of Defence as the owner of the Atomic Weapon Establishment sites of Aldermaston & Burghfield would be the nominated Lead Government Department for an Off-Site Nuclear Emergency at either of the sites. The Defence Equipment and Support Organisation (DE&SO) is the arm of the MOD which contracts the operations of the sites. The MOD maintains a Nuclear Accident Response Organisation (NARO) to respond to an accident or incident, including one arising through terrorist acts, involving defence nuclear assets. Defence nuclear assets include: nuclear weapons, special nuclear materials, nuclear facilities and naval nuclear reactors. The role of NARO is detailed on the [Gov.uk website](http://www.gov.uk).

In the event of an emergency with potential off-site consequences, the Submarine Delivery Agency will arrange for a senior 1* officer known as the MOD Coordinating Authority (MCA) to go to the Strategic location and attend the Strategic Coordinating Group.

The role of the MCA is to direct all MOD response activities, provide technical information and advice and provide the MOD Lead Government Department input to the multi-agency Strategic Coordinating Group.

The MCA is responsible for:

- (a) Providing authoritative and timely advice concerning the progress or development of the emergency and the potential implications, including mitigation, of operations to make safe and recover the asset during an emergency
- (b) Keep MOD HQ Defence Nuclear Emergency Organisation (DNEO) informed on the status of the emergency and the operational response
- (c) Act on strategic guidance from MOD HQ DNEO and seek any additional military support required through the Joint Regional Liaison Officer (JRLO) or Regional Force Brigade Commander (RF BDE CDR).

Alerting Procedure

The MCA will be alerted by the Emergency Manager at the AWE Situations Coordination Centre who will contact the Strategic Weapons Project Team First Point of Contact (SW PT FPOC) who in conjunction with the Officer in Charge (OiC) Rear Echelon Link (REL) will alert the SW Nuclear Emergency Organisation

Action

The MCA will activate their own emergency plan which will include the following actions:

- (a) Deploying to the Strategic Coordinating Group at Thames Valley Police Headquarters with a supporting team;
- (b) Dispatching a Spokesperson to the Media Briefing Centre with a supporting team.
- (c) Via the Ministry of Defence there would be activation of its Headquarters for Defence Nuclear Emergency Organisation (DNEO) in London.

70 OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

Overview

This Annex should be read in conjunction with Annex L referring to MHCLG RED. There are a number of Government Departments other than the MOD that would be involved in an incident at AWE. The Departments most likely to be involved include:

[Cabinet Office](#)

[Ministry of Defence](#)

[Home Office](#)

[Department of Health and Social Care](#)

[Department for Transport](#)

[Department for Education](#)

[Department for Business, Innovation & Skills](#)

[Department for Work and Pensions](#)

[Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government](#)

[Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs](#)

Role

The role of the Departments would be to ensure a coordinated response from Government including support to the agencies and services involved on the ground. In addition leadership from the Government would be provided via the Cabinet Office Briefing Rooms (COBR). Links to COBR would be provided by the Government Liaison Team (GLT).

Alerting System

Alerting of the relevant Departments would be via the MOD HQ and MHCLG RED.

Responsibilities

It would not be normal for members of all government departments to attend SCG or other locations in the initial response phase of the incident instead each Department would coordinate their resources via COBR through the GLT. The GLT would link in with agencies such as the Food Standards Agency, the Environment Agency, and Animal Health etc. at the SCG in order to communicate the key issues to the SCG and to government departments.

7P ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

Role

The Environment Agency (EA) has a broad role to protect and enhance the environment in England. In the case of an emergency at a nuclear site, these responsibilities comprise some that are statutory, where there may be a breach of a law which the EA is responsible for enforcing, and others that are operational, where the EA effectively acts on behalf of or in support of DEFRA in providing a response and advice to multi-agency partners.

Alerting Procedure

EA will be alerted by RBFRS and AWE via the Radiation Incident Hotline number.

The EA Radioactive Substances Regulation Duty Manager (RSR-DM) will then be informed for immediate assessment and response.

