

Welcome to the first bulletin of the Suffolk Resilience Business Continuity Forum. The forum was inaugurated in November 2007, its purpose is to promote and develop business continuity planning across the county.

At the forum's opening workshop, it was decided that the first topic the bulletin should address would be flooding...well we couldn't have picked a better one! Not only is the west country suffering again this year, but the Suffolk coast also recently experienced its most significant tidal "near miss" for decades.

Suffolk local authorities have responded by setting up a Flood Policy Review Group to review and improve the county's resilience to

flooding. Of particular interest at the moment is the report from the Pitt Review which was set up to identify the lessons learned from last year's floods, summary is provided below. The Suffolk Policy Review will be publicly available in February.



The Pitt Review report on the floods of June and July 2007 was published in December, it made 14 recommendations and 72 interim conclusions. Of these, we have picked out 7 that have business continuity implications (in no particular order).

- There should be a duty on critical service operators to have BC planning to BS25999.
- BC Plans of essential service providers should be reviewed annually by Local Authorities.
- Category 1 Responders should be urgently provided with a detailed assessment of critical infrastructure.
- Single points of failure and complete loss of assets need to be explicitly considered.
- Category 2 Responders to more formally contribute information on critical sites..."
- Members of the public should have a flood kit.
- BC promotion should include the uptake of flood resistance and resilience measures.

<http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/thepittreview.aspx>

To help protect your business against flooding, try the following websites...

www.suffolk-resilience.com www.environment-agency.gov.uk

The Environment Agency website includes advice on how to protect property from rising flood waters. The Suffolk Resilience website includes a section on how to create your own business continuity plan.

The Forum's Calendar Of Events

Workshop – Making critical resources available in a crisis. April 1st, morning, venue TBA. Free

Training Course – How to create your business continuity plan. May 8th, morning, Suffolk CC, Endeavour House, Ipswich. Free

Please pass this newsletter and our contact details on to other business continuity people you might know.

The Forum's Next Event

Making critical resources available in a crisis.

Half Day Workshop, 1st April 2008, morning.

The objective of this workshop is to identify what resources (people, property, plant, equipment, IT, materials) organisations would need for business continuity during most incidents. A key benefit of the forum will be to establish a database of resources that organisations might either require or offer in a crisis.

To book a place on one of these events or to feedback on this bulletin, our contact details are :

Rick Thornton 01473 260439 rick.thornton@epu.suffolkcc.gov.uk
Lesley Pretlove 01473 264099 lesley.pretlove@epu.suffolkcc.gov.uk