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PART ONE: PREFACE & INTRODUCTION

I) INTRODUCTION

I.i Purpose of this document

This document is prepared by Humber Emergency Planning Service (HEPS) on behalf of East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Hull City Council, North East Lincolnshire Council and North Lincolnshire Council in response to the Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) Regulations 2015.

The COMAH Regulations implement the majority of the Seveso III Directive. The regulations are enforced by the Competent Authority (CA) comprising of the Health & Safety Executive (HSE) Environment Agency (EA) and the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and apply to both lower-tier and upper-tier establishments.

The aim of the Regulations is to prevent major accidents involving dangerous substances and limit the consequences to people and the environment of any accidents which do occur. Various organisations have duties imposed on them to ensure that further risks are mitigated. Under the Regulations the site operator has a duty to prepare a Major Accident Prevention Policy (MAPP) and an Internal emergency plan.

The site will be designated by the CA as an 'Upper Tier establishment if it holds equal to or in excess of the named substances listed in the Classification, Labelling and Packaging regulations 2008 (CLP). If designated Upper Tier then they are also required to have an External Emergency plan in place and it is the duty of the Local Authority inside whose boundary the site is situated, to produce the External Emergency plan. This plan defines how responding organisations will work together in the event of a major accident at an Upper Tier COMAH site.

I.ii How to use this document

The External Emergency plan produced by HEPS under the Regulations is divided into two parts, as follows:

**Universal plan (this document)** is a supporting document to the External Emergency plan. It is generic to all Upper Tier establishments within the Humber area and provides background information on the COMAH planning process and the Emergency Management Arrangements that are common to all Upper Tier establishments.

**External Emergency plan.** This plan is individually produced for each Upper Tier establishment and provides site-specific information on the response to a Major Accident (see II.i for the definition) or Major Accident Hazard or scenario which could reasonably be expected to lead to a Major Accident. The External Emergency plan is based on a template and contains information provided by the site and by some of the responders.
Both the Universal plan and External Emergency plan, mention the Humber Local Resilience Forum (LRF) Emergency Procedures Manual (EPM), the Humber LRF Communications Plan and the Humber LRF Recovery Protocol. These define how responding organisations will work together in the event of an emergency. The EPM, Communications Plan and Recovery Protocol are available on request from HEPS.

### I.iii Background

To ensure that each External Emergency plan prepared for Upper Tier establishments in the relevant Local Authority area satisfies the COMAH Regulations, all ‘core’ Category 1 responders identified in the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (CCA) and Site Operators were consulted in the planning process.

Some Category 2 organisations who may be involved in the response to a Major Accident have also been consulted and invited to contribute to both this document and the External Emergency plans.

### I.iv Aim of the plans

The aim of the External Emergency plan is to help the rapid deployment and co-ordination of the resources needed to help mitigate the effects of a Major Accident.

The rationale behind the format of the Universal plan is that it should be considered as background and advisory information, including the generic information to aid the response to a Major Accident. It also provides background information for the completion and production of the External Emergency plan template and should be read in conjunction with this.

The External Emergency plan identifies the key information required to ensure that responding organisations have the appropriate details to enable them to respond to a Major Accident at each particular Upper Tier site.

### I.v Objectives of the External Emergency plan

In accordance with Regulation 11 (1), the objectives of the External Emergency plan are:

1. Containing and controlling incidents so as to minimise the consequences, and limit damage to human health, the environment and property.

2. Implementing the necessary measures to protect human health and the environment from the consequences of major accidents

3. Communicating the necessary information to the public and to the services or authorities concerned in the area

4. Providing for the restoration and clean-up of the environment following a major accident
### I.vi Information to be included in the plan

In accordance with the Regulations Schedule 4 Part 2 the information to be included in the External Emergency plan is as follows:

1. Names or positions of any person authorised to set emergency procedures in motion and of any person authorised to take charge of and co-ordinate action outside of the establishment.
2. Arrangements for receiving early warning of incidents, and alert and call-out procedures.
3. Arrangements for co-ordinating resources necessary to implement the External emergency plan.
4. Arrangements for providing assistance with mitigatory action within the establishment.
5. Arrangements for mitigatory action outside the establishment, including responses to major accident scenarios as set out in the safety report and considering possible domino effects, including those having an impact on the environment.
6. Arrangements for providing the public and neighbouring establishments or sites who fall under Regulation 24 with specific information relating to an accident and the behaviour which should be adopted.
7. Arrangements for the provision of information to the emergency services of other Member States in the event of a major accident with possible trans boundary consequences.