Actions

The EA's roles and responsibilities, in the event of an emergency at a nuclear site, include the following:

- (a) Provide advice on radiological aspects of environmental contamination to all relevant participating organisations during the course of the incident
- (b) Provide EA representatives with specialist knowledge of radioactive substances at relevant multi-agency centres, including the Strategic Coordination Centre (SCC), DEFRA Emergency Operations Centre and MOD HQ Defence Nuclear Emergency Organisation (HQ DNEO)
- (c) Advise on appropriate disposal of radioactive waste
- (d) Arrange for contractors to carry out environmental monitoring and sampling as part of the multi-agency monitoring strategy
- (e) Advise DEFRA Divisions on technical and regulatory aspects of the response;
- (f) Provide information to the public and the media, in consultation with the Lead Department and the strategic command at the SCC
- (g) Manage flows of regulated waters if appropriate, to minimise impact. This operational response might include releasing water from reservoirs or altering river levels
- (h) Ensure safety of any Agency staff who may be involved
- (i) Check for breach of site operator's authorisation, where relevant
- (j) Pursue relevant regulatory investigations in accordance with the Agency's statutory duties.

The Agency's broader responsibilities, including fisheries, conservation, water resources, waste regulation and water quality, could come into play at some stage during the early response or during the short to long-term remediation. More extensive statutory powers could be involved if an incident also involved significant chemical contamination.

The EA does not have a specific statutory duty to monitor controlled waters for radioactive contamination. But in the event of an environmental incident involving a release of radioactive substances to controlled waters, the EA would arrange sampling and radiochemical analysis with a view to protecting the environment and advising downstream users and abstractors.

During the Recovery Phase, the Environment Agency will specifically:

- (a) Support the work of the Recovery Coordinating Group to assist the community in returning to normality
- (b) Advise on the impact of radioactive contamination in the environment, including overseeing remediation as part of the Environment Agencies role in Part 2A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (Radioactive Contaminated Land regime)
- (c) Work with partner organisations to identify feasible remediation options and support the development of a Recovery Strategy

- (d) Advise on the management and disposal of wastes contaminated with radioactivity
- (e) Advise DEFRA on any need for a Radioactive Substances Exemption Order to facilitate the efficient management and disposal of radioactive wastes.

7Q FOOD STANDARDS AGENCY

Roles

The Food Standards Agency's role is to ensure that the public is protected from contaminated food following a pollution emergency.

Specific responsibilities are:

- (a) Food Standards Agency HQ, London to provide point of contact with the SCG
- (b) To determine the level of any contamination of the food chain. Thereafter, as necessary, take legal measures to prevent unacceptably contaminated food entering the food chain by the implementation of emergency restriction orders under the Food and Environment Protection Act 1985. Such orders are commonly referred to as FEPA Orders and restrict the supply, movement or sale of produce from an affected area
- (c) To take action to ensure that food contaminated to unacceptable levels does not enter the food chain
- (d) To provide advice and information to the public
- (e) To ensure, in conjunction with the Environment Agency, the safe disposal of contaminated food
- (f) To ensure that subsequent remediation takes account of food safety issues.
- (g) To assist with the enforcement of emergency restriction orders
- (h) To disseminate food safety advice, as requested
- (i) The FSA Incident Branch coordinates the Agency's response to all incidents with potential to affect the food chain. This includes environmental contamination incidents (such as fires, toxic discharges, waterways contamination and accidents at industrial sites) and food contamination incidents (physical, chemical, microbiological or malicious tampering) where the food is in the distribution chain or available for sale.

Alerting System

FSA incident branch will be alerted by West Berkshire District Council.

The FSA Incident Branch will then activate its staff via internal arrangements.

Actions of Food Standards Agency.

