



National  
Operational  
Guidance

# Control measure

## Emergency response plans



**NFCC**  
National Fire  
Chiefs Council

Developed and maintained by the NFCC

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### Control measure knowledge

The Civil Contingencies Act (CCA) places a responsibility on Category 1 responders to produce and have in place emergency plans, which may include procedures for determining whether an emergency has occurred.

There is a generic national framework for managing emergency response and recovery, irrespective of the size, nature and cause of an emergency. It also identifies the various tiers of single and multi-agency management, defining the relationship between them and a common framework within which individual agencies can develop their own plans and procedures.

For further information see [Emergency Response and Recovery Guidance](#) (England and Wales), [Responding to Emergencies in Scotland](#) and [Emergency Planning, Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service](#)

### Strategic actions

Fire and rescue services should:

- Consider the roles and responsibilities of the fire and rescue service at emergency incidents when developing emergency plans
- Ensure that emergency plans are produced. Plans should be developed in consideration of the following:
  - Anticipation - horizon scanning for risks and potential emergencies
  - Preparedness - a clear understanding of roles and responsibilities and how they fit into the wider, multi-agency picture
  - Subsidiarity - managing operations and making decisions at the lowest appropriate level
  - Direction - establishing a clear and unambiguous strategic aim and objectives
  - Information - information management and appropriate preparatory measures being in place to build situational awareness and the development of a Common Recognised Information Picture (CRIP)
  - Integration - multi-agency involvement, roles and prominence
  - Co-operation - inclusive decision making processes, openness and mutual trust



- Continuity - using established experience, expertise, resources and relationships to manage and respond to emergencies in the usual way

## **Tactical actions**

Incident commanders should:

- Access any available emergency response plan and implement appropriate predetermined actions