### I.vii Consultation process

During the preparation of the External Emergency plan Humber Emergency Planning Service have consulted the following organisations / agencies:

- Humberside Fire & Rescue Service
- Humberside Police
- Yorkshire Ambulance Service
- East Midlands Ambulance Service
- HM Coastguard
- NHS England – North (Yorkshire & the Humber)
- Public Health England
- East Riding of Yorkshire Council
- Hull City Council
- North East Lincolnshire Council
- North Lincolnshire Council
- Environment Agency (EA); Yorkshire and North East, Anglian and Midlands
- Health & Safety Executive (HSE)
- Site Operators
- Town & Parish Councils
- Associated British Ports
- Water Companies / Authorities
- Highways Agency
- Northern Powergrid
## II) MAJOR ACCIDENT AND DECLARED EMERGENCY DEFINITION

### II.i Major Accident definition

The Regulations define a major accident as:

’an occurrence such as a major emission, fire or explosion resulting from uncontrolled developments in the course of the operation of any establishment and leading to serious danger to human health or the environment (whether immediate or delayed) inside or outside the establishment, and involving one or more dangerous substances as defined in the regulations, irrespective of the quantities involved.’

### II.ii Definition of a declared emergency (as defined in the LRF Emergency Procedures Manual)

Under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 a generic framework for civil protection was set up. The guidance provides for integrated emergency management arrangements to anticipate, assess, prevent, prepare and recover from any major emergency. The Act also defines Category 1 and 2 responders as:

‘the main organisations involved in most emergencies at the local level’.

A full list of Category 1 and 2 responders can be found in the Emergency Procedures Manual.

The Humber LRF definition of an emergency as adapted from the Civil Contingencies Act is

‘an event or situation which threatens serious damage to human welfare, or the environment, in a place in the Humber area.’ Therefore a major accident at an Upper Tier COMAH site may well escalate to a declared emergency for one or more of the responding or supporting organisations.
III.i Command and Control

When an incident becomes a declared emergency, it is likely that a multi-agency Command and Control Structure will be established to co-ordinate the activities of all the different responding organisations and achieve a joined up response to the emergency. The Joint Decision Model (JDM)

Responders within the Humber LRF use a Joint Decision Model to bring together the available information reconcile objectives and then make effective decisions together.

The JDM, shown below, is organised around three primary considerations:

- **Situation**: what is happening, what are the impacts, what are the risks, what might happen and what is being done about it? Situational awareness is having an appropriate knowledge of these factors.

- **Direction**: what end state is desired, what are the aims and objectives of the emergency response and what overarching values and priorities will inform and guide this?

- **Action**: what needs to be decided and what needs to be done to resolve the situation and achieve the desired end state?

Site operators will be expected to nominate a member of staff to attend any or all of the multi-agency commands if requested. A constant presence may be required for the whole length of the response and recovery following any major accident, therefore it may be advantageous to nominate and train staff in advance.

Most organisations have a system of command and control to co-ordinate their own response to an incident or emergency. These are usually based around a series of commands, meetings
or groups that operate at either at a strategic level, tactical level or operational level of decision making.

Humberside Police, for example, may establish a tactical level of command within their organisation to co-ordinate their own tactical response to an incident or emergency.

In some organisations the strategic level team is known as a Gold Command, the tactical level team is known as a Silver Command and the operational level is known as a Bronze Command. In other organisations different names are used, for example, the Local Authorities tactical level team is usually known as its Incident Management team or Emergency Control Centre team. However, most approaches fit this general model. In the Humber area it has been agreed that for consistency the terms Strategic Co-ordination Group and Tactical Co-ordination Group will be adopted as a common terminology.

It is custom and common practice to hold a multi-agency teleconference made of tactical commanders and contingency planners at the outset of an emergency or potential emergency to determine the most appropriate actions and command and control structure.

A teleconference may be convened when:
- A quick multi-agency conversation is required to help establish situational awareness of organisation actions and the extent of the emergency
- Communication between responding organisations can be effectively conducted over the telephone
- A declared emergency is unlikely to be a protracted event
- Immediate actions are required that do not allow time for a physical command to be established

Further details concerning the various Command and Control Structures can be found in Section 4 of the Emergency Procedures Manual (EPM).

### III.ii Inter-agency resources

Any service may request the temporary assistance of personnel and equipment of another. In these circumstances while the supporting service will relinquish the immediate control of those resources to the other service for the duration of the task, it will nevertheless keep overall command of its personnel and equipment at all times.

Personnel from one service who help another in this way should only be given tasks for which they are trained and provided with suitable personal protective equipment (PPE). For instance, Police Officers may be directed to become stretcher-bearers to release fire fighters for rescue work. They should not undertake hazardous rescue work themselves.

