

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

17 April 2012

Subject: Olympic Resilience

Cabinet member: Cllr Keith Humphries - Public Health and Public Protection

Key Decision: No

Executive Summary

This report is designed to provide an overview of the work that is currently being undertaken in respect of resilience planning for the Olympic and Paralympic activities in Wiltshire this summer and thereby provide assurance that there is robust planning in place to ensure that our residents and communities are safeguarded from risks.

The report outlines the roles of the Corporate Director of Public Health and Public Protection and the Local Resilience Forum under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, sets out the risks to individuals and communities and outlines the activities (planning, training, exercising and information sharing) that are in place to mitigate these risks.

The report also provides some operational detail regarding the respective roles of the Strategic and Tactical Co-ordinating Groups on the days when the torch is in Wiltshire.

Proposal(s)

There is no proposal as such but Members are asked to note the contents of the report.

Reason for Proposal

To provide understanding and assurance with respect to the resilience planning and preparedness for the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics

Maggie Rae

Corporate Director of Public Health and Public Protection

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

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Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update and assurance around the resilience aspect of planning for the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics.

Background

2. The 2012 Olympic Torch Relay is a 70 day event travelling around the whole of the UK, starting on the 18 May and finishing at the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games on the 27 July.
3. The Torch follows a similar pattern each day. It starts between 0600 and 0800 hours and finishes between 1820 and 1950 hours. During this time it will cover over 160km which could be through several counties and different local authority areas. Every day about 30km will be 'run' by torch bearers in 300m stages in areas chosen to maximise the visibility of the Torch to the public. The only time it stops is for lunch. It finishes by visiting an 'Evening Celebration' event hosted by a Local Authority. It is anticipated that these events will have an average attendance of 10,000 spectators with entertainment provided by LOCOG and their supporting Partners.
4. The Relay operates in a convoy of vehicles separated into two phases. The first, an activation section of presenting partners (sponsors) is followed 4 - 6 minutes later by the main torch bearer convoy. It travels at a maximum speed of 45 mph in convoy mode and at approximately 4 mph in relay mode. The responsibility for the security of the Torch and the bearers is that of the Metropolitan Police as host police force for the Games.
5. Current intelligence suggests that the international terrorism threat is 'Low' for the Torch Relay, although planning will continue at 'Severe' level. Intelligence is gathered nationally through the Olympic Intelligence Centre (OIC) and disseminated through the South West Counter Terrorist Intelligence Unit (SWCTIU) and police force intelligence processes. A network of police force Intelligence Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) has been created.
6. The Olympic Torch Relay visits Wiltshire on Tuesday 22 and Wednesday 23 May 2012 (when it also visits Swindon) and again on Wednesday 11 and Thursday 12 July 2012. On Wednesday 11 July 2012, a celebratory evening event will be held in Hudson's Field, Salisbury. On Wednesday 23 May it is essential that the Torch Relay transitions seamlessly between Wiltshire and Swindon. Photo opportunities

will also take place at Salisbury Cathedral during the morning of 12 July and possibly at Stonehenge (subject to confirmation).

7. Outlined below is a breakdown of the locations the Torch Relay will visit in Wiltshire and Swindon:

22 nd May	Southwick, Trowbridge, Bradford-on-Avon
23 rd May	Chippenham, Calne, Marlborough, Wootton Bassett, Swindon
11 th July	Ludgershall, Tidworth, Amesbury, Winterbournes, Salisbury
12 th July	Salisbury, Wilton, Barford St Martin, Fovant, Ludwell

Types of Risk

8. The key risks to the torch relay are terrorist activity, criminal activity (including serious and organised crime), public protest/domestic extremism, fixated persons and non-malicious hazards (e.g. pandemic, heat wave).

Main Considerations for the Council

9. Resilience has been recognised as an issue from the outset and has been built into the governance structure. This element of planning has been led by Maggie Rae, the Corporate Director of Public Health and Public Protection (CD PH&PP) and has been driven through the Wiltshire & Swindon Local Resilience Forum (LRF). The CD PH&PP is Vice Chair of the LRF.
10. The LRF was established following the introduction of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and consists of all Category 1 Responders across Wiltshire and Swindon, namely the three 'blue light' services, both local authorities, NHS Wiltshire, NHS Swindon, the Health Protection Agency and the Environment Agency. They all have general duties of civil protection under the Act in preparing for, responding to and recovering from emergencies and major incidents. One of the duties is to undertake risk assessments and this has been done in relation to the Olympics and Paralympics. Partners are well used to working together on annual events such as Solstice, WOMAD and RIAT where the promotion of safety is paramount.
11. Although not hosting an Olympic venue itself, Wiltshire & Swindon LRF is sandwiched between two venue LRFs, namely Dorset, Bournemouth & Poole LRF (the Olympic sailing competition is being hosted in Portland), and Thames Valley LRF (the Olympic rowing competition is being hosted at Dorney Lakes). Consequently, this LRF could be called upon to provide mutual aid to its neighbours during the Olympics. It is highlighted that Wiltshire Police and Great Western Ambulance Service are already providing mutual aid to London for the Games.
12. Each agency has been undertaking its own planning for some time and multi-agency planning has been taking place within the LRF. The Olympics is a standing agenda item on all LRF agendas so that each group can consider it from their own unique perspective. The LRF preparation has been split into four main areas, namely plans, training, exercising and the National Resilience Extranet (NRE). It has also planned for the multi-agency co-ordination operation.