During such an emergency then staff would be deployed to the following locations. The information also covers DEFRA officers:

Location	Food Standards Agency
Food Standards Agency HQ, London	Emergency team to make assessments, issue food safety advice and statutory food orders as appropriate
Thames Valley Police SCG	Radiological expert to inform Strategic Commander on food safety issues and Agency actions via STAC.
Media Briefing Centre	Spokesperson to issue advice and information on FSA's response
Government Coordination Centre, London	Representative to liaise with other Government Departments

7R RADIOACTIVE INCIDENT MONITORING NETWORK

Role

A key component of the Government's response arrangements to the occurrence of an overseas nuclear accident with consequences for the UK is a national Radioactive Incident Monitoring Network and information management system (RIMNET). The RIMNET Team within the Met Office is responsible for maintaining, on behalf of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), the operational readiness of the RIMNET facilities including:

- (a) Maintaining the operational capability of the RIMNET system
- (b) Ensuring the RIMNET facilities in emergency centres are properly maintained;
- (c) Providing briefing and training on the use of the system
- (d) Planning exercises to test the UK response systems, facilities and procedures
- (e) RIMNET is a UK-wide emergency management system, which was first established in 1988 following a review of the UK response to the Chernobyl accident. It consists of:
 - a. A network of 96 fixed gamma dose rate monitoring stations across the UK;
 - b. A central database accessible by all Government Departments, Agencies and Devolved Administrations
 - c. A Geographic Information System
 - d. Statistical and analysis tools
 - e. A robust network of links to other emergency response systems operated by Government Departments, the UK nuclear industry and international organisations
 - f. Document management and desktop publishing facilities; and
 - g. Diverse communications systems.

The locations of all the RIMNET gamma dose rate monitoring stations are detailed in the BEIS web pages [RIMNET: map of sites in the UK](#).

7S MET OFFICE

Role

The Met Office is responsible for providing weather and plume dispersion information as part of (PACRAM) Procedures and Communications in the event of a Release of Radioactive Material.

The 24 hour EMARC (Environment Monitoring and Response Centre) at Exeter will provide weather forecasts following the release of radioactive materials into the environment. On notification of an accident the EMARC staff will run the NAME (Numerical Atmospheric Modelling Environment) simulation having input all given information about the release. Output from the Model is in a graphical map based form, as an animation to show plume behaviour

There is a 24 hour emergency contact point for the EMARC desk at Exeter. In addition the Met Office Advisor (Civil Contingencies) (MOACC) for SE England can provide additional help with interpretation of the data provided by Exeter. The MOACC can also attend Strategic Coordinating Centre meetings either in person or remotely.

Contact details for the MOACC: via Met Office Advisor – see AWE MA Activation Plan

Alerting Procedure

The Met Office will normally be activated by TVP and AWE as required.

Actions

Provide advice, if required, through the MOACC or Met Office Exeter on the plume direction during any release and post a release in order to support response requirements.

7T GOVERNMENT DECONTAMINATION SERVICE (GDS)

Role

The Government Decontamination Service (GDS), is part of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), and can provide advice and guidance on decontamination processes and providers to support those responsible for decontamination and/or remediation following an incident which can involve Chemical, Biological, Radioactive or Nuclear materials (CBRN).

The GDS services are available on request (can be requested by Central Government, Emergency Services or Responsible Authorities who may be specified by statute or, in the case of a private body or company, may be the owner/agent of a building, location or asset).

Specifically the GDS can provide advice on:

- (a) Remediation options (including whether or not to decontaminate and what alternative options are available)
- (b) Capability, capacity and availability of specialist CBRN decontamination contractors in terms of decontamination of the built and open environment, infrastructure and transport. They may, if invited to do so, be able to offer other resources to assist in the site clearance process e.g. monitoring and sampling
- (c) Support (and facilitate where necessary) the contractual relationship between the Responsible Authority (or Agent) and specialist CBRN decontamination contractor(s) through a Framework where agreed terms, conditions and pricing schedules are already in place.

Alerting Procedure

Via DEFRA as detailed in figure below.