### III.iii Communications

AIRWAVE is now the common radio communication method used by the Emergency Responders and other identified partner organisations.

Humberside Police have a small number of “interoperability” handsets that can be shared with partner organisations during an emergency.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Terrorism</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At known or suspected terrorist incidents, radios should be kept on. The obvious benefits in being able to communicate at an incident far outweigh the remote risk of activating a device through radio transmission. Only when an unexploded suspect device has been located should personnel withdraw to at least 10 metres from the device before transmitting on personal radios. This distance should be increased to 50 metres when vehicle based radios are used.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| It should be borne in mind that GSM digital telephones and some trunk radio systems permanently transmit as part of their normal operating procedure. When a device is discovered these items should be disconnected and not activated until they are outside the 50 metre zone mentioned above. |
### IV) CORDONS

#### IV.i Information on cordons

Cordons are established around the scene for the following reasons:

- To guard the scene
- To protect the public
- To control sightseers
- To prevent unauthorised interference with evidence or property
- To facilitate the operations of the emergency services

Up to three cordons may be established by the emergency services dependent on the incident:

- Inner cordon – provides security of the hazard area and potential crime scene
- Outer cordon – seals off an extensive area around the inner cordon
- Traffic cordon – set up at or beyond the outer cordon to prevent unauthorised vehicle access to the area surrounding the scene

In terrorist or suspected terrorist incidents it is a criminal offence to contravene a prohibition or restriction imposed under Section 36 of the Terrorism Act 2000. This includes the crossing of a Police cordon.

#### IV.ii Inner Cordon

The Fire & Rescue Service is responsible for safety management of all personnel within the inner cordon. At terrorist incidents the Metropolitan Police Service’s Counter Terrorism Command (SO15) must also be consulted on safety issues.

When cordons are set, persons who do not have a role or who are wearing inappropriate clothing will be directed to leave the cordoned area.

To aid with identification of personnel authorised, suitably clothed and briefed to be in the inner cordon, the Fire & Rescue Service inner cordon controller will record all personnel already in, entering or leaving the inner cordon. The Fire & Rescue Service is responsible for the health and safety of all agencies working within the inner cordon, and will liaise with the Police about who will be allowed access to ensure they are properly equipped, trained and briefed.

The Fire & Rescue Service has an emergency evacuation signal which all personnel, must be aware of (and know how to respond to) if the area becomes hazardous. The Fire & Rescue Service officer will blow several short, REPEATED sharp blasts on a whistle and declare a safe point to withdraw to.
### IV.iii Outer Cordon

Police will control all access and exit points to the outer cordon. Non-emergency service personnel requiring access through the outer cordon will be vetted at the rendezvous point. Suitable ID should be shown as proof of access to the cordon.

The command/control vehicles of the emergency services may be positioned between the inner and outer cordons as will the rendezvous point and marshalling area.

### IV.iv Traffic Cordon

The traffic cordon may be established to restrict vehicle access to the area surrounding the scene.

Immediate action must be taken to ensure the free passage of emergency traffic to and from the scene of the incident and to prevent congestion at and around the scene.
**V) EVACUATION**

### V.i Information on evacuation

Some emergencies may require the evacuation of a large surrounding area because of the danger to life from environmental or structural hazards.

The multi-agency command will consider the need to evacuate taking into account the prevailing circumstances and both technical and expert advice.

Attending agencies may consider appointing evacuation officers to implement any necessary evacuation.

The local authority may establish a Rest Centre following a large or major emergency which will provide emergency shelter to people who have been displaced or evacuated.

A rest centre provides short term shelter until people can be moved to alternative or temporary accommodation.

Evacuees should be documented by the agency carrying out evacuation.

Health care in evacuation centres will be provided by the local community health provider.
PART TWO: INFORMATION ON THE COMPLETION OF THE TEMPLATE

SECTION 1: EXTERNAL EMERGENCY PLAN ACTIVATION

1.1 Background to Section 1

This section gives detail regarding the plan activation and who can activate the plan. Each box here cross references a box in the template and gives advice on how it should be completed.

1.2 When the plan will be activated

The External Emergency plan will be activated without delay when:

- A major accident occurs (for a definition see Section II.i); or
- An uncontrolled event occurs which could be reasonably expected to lead to a major accident.

1.3 Responsibility for activating the plan

It is the responsibility of the Site operator to activate the External Emergency plan however, if they have been unable or unwilling to do so then any of the designated authorities can activate the plan.

In the first instance it should always be the Site which activates the plan.

