

Emergency Preparedness Resilience and Response (EPRR)

Core Standards review

1.0 Background

The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (CCA) is the legislative framework for governmental/public sector response to incidents. The CCA designated public, and some private sector, organisations with either category 1 or Category 2 responder status with Category 1 being the most onerous.

NHS guidance however gives a wider range of duties to Acute Trusts as category 1 NHS responder. The detail is contained within the NHS EPRR Framework Oct 2015 and the annual NHS EPRR Core Standards self-assessment and assurance exercise.

2.0 NHS England Core Standards 2021 Compliance

2.1 Background

First published in January 2013, the NHS England Core Standards are the minimum EPRR standards which NHS organisations and providers of NHS funded care must meet. Core standards are assured by completion of self-assessments which enable NHS England to assess the preparedness of NHS organisations across a range of assurance indicators. The full list of compliance questions and answers can be found in the embedded document held in Appendix A.

2.2 2021 Requirements

For 2021 the self-assessment process for NHSEI South East taken from national letter (Appendix B) is as follows:

Ref	Task	Responsible	Timeline
1	Undertake a self-assessment against the 2021 amended core standards relevant to your own organisation	NHS Funded Organisation	26th July – 10th September 2021
2	Forward self-assessments to CCG/ICS EPRR leads	NHS Funded Organisation	By 10 th September 2021
3	Confirm and challenge sessions	CCG/ICS EPRR	13th September –

	with provider organisations	Team	1st October 2021
4	Confirm and challenge sessions with CCGs / ICS	NHS England EPRR Team	4th October – 13th October
5	CCG/ICSs to submit an EPRR System assurance summary to the NHS England EPRR Team	CCG/ICS AEO and EPRR Leads	31st October 2021
6	LHRP Executive Group to have reviewed, scrutinise and endorse compliance levels for each NHS funded organisation	NHS England EPRR Team	By 30th November 2021
7	EoE Commissioner and Provider Assurance ratings to be submitted to the National NHS England EPRR Team	NHS England EPRR Team	31st December 2021

2.3 Deep Dive Requirements

Each year the Core Standards review specific areas of EPRR through a ‘Deep Dive’ process where evidence is required and presented as part of the Core Standard return. This process does not contribute to the overall score, with 2021 ‘Deep Dive’ theme covering ‘Oxygen Supply’.

3.0 MKUH Assurance Rating

NHE England national letter outlines assurance rating for Core Standards as follows:

Compliance Level	Evaluation and Testing Conclusion
Full	Arrangements are in place that appropriately addresses all the core standards that the organisation is expected to achieve. The Board has agreed with this position statement
Substantial	Arrangements are in place however they do not appropriately address one to five of the core standards that the organisation is expected to achieve. A work plan is in place that the Board has agreed

Partial	Arrangements are in place, however they do not appropriately address six to ten of the core standards that the organisation is expected to achieve. A work plan is in place that the Board has agreed
Non-compliant	Arrangements in place do not appropriately address 11 or more core standards that the organisation is expected to achieve. A work plan has been agreed by the Board and will be monitored on a quarterly basis in order to demonstrate future compliance

MKUH has RAG rated its 2021 EPRR Core Standards Self-Assessment and this is shown in tabular form below:

RAG Rating	EPRR Core Standards	Deep Dive 'Oxygen'	Total
RED	0	0	0
AMBER	0	2	2
GREEN	46	5	51
			53

The Self-Assessment result with evidence provided outlines the Trust to be:

Fully Compliant

4.0 Revised EPRR Plans 2021

- **MKUH Major Incident Plan 2021** – Newly revised plan has been finalised and will replace the previous 2018 version. This plan has amended action cards and it aligns to the revised EPRR Framework 2015 and Cabinet Office definitions.
- **MKUH CBRN / HAZMAT SOP 2021** - Newly revised SOP has been finalised and will replace the previous 2018 version. This plan has amended action cards and it aligns to the revised Initial Operation Response (IOR) guidance.
- **MKUH Mass Casualty SOP 2021** - Newly revised SOP has been finalised and will replace the previous 2018 version. This plan has amended action cards and it aligns to NHSEI South East Framework 2020
- **Communication in a Crisis Plan 2021** – New plan to support MKUH communication strategy and response during major incident aligned to national best practice.

All new plans will form part of the EPRR training and exercise programme to ensure staff roles outlined within is tested and embedded. All plans is accessible to all staff

on the EPRR Intranet page and Trust Documentation Site with communication cascade to notify all staff of revised plans.

4.1 Training and Exercising

Below outline the training and exercise delivered for 2021. All records are held with EPO.

Training / Exercise	Dates Delivered	Summary
Exercise Jigsaw	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12th August 2020 	Internal cascade exercise conducted with Imaging Department
Silver/Gold On-Call Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> October-December 2020 	Major Incident commander training for Silver and Gold delivered over October to December, with new on call staff given one to one training.
Silver On call legal awareness Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8th Dec 2020 	Silver on call attended legal awareness training delivered on 8 th December.
Fire Exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 17th December 2020 	Table-Top fire exercise conducted to test Trust response to fire and evacuation of COVID patients
ED Major Incident Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May-July 2021 	Total of 30x ED staff attended major incident sessions held over May to July.
Switchboard Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 28th June 2021 	Training delivered to switchboard in responding to Major Incident call via Red Phone.
Exercise Talk-Talk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5th July 2021 	NHSE SE cascade exercise through SCAS
Executive Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13th September 2021 	Major Incident and Legal Training being delivered to all Executive Team
Exercise Starlight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> September 	NHSE EoE NHSE SE cascade exercise through CCG – exercise to be conducted in September
Outbreak Exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 29th Sept 2021 	MKUH exercise alongside BLMK CCG to test local and internal capabilities against outbreak/incident scenarios

*All exercises conducted have post exercise reports available via EPO, with all learning outcomes captured within EPRR work plan where appropriate.

5.0 Next Steps

- For executive team to approve this report to be forwarded onto Public Board
- Ongoing EPRR work plan to be presented at EPRR Steering Committee chaired by AEO.

Appendix A: Core Standards MKUH Self-Assessment



B0628-2021-Core-St
andards-amended-FIN

Appendix B: National Core Standards Letter



B0628_2021-EPRR-a
nnual-assurance-let