Actions

The actions of the GDS include:

- (a) Attend SCG with at least one representative in the STAC and the RCG
- (b) Advise the STAC and RCG of decontamination options, issues and costs
- (c) Liaise with private companies to prepare for a possible deployment for decontamination
- (d) Provide options to the RCG for clear up/decontamination
- (e) Support the decontamination process
- (f) Work with the specialist companies on specific aspects of decontamination as they might impact on their operations
- (g) Work with the RCG to develop strategies

In order for the GDS to provide the advice etc. then the following information would be requested:

- (a) The specifics and extent of contamination (What, where, how much, fixed or mobile?)
- (b) Site plans (both street and buildings – with services where possible) and rendezvous/strategic holding areas for Framework Suppliers to bring kit/staff forward to
- (c) Details of who is responsible for managing the remediation process will they accept responsibility for the cost of a specialist CBRN decontamination contractor – if not, who will?
- (d) Details as to whether the contamination been contained to prevent further spread?
- (e) Have forensic investigations been completed by the police and specialist teams (GDS specialist suppliers can assist in this process if requested) and the site handed over for remediation?

Details of the Recovery Coordination Group (RCG) and whether a decision to decontaminate has been taken? – prioritisation of work and resources may be required.

(GDS Science Team may assist with technical remediation options and can feed information into the remediation / decontamination strategy / Science and Technical Advice Cell (STAC) / Strategic Coordination Group)

In order that the decontamination process can continue then the following would be considered in the Decontamination Process:

- (a) Specific sampling and monitoring would be carried out to inform the decontamination strategy
- (b) RCG and STAC agree decontamination and waste strategy (includes agreed end point, planning to prioritise workloads, cost estimation, decisions on decontamination technology, disposal routes and monitoring processes)
- (c) Once engaged, the specialist GDS contractor(s) will, in accordance with decontamination strategy, provide a plan which will include method statements and risk assessments
- (d) Decontamination carried out (various methods may apply)
- (e) Post decontamination (clearance) sampling carried out
- (f) Final clearance given by RCG / Clearance Committee
- (g) Completion report provided.

7U ACTION BY UTILITIES

During any major incident the utilities have a role to play in order to support the emergency response make sure the situation does not get worse for the community in the long term. The following details the main responsibilities of the utilities.

WATER COMPANIES

Role

Thames Water and South East Water are the main water utility companies covering both areas around the sites. Their main responsibilities are to ensure that the public water supply meets the legal requirements and as a result is fit for human consumption.

Alerting Procedure

The Environment Agency will alert the Water Company (ies) in the affected area.

The Water Companies will then alert through their own internal systems.

Actions

The main responsibilities of the water company would be to:

Assess the risk of contamination of the public water supply

- (a) Sample surface and, in certain cases, underground water sources used for public supply in an area extending up to or beyond 40km from the site. The samples would be sent for analysis for radioactive materials. This would be in conjunction with the EA and PHE CRCE
- (b) Consider the results obtained and any advice received from the Environment Agency in determining appropriate action
- (c) Provide advice to customers on public water supplies in accordance with the Public Health guidelines
- (d) Supply alternative drinking water to the affected areas as necessary
- (e) Attend the SCG, STAC and/or the RCG at SCC as necessary.

COMMUNICATION COMPANIES**Role**

The main communications provider, British Telecom, operates a monitoring system for 999 calls and may be alerted to an AWE Off-site Radiation Emergency in its early stages. Other communication providers will also monitor their networks to ensure communications are maintained.

Alerting Procedure

Any alert to the communications company would normally be via the SCG or via the responding agencies directly.

Actions

- (a) The main actions of all the communications companies are to monitor their networks to ensure communications is maintained
- (a) They may be invited to attend the SCG if there is a particular issue to be resolved.
- (b) Mobile Communications network operators may be requested to activate the Mobile Telephone Preferential Access Service (MTPAS)
- (c) BT on notification of an incident will specifically:
 - a. Maintain a log of all incoming and outgoing messages and a diary of events, times, dates etc.
 - b. Establish their Emergency Control Group and nominate a BT incident control manager.
 - c. Establish their Emergency Communications Centre and appropriate local emergency Control Point.

ELECTRICITY COMPANIES**Role**

The role and actions of the electricity companies are to:

- (a) To maintain /restore the supply of electricity
- (b) To isolate and make safe electrical apparatus as necessary.
- (c) Liaison with local authorities and other organisations as appropriate
- (d) To manage and operate electricity distribution to the conditions prevailing throughout the emergency
- (e) To respond to requests to connect and disconnect
- (f) To attend SCG as requested.