The names or positions of people authorised to activate the plan and set emergency procedures in motion should be listed.

1.4 How the plan will be activated

A member of the COMAH site operator’s personnel must make 4 separate “999” telephone calls to each of the emergency services (in order of assistance):

- Fire & Rescue Service
- Ambulance Service
- Police
- HM Coastguard

In order for the emergency services to respond quickly and effectively, with appropriate equipment and personnel the Site should make one call to each of the Emergency services. There are no guarantees that any of the emergency services will communicate messages to
other Emergency services, especially when they are experiencing high volumes of calls for assistance.

The order in which the calls are made to each of the emergency services should be dependent on the nature of the incident and as much information as possible should be given. When making the calls the Site personnel must provide the following information to each emergency service:

- The site name
- State that the site is an Upper Tier COMAH site and the External Emergency plan is being activated
- Provide the full address and post code
- All known details of the incident

The following questions may be posed by the emergency services:

- What exactly has happened?
- Address of site, including postcode?
- Name of the chemical(s) involved / UN number (phonetically spelt if necessary)?
- What are the CAS numbers of the chemicals involved?
- Have you done a roll call?
- Are there any casualties?
- Is there anyone with the casualties?
- Are you evacuating the site?
- How much of the chemical has been released?
- Is it a leak or a spill?
- Is it ignited?
- Do you know of any more chemical(s) that still may be released?
- What is the weather on scene?
- What is the wind direction? (Where is the wind blowing from and to?)
- What is the wind strength?
- Have on-site RVP’s been identified?
- What is a safe access approach?
- Callers name and direct telephone number to call back on?
- Any particular concerns? – (e.g. – we need to close the road)
- Has the External Emergency plan been activated?

(The list is not exhaustive)

If it appears to any of the designated authorities that:

- A major accident has occurred; or
- An uncontrolled event has occurred which could be reasonably expected to lead to a major accident

and <Site Name>’s personnel have not activated this plan because they have been unable to or unwilling to do so then that designated authority can activate this plan by making a 999 call to each emergency service following the guidance above.

Alternatively they can contact HEPS and request that the External Emergency plan is activated, stating clearly the reason for the request.
**This means of activation however is likely to involve a delay in notification and should only be used in exceptional circumstances.**

In the event that there is no clear decision regarding the activation of the External Emergency plan, any of the designated authorities should consider calling a teleconference using the Multi-Agency teleconferencing facility. This can be used to allow urgent multi-agency discussions to be held between partners, in response to an event which is, or has the potential to become a declared emergency.
1.5 Plan activation diagram – site activation

The following diagram shows how the Site activates the plan and how the information from the 999 calls is cascaded.
1.6 Plan activation diagram – Key Responding Organisation Activation

The following diagram shows how the plan will be activated by any of the Key Responding Organisations and how the information from the 999 calls is cascaded.
The following diagram shows how the plan will be activated by the council and how the information from the 999 calls is cascaded.
SECTION 2: KEY ACTIONS OF DESIGNATED AUTHORITIES

2.1 Background to Section 2

This section lists the functions and key actions of the site operator and all the key responding agencies when the External Emergency plan is activated. Each of the following organisations has a page within the plan:

- The Site Operator
- Humberside Fire & Rescue Service
- Humberside Police
- Ambulance Service (East Midlands (EMAS) and Yorkshire (YAS))
- HM Coastguard
- NHS England – North (Yorkshire & the Humber)
- Public Health England
- Humber Emergency Planning Service
- Local Authority (East Riding of Yorkshire, Hull City, North East Lincolnshire and North Lincolnshire)
- Environment Agency – Yorkshire and North East, Anglian and Midlands
- Associated British Ports (ABP) (in plans for sites located on docks or in close proximity)
- Water Companies and Authorities / Northern Powergrid / Highways Agency

The key actions of some of the above organisations are outlined in the EPM. However, further COMAH specific information has been supplied by some organisations and these are listed accordingly on the following pages.
## 2.2 COMAH Site Operator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Site operator must ensure that the activation section of the External Emergency plan has been completed.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Site operator must also ensure that an on-site Rendezvous Point (RVP) is identified and communicated to the emergency services. (The on-site RVP is the point on the site where responders who have to deal with the site incident will initially attend and where the site operator will be expected to provide a competent person, if applicable).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Site operator should list their key actions that they will carry out in the event of major accident.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any sites located on or in close proximity to the Docks should also contact Associated British Ports ABP will cascade a message to tenants on the dock and have a management presence in the Dock’s Marine Control Centre.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sites should also contact their domino sites (if any have been designated by the HSE), to inform them of the incident. Names of domino sites should be listed in this section.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At an appropriate time the Site operator should also contact the HSE to inform them of the accident.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 2.3 Humberside Fire & Rescue Service (HFRS)