Plans

13. The LRF currently has 21 multi-agency plans. All plans are subject to regular review as part of normal business process. However, with the Olympics in mind, a task & finish group was established to review all plans and determine whether

or not they are fit for purpose. As a result, four plans are being actively reviewed and updated, and two new plans are being developed.

14. Category 1 agencies sit on all of Wiltshire's key Boards and Groups associated with the Olympics, and are supporting Wiltshire Council in its planning for the Torch Relay and Hudson's Field Evening Event. The LRF has been represented at Wiltshire Council briefings with Community Area Board representatives.

Training

15. All agencies are undertaking their own 'in-house' training. However, this is being enhanced by a series of multi-agency training events. Two strategic training events took place in March at Police HQ, Devizes. Two of the Wiltshire Council Corporate Directors attended together with their counterparts in other Category 1 organisations. A series of ongoing multi-agency training at tactical (Silver) and operational (Bronze) levels is currently ongoing. Wiltshire Council is also arranging training for Community Emergency Volunteers.

Exercising

16. A multi-agency exercising programme has been developed regionally and locally to prepare organisations for the Olympics. Last Autumn, 'blue light' services were involved in Exercise Osprey to support Dorset at their venue in Portland and Exercise Argon Shield, a CBRNe exercise in Bristol. Health was involved in Exercise Diaspora, a regional exercise with colleagues elsewhere. In March, Category 1 agencies took part in Exercise Torch Guardian, a series of tabletop exercises hosted by Avon & Somerset Constabulary.
17. Locally, the strategic training referred to above was followed-up by two half day tabletop exercises based on a local Olympics scenario. These exercises revolved around a Strategic Coordinating Group (SCG) responding to an Olympics emergency.
18. A raft of other exercises have taken, or are planned to take place. For example, Wiltshire Police's Counter Terrorism Security Advisers (CTSAs) ran a tabletop exercise around crowded places in January. This will be followed-up by some practical training/briefing for stewards and marshals once appointed. Wiltshire Council is leading an animal disease exercise in April in conjunction with Swindon Borough Council. A tactical exercise at Porton Down involving both 'live' play and tabletop took place in March. Amongst other things, this tested the multi-agency initial response to an emergency and the subsequent media response.

National Resilience Extranet (NRE)

19. This will be the primary national resilience information sharing tool during the Olympics and all Category 1 agencies identified key staff that have now been trained. Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service provided the training.

Strategic Coordinating Group (SCG) and Tactical Coordinating Group (TCG)

20. It has been agreed that a (silver) TCG should sit on 22/23 May and 11/12 July 2012 in order that agencies can react robustly and dynamically to any events surrounding the Torch Relay and Hudson's Field Evening Event as and when they happen. A (gold) SCG will not sit unless the need arises but executives/directors 'on call' must be able to attend Police HQ, Devizes promptly should an emergency or major incident arise. They cannot allow themselves to

be at a venue and caught up in the emergency itself. This will ensure that the appropriate command and control structure is established quickly and not compromised in any way.

Assurance

21. Although it is impossible to eradicate all risk, significant work has been, and continues to be, undertaken to reduce and manage the risk associated with the Olympics and Paralympics in Wiltshire. Wiltshire Council's Team Wiltshire is completing the centrally produced *Olympic Torch Evening Celebration Sites – Event Planning Checklist*. This incorporates resilience and will provide a good indication as to the state of readiness in Wiltshire.

Environmental and climate change considerations

22. There are no environmental or climate change considerations involved in this proposal

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

23. The planning and preparedness activities outlined above will ensure that all residents and communities will have the opportunity to participate in the various Olympic events within Wiltshire this summer in the knowledge that risks have been mitigated as far as possible. This in turn promotes cohesive communities and a lasting Olympic legacy.

Risk Assessment

24. The types of risk have already been identified within this report. However Members should be aware that the risks have also been captured in the LRF risk register which is regularly reviewed and assessed by the LRF risk sub-group in light of any emerging information or intelligence.
25. Wiltshire Council is the event organiser responsible for the smooth running of both the torch relay and evening event. There are reputational risks should any issues arise.

Financial Implications

25. There are financial implications of ensuring that the actions outlined above are put in place. However, this work has been and will continue to be undertaken as part of the normal roles and responsibilities of partner agencies at no additional cost. In addition both the police and ambulance services have stated that there will be no additional policing or ambulance costs on the days when the torch is in Wiltshire, the police seeing this as part of their 'civic duty'. Police response will be proportionate based on risk and threat. There are therefore no foreseen budgetary implications in 2012/13 with respect to the resilience planning for these events.

Legal Implications

26. The actions outlined above discharges the Council's legal responsibilities as a Category 1 responder under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and helps build trust and confidence in the Council and its Partners.

Options Considered

27. There are no alternative options to consider.

Conclusions

28. LRF partners are working together to ensure that there are robust measures in place to ensure that there is resilience for both the Olympic and Paralympic activities that Wiltshire will host and experience this summer.

Maggie Rae

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Background Papers

The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this report:

None

Appendices

None