Alerting Procedure

Any alert to the electricity companies would normally be via the SCG or via the responding agencies directly.

GAS COMPANIES**Role**

The role and actions of the electricity companies are to:

- (a) To maintain as necessary the gas supply
- (b) To connect or disconnect gas supplies as requested
- (c) To attend SCG as requested.
- (d) Alerting Procedure
- (e) Any alert to the gas companies would normally be via the SCG or via the responding agencies directly.

Alerting Procedure

Any alert to the electricity companies would normally be via the SCG or via the responding agencies directly.

7V NETWORK RAIL**Role**

Network Rail's role is to control the rail network in an emergency. As a result within the DEPZs of the AWE sites there may be a requirement for Network Rail to be involved should the wind direction etc. result in the plume affecting or likely to affect the main London-Newbury or Reading-Basingstoke rail lines.

Alerting Procedure

Depending on the sectors affected and the distances involved of potential contamination then Network Rail will be notified by the British Transport Police or West Berkshire District Council.

Actions

Network Rail will:

- (a) Ensure that the users of the lines affected are informed of the incident, including Train Operating Companies (GWR, South West Trains etc.) and Freight Operating Companies.
- (b) Inform their National Operations Centre, other affected Routes, and controlling signal boxes for the area.
- (c) Work with other agencies at the most appropriate command level to ensure the most appropriate action is taken to secure the safety of all staff, passengers, freight and trains on the affected lines.
- (d) Ensure that any affected trains are properly identified and cleaned in conjunction with advice and guidance provided by STAC and the SCG/RCG.
- (e) Follow advice from STAC and the SCG/RCG in terms of closing and re-opening lines.

7W OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Other individual organisations may be involved as and when required. It may be none or only one or two are involved. However it may be that in a significantly large incident then more organisations will be called upon to assist.

Other organisations that may be asked to assist include:

The Military

To provide personnel, specialist plan and transport etc. on an as and when basis.

Voluntary Agencies

Would assist with Rest Centres etc. and would be coordinated by the relevant Local Authority

Road Transport organisations

To provide transport required of essential plan and machinery.

Passenger Transport Organisations

To provide transport for people in the event of any necessary temporary re-location of affected people

Other Local Authorities

To provide manpower and specialist equipment etc. under MOU agreements.

7X HIGHWAYS ENGLAND

Role

Highways England is responsible for managing, and maintaining the Strategic Road Network (SRN) throughout England. This is performed by the TOS (Traffic Officer Service) and Service Provider contracted to maintain

Highways England Traffic Officers and their Service Provider would be responsible, for providing assistance to the Emergency Services in the event of an incident at AWE Aldermaston with actual or potential off-site consequences where the need for closures on the SRN would be required.

Alerting Procedure

In the event of an offsite incident at AWE, Highways England East Regional Control Room would be informed by West Berkshire District Council, the Emergency Services (Police for AWE Burghfield only) in accordance with the procedure in the Emergency Plan.

Actions

The East Duty Regional Control Centre (RCC) Manager will:

- (a) Record full details of the incident, immediately open a log and call back to West Berkshire District Council in order to verify the message.
- (b) Inform the Duty Operations Manager
- (c) Inform the South Emergency Planning Team
- (d) Inform Service Provider and place on standby in case any closures are to be implemented on the SRN.

8 Communications Directory

This is stored on RD as a separate **AWE Multi-Agency Activation Plan**

Not available in public document for purpose of safety and security.

9 Glossary of Terms

Acronyms	Meaning
ACP	Aldermaston Command Post
ALARP	As Low As Reasonably Practicable
AWE	Atomic Weapons Establishment
AWE(A)	AWE Aldermaston
AWE(B)	AWE Burghfield
BC	Borough Council
BDBC	Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council
BEIS	Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
CAA	Civil Aviation Authority
CBRN	Chemical Biological Radiation and Nuclear
CCG	Clinical Commissioning Group
CCS	Civil Contingencies Secretariat
CMC	Crisis Management Centre
COBR	Cabinet Office Briefing Room
COI	Central Office of Information
COMAH	Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations 2015
COP	Common Operating Picture
CRIP	Commonly Recognised Information Picture
DE&SO	Defence Equipment and Support Organisation
DEFRA	Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DEM	Duty Emergency Manager
DEPZ	Detailed Emergency Planning Zone
DERP	Defence Environmental Restoration Program
DNEO	Defence Nuclear Emergency Organisation
DPH	Director of Public Health
EA	Environment Agency
ECC	Emergency Control Centre
ECOSA	Emergency Coordination of Scientific Advice
EELs	Emergency Exposure Levels
EHO	Environmental Health Officer
ELL	Emergency Exposure Levels