The primary areas of the Fire & Rescue Service responsibility are:

- Save life in conjunction with other emergency services
- Rescue of trapped casualties
- Protect property
- Render humanitarian assistance
- Command incident whilst in the rescue phase
- Prevent further escalation of the incident by fire fighting measures
- Deal with released chemicals or other hazardous substances in order to save life, rescue or protect people from imminent danger and mitigate impact to the natural environment.
- Responsibility for health and safety of all personnel working within the incident inner cordon
- Assessment of hazards, gathering and provision of information to other agencies for use in decision making.
- Liaise with the site operator on details regarding the incident and tactics employed to bring the emergency under control
- Contribute to evacuation & shelter decision making
- Liaison with the Police, Ambulance & other Category 1 organisations
- Assist with body recovery if required
- Consideration on environmental impact and actions to be taken to minimise effects
- Participation in appropriate investigations and preparation of reports and evidence
- Standby during non-emergency recovery phase to ensure the continued safety at and surrounding the incident site as necessary.
2.4 Humberside Police

The primary areas of Police responsibility are:-

- Saving of life in conjunction with other emergency services
- Protection of property
- Scene preservation.

Following the notification of an incident the Police’s Key actions are as follows:-

- Force Incident Manager should ensure strict control of deployment. Prevent self-deployment.

- Ensure clear lines of Communication have been established with the site and other responding agencies

- Consider the requirement to declare an emergency (Declared Emergency as defined in the Local Resilience Forum Emergency Procedures Manual).

- Ensure a safe approach route to the Onsite RVP has been identified and following a dynamic risk assessment deploy staff as necessary to act as Site Liaison Officers

- Select location of Offsite Rendezvous Point for responding agencies (which will also be a marshalling area in the first instance). See Section 4.1 and appoint a Bronze Commander to take command of RVP.

- Implement Road Closures and Cordons as necessary

- Depending upon the nature of the incident consider the need to contact Highways England

- Inform Operations Planning

- Inform Humber Emergency Planning Service (HEPS)

- Consider using Air Support if available

- Appoint a Tactical commander

- Assist with the coordination of responding agencies

- Tactical Commander to Identify a Location for the Tactical Co-ordination Group (TCG), If necessary, and to request the attendance of:-
  - Fire & Rescue Service,
  - Ambulance service,
  - HM Coastguard,
  - Local Authority Forward Liaison Officer (FLO)
  - Site Representative

- Inform Media Officer to assist with the dissemination public information issued by the
• With other agencies consider the need to evacuate taking into account the prevailing circumstances and advice.

• With other responding agencies, consider the need to collate casualty information

• If necessary on behalf of HM Coroner take appropriate action to assist with the identification of any deceased.

• Conduct an investigation in conjunction with other investigative bodies or competent authorities.

• Following the decision to declare the ‘All Clear’, assist in the dissemination of the message to the public.
2.5 Ambulance Service (YAS and EMAS)

The primary areas of responsibility for the Ambulance Service are:

- To save life together with the other emergency services.
- To provide treatment, stabilisation and care of those injured at the scene.
- To provide appropriate transport, medical staff, equipment and resources.
- To establish effective triage points and systems and determine the priority evacuation needs of those injured.
- To provide a focal point at the incident for all National Health Service and other medical resources.
- To provide communication facilities for NHS resources at the scene, with direct radio links to hospitals, control facilities and any other agency as required.
- To nominate and alert the receiving hospitals from the official list of hospitals to receive those injured.
- Inform Public Health England
- Inform the NHS England – North (Yorkshire & the Humber) on call.
- To provide transport to the incident scene for the Medical Incident Advisors (MIA), mobile medical/surgical teams and their equipment.
- To arrange the most appropriate means of transporting those injured to the receiving and specialist hospitals.
- To maintain emergency cover throughout the Ambulance area and return to a state of normality at the earliest time.
- Consider mobilising the Hazardous Area Response Team (HART).
- Determine availability of on-site casualty management and decontamination.
# 2.6 HM Coastguard

In addition to the roles and responsibilities as listed in the EPM; HM Coastguard have provided the following additional information:

The Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) is an executive agency within the Department of Transport (DfT) and has a lead role for dealing with incidents at sea. The MCA is responsible for:

- Minimising loss of life amongst seafarers and coastal users;
- Responding to maritime emergencies 24 hours;
- Developing, promoting and enforcing high standards of maritime safety and pollution prevention for ships; and
- When pollution occurs, minimising the impact on UK interests

HM Coastguard is an integral part of the MCA and is responsible for the initiation and co-ordination of civil maritime search and rescue in the UK Search and Rescue Region. This includes the mobilisation, organisation and tasking of adequate resources including declared Search and Rescue (SAR) facilities to respond to persons either in distress at sea or persons at risk of injury or death on the cliff and shoreline of the United Kingdom. For maritime incidents, HM Coastguard also acts as the prime communications link as required for other emergency services and shore based authorities and agencies.

After saving human life, the key purpose of responding to a maritime incident is to protect human health, and the marine and terrestrial environment. The National Contingency Plan of Marine Pollution from Shipping and Off-Shore Installations outlines in detail the response organisation of the MCA. The scope of this Plan matches the Secretary of State’s powers of intervention, and “marine pollution” refers to pollution by oil and other hazardous substances. The legal basis for this Plan is Section 293 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995, as amended by Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security Act 1997.
2.7 Public Health England (North Yorkshire and Humber Health Protection Team)

Public Health England (PHE), through the North Yorkshire and Humber Health Protection Team (HPT), are advisers on health matters on any of the following:

- **Public Health England (PHE)** is an executive agency of the Department of Health dedicated to protecting people's health in the United Kingdom. This is done by providing impartial advice and authoritative information on health protection issues to the public, to professionals and to government.

- PHE combines public health and scientific expertise, research and emergency planning within one organisation. It works at international, national, regional and local levels and has links with many other organisations around the world.

- PHE is the public health representative at the virtual multi-agency Air Quality Cell (AQC), if convened, and acts as the liaison between the AQC and Scientific and Technical Advisory Cell (STAC) or multi-agency command platform.

- **PHE** includes the following sections:

  - **PHE** work alongside the NHS providing specialist support in communicable disease, infection control, chemical hazards and emergency planning.

  - PHE has nine centres across the country, of which the Yorkshire and Humber Centre is one. Each centre has a wide public health remit, including health protection, health improvement and healthcare public health. Within the Yorkshire and Humber Centre, there is a Health Protection Team, with offices in York, Leeds and Sheffield. Management of incidents within North Yorkshire and Humber will usually be supported by members of the Health Protection team based at the York office, while incidents in West and South Yorkshire are supported by the team in Leeds and Sheffield respectively.

  - PHE also includes an Emergency Response Department which, on behalf of the Department of Health, designs and delivers exercises and training across England for the NHS to improve preparedness for incidents such as infectious diseases, natural hazards, CBRN events and new or re-emerging health threats. Teams within the department provide evidence based risk assessment capability to advise on new and emerging health threats and conduct research projects on areas of psychological and behavioural responses to such threats.

  - The PHE **Centre for Radiation, Chemical and Environmental Hazards (CRCE)** provides advice, research and services to protect the public from hazards resulting from exposure to chemicals and poisons, radiation both ionising and non-ionising and ultrasound and infrasound. The Centre also leads for the Agency on public health effects of climate change and extreme environmental events such as flooding. Within the Yorkshire and the Humber region chemicals support and expert advice is provided by the Nottingham and Newcastle office.

  - PHE will arrange for a STAC to be set up if requested by the NSCG chair. PHE will also give technical advice to commanders even if a STAC is not activated.

  - PHE Colindale (formerly known as The **Centre for Infections (CfI)**) carries out a range of
work on the prevention of infectious disease. The remit includes infectious disease surveillance, providing specialist and reference microbiology and microbial epidemiology, coordinating the investigation and cause of national and uncommon outbreaks, helping advise government on the risks posed by various infections and responding to international health alerts.
The key roles and responsibilities of NHS England in the event of an incident can be summarised as follows:

- Assessing the longer term impact on health and health services of major incident (looking beyond immediate casualties).
- Provide input to the multi-agency strategic coordination of an incident.
- Provide the strategic coordination and/or control of the wider NHS response, where appropriate.
- If required, to advise Police Commanders on the health considerations of a decision to evacuate people as against advise them to shelter indoors.
- Liaise as appropriate with health providers e.g. Acute Hospitals, Community Health Providers and specialist services.
- Provide health advice and reassurance where appropriate, to the public and other agencies e.g. about the toxic effects of released chemicals.
- Continue to monitor longer-term health effects of the incident in coordination with PHE.
### 2.9 Acute Hospitals

- Receive and treat injured patients.
- Provide decontamination for self-presenting patients.
- Provide mobile team to site if requested by the ambulance service.
- Implement internal major incident plan if required.

### 2.10 Community Health Providers

- Provide Health care to displaced populations (including rest centres).
- Ensure critical services continue to be provided to the population in the affected area.
### 2.1.1 Local Authority

There are four Local Authorities in the Humber area:

- East Riding of Yorkshire Council
- Hull City Council
- North East Lincolnshire Council
- North Lincolnshire Council

If a Major Accident has occurred, initial contact with any of the council’s should be via Humber Emergency Planning Service (HEPS), which maintains a 24 hour / 365 day duty officer system. The External Emergency plan should initially be activated by the Upper Tier site however in extreme circumstances any key responding organisation can activate the plan if the site has been unable or unwilling to do so. HEPS can also be requested to activate the plan but this will only be done in conjunction with the relevant council and may result in a considerable delay in notification.

During, and in the aftermath of an incident, the principal concerns of the councils are to maintain critical services, provide support for the emergency services, continue normal support and care for the local and wider community and use resources to mitigate the effects of the Major Accident. The local authority will also make preparations to lead the recovery process.

When the plan is activated the councils will put in place their own emergency management arrangements which will include establishing an incident management team to manage the council’s response to an incident. It may also include identifying vulnerable people in the community and putting arrangements in place with multi-agency partners to warn and inform the public and local councillors. They will also take into account the possible provision of the following services: emergency feeding, emergency transport, temporary accommodation, traffic management, dangerous structures advice, environmental health advice and establishing a resilience mortuary.

If it appears that the incident may also affect a neighbouring council they will consider warning that council.

Good liaison between the emergency services and the council or councils, particularly at the scene, is essential and will be enhanced by the presence of a council Forward Liaison Officer (FLO) who will be deployed as appropriate to the Tactical Co-ordination Group. Emergency services should consider requesting an FLO at the outset of the incident.

The council will consider any immediate and future impacts on the environment, the community and council services. In the later stages of a Major Accident (the recovery period and return to normality) it is likely that the council will lead the recovery phase and their involvement may be prolonged and extensive.
### 2.12 Environment Agency (EA)

In addition to the roles and responsibilities as listed in the EPM the Environment Agency have provided the following additional information.

There are three Environment Agency (EA) areas within the Humber area:

- The Yorkshire area covering north of the Humber
- The Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire area which covers most of the south of the Humber
- The Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire area which covers the Scunthorpe area around the river Trent

The EA has primary responsibility for the environmental protection of land, water and air in England and Wales. The EA’s role in the response to an incident can be summarised as:

- Maintaining and operating flood defences on rivers and coastlines and giving warnings to those who may be at risk from flooding
- Advising and assisting in the prevention and/or mitigation of the effects of pollution arising from an incident
- Advising on the proper disposal of hazardous substances and waste
- Advising and assisting in the restoration and monitoring of the environment following an incident
- Gathering evidence to support any prosecution or enquiry

Early notification and involvement of the Environment Agency will help to identify, mitigate and contain the effects of possible pollution arising from an incident.

The Environment Agency is the lead agency for off-site air quality monitoring during a major incident and will co-ordinate and chair the virtual multi-agency Air Quality Cell (AQC) if convened.
2.13 Associated British Ports (ABP) – Landlords of Hull, Grimsby, Immingham and Goole Docks and owners of the Port Emergency Plans

- Consider the requirement to declare an emergency in accordance with the Port Emergency Plan.

- Alert ABP Security to assist the Emergency Services with access to the port area.

- Inform VTS Humber of the incident.

- Provide the Emergency Services details of port services and give assistance were possible.

- Alert dock tenants and users, particularly other port COMAH sites, of the emergency incident.

- Update Emergency message through dock emergency information free phone number 0800 7835 154

- Send liaison to the Tactical Co-ordination Group.

- Assist with the Emergency Services in controlling port activities which may be affected by the incident and evacuations if required.
### 2.14 Yorkshire Water

Upon notification by Humberside Fire & Rescue, Yorkshire Water Services will:

- respond in accordance with this plan and operational procedures;
- alert the relevant departments. Depending upon the circumstances these could include:
  - Service Delivery
  - Industrial Waste
  - Sewerage/Client
  - Sewage Treatment
  - Water Quality
  - Public Relations
- if required and provided it is safe to do so, instruct a trade effluent officer and or emergency personnel to attend site to maintain a safe sewerage network;
- within its capabilities, provide water to deal with the incident as and when necessary, requests for which should be made via the duty manager;
- advise the fire service, environment agency and local authority of the impact upon water and sewerage services and any areas where localised problems may exist;
- monitor by sampling and assessing the effects of any discharges to sewers arising from the accident;
- maintain communications with the emergency services and other organisations involved;
- provide scientific and technical information as and when required;
- in conjunction with the appropriate organisations carry out any protective or remedial measures as and when possible;
- assist the police to deal with the media on questions relating to water services.
### 2.15 Anglian Water