Acronyms	Meaning
EM (A)	Emergency Manager (Aldermaston)
EM (B)	Emergency Manager (Burghfield)
EMARC	Environmental Monitoring and Response Centre
ECC	Emergency Control Centre
EP	Emergency Planning
EPO	Emergency Planning Officer
FCP	Forward Control Point
FEPA	Food & Environmental Protection Act 1985
FRS	Fire and Rescue Service
FSA	Food Standards Agency
GDS	Government Decontamination Service
GLO	Government Liaison Officer
GLT	Government Liaison Team
HART	Hazardous Area Response Team
HCC	Hampshire County Council
HMEPA	Hazardous Material Environmental Protection Advisor
HoS	Head of Service
HQ	Headquarters
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
INES	International Nuclear Events Scale
IRR	Ionising Radiation Regulations 2017
JRLO	Joint Regional Liaison Officer
LA	Local Authority
LALO	Local Authority Liaison Officer
LGD	Lead Government Department
LLC	Local Liaison Committee
LO	Liaison Officer
LRF	Local Resilience Forum
MAC	Media Advisory Centre
MACA	Military Aid to the Civil Authorities
MAIC	Multi-Agency Information Cell
MBC	Media Briefing Centre
MCA	Military Coordinating Authority

Acronyms	Meaning
MDP	Ministry of Defence Police
MHCLG	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
MHCLG RED	MHCLG Resilience & Emergency Division
MICR	Major Incident Control Room
MIP	Major Incident Plan
MOACC	Met Office Advisor Civil Contingencies
MOD	Ministry of Defence
mSv	millisieverts
NAIAG	Nuclear Accident Information Advisory Group
NAME	Numerical Atmospheric Modelling Environment
NARO	Nuclear Accident Response Organisation
NCC	National Coordinating Centre
NEPLG	National Emergency Planning Liaison Group
NHS	National Health Service
OOH	Out of Hours
OiC	Officer in Charge
ONR	Office for Nuclear Regulation
ONR RCIS	Office for Nuclear Regulation Redgrave Court Incident Suite
PACRAM	Procedures and Communications in the event of a Release of Radioactive Material
PHE	Public Health England
PHE CRCE	Public Health England Centre for Radiation, Chemical and Environmental Hazards
PIC	Public Information Centre
PIO	Press and Information Officer
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PR	Public Relations
PROW	Public Rights of Way
RBC	Reading Borough Council
RBFRS	Royal Berkshire Fire & Rescue Service
RCC	Regional Control Centre
RCG	Recovery Coordinating Group
RCIS	Redgrave Court Incident Suite

Acronyms	Meaning
RD	ResilienceDirect
RED	Resilience & Emergency Division
REL	Rear Echelon Link
REPPIR	Radiation Emergency Preparedness and Public Information Regulations 2001
RF BDE CDR	Regional Force Brigade Commander
RIMNET	Radiological Incident Monitoring Network
RMU	Radiation Monitoring Unit
RPA	Radiation Protection Advisor
RRT	Regional Resilience Team
RVP	Rendezvous Point
SAGE	Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies
SBC	Slough Borough Council
SCAS	South Central Ambulance Service
SCC	Strategic Coordinating Centre
SCG	Strategic Coordinating Group
SITREP	Situation Report
SSA	Senior Scientific Adviser
STAC	Scientific and Technical Advisory Cell
SW PT FPOC	Strategic Weapons Project Team First Point of Contact
TVP	Thames Valley Police
WBC	Wokingham Borough Council
WBDC	West Berkshire District Council