Upon notification by Humberside Fire & Rescue, Anglian Water Services will:

- respond in accordance with this plan and operational procedures;
- alert the relevant departments. Depending upon the circumstances these could include:
  
  - Operational Management Centre
  - Trade Effluent Scientists
  - SPES Contractor Partners
  - Water Quality
  - Press Office
- if required and provided it is safe to do so, instruct a trade effluent officer and or emergency personnel to attend site to maintain a safe sewerage network;
- within its capabilities, provide water to deal with the incident as and when necessary, requests for which should be made via the duty manager;
- advise the fire service, environment agency and local authority of the impact upon water and sewerage services and any areas where localised problems may exist;
- monitor by sampling and assessing the effects of any discharges to sewers arising from the accident;
- maintain communications with the emergency services and other organisations involved;
- provide scientific and technical information as and when required;
- in conjunction with the appropriate organisations carry out any protective or remedial measures as and when possible;
- assist the police to deal with the media on questions relating to water services.
## 2.16 Northern Powergrid

Northern Powergrid runs the only major electricity distribution network that provides power to customers in the North East, Yorkshire and north Lincolnshire. The Company has responsibility to inspect, maintain and repair its assets, respond to emergencies on its electricity network and restore supplies as quickly as possible in the event of a failure.

Further details of the Company response to an emergency can be found in the Northern Powergrid Strategic and Tactical Commanders Partner Information Leaflet which can be obtained from the Company’s emergency planning team. Northern Powergrid retains copies of some External Emergency Plans at our 24/7 Operations Centre and has access to others on Resilience Direct which can be referred to when notified of an incident.

Any issues with the electricity connection assets at the particular site should be covered under the Internal Emergency Plan and notified by and coordinated with the site operator.

When notified of an incident, Northern Powergrid will:

- Assess any potential impact on their electricity network and inform any staff working in the affected area
- Take any appropriate mitigation steps required to safeguard the electricity network and assets
- Make safe and repair any damaged electricity network assets
- Restore electricity supplies as quickly as possible in the event of an interruption
- Coordinate any response with other responding agencies including attendance at any multi–agency command and coordination groups
- Offer advice to partners as required
### 2.17 Network Rail

- Network rail is the owner, operator and maintainer of the national railway
- Network rail manages the signalling, overhead lines, level crossing and operates many of the larger stations (18 in all) such as Kings Cross, Leeds, Edinburgh and Birmingham new street.
- Network rail staff form the basis of the emergency response to incidents on the Network.
- Network rail is a designated category two responder
- Network rail is the lead agency for the rail incident response

The industry operates the three tier (Gold, Silver, Bronze) incident command structure and has incorporated the JESIP principles into its response procedure.

Network Rail should be directly informed that a COMAH incident is taking place by Humberside Fire & Rescue. In the event that access to railway tracks is required, Humberside Fire & Rescue Control may communicate directly with Network Rail Control, if a Mobile Operations Manager cannot attend site immediately.

Only Network Rail Control can initiate any restrictions on rail traffic upon receipt of request or advice from the Emergency Services.

In the event that Network Rail has personnel working in proximity to the site, these will be advised of the procedures to adopt by the responding Emergency Services via Network Rail Control.

#### Initial Response

- Network Rail (Route control manager GOLD) would initially assign a mobile operations manager (MOM, Silver) to the Multi-Agency Control Point or the location specified by the Silver Commander and will liaise directly with the emergency services. Their role would be to assist the emergency services on site in a variety of roles dependant on the incident that had occurred.

- The MOM would then report to the Route Control Manager based at our local Control Centre, the RCM would then liaise directly with either the Network Rail emergency control centre or alternatively with the emergency services on site if required.

- Once the emergency services had left the scene the MOM and RCM would then class the scene as an engineering site, the site would then be passed over to a recovery team (Bronze).
SECTION 3: SITE INFORMATION

3.1 Background to Section 3

The purpose of this section is to aid the multi-agency response to an accident by giving information about the site, substances stored on it and its processes.

3.2 Details of dangerous substances held on site

Details of the dangerous substances held on site as defined by the COMAH Regulations 2015 should be listed, including locations, quantities, and classification and UN / CAS numbers where available.

3.3 Harmful effects of the dangerous substances held on site

Any harmful effects from the above named substances should be listed in the External Emergency plan. This should include both human health and environmental information.

3.4 Other hazardous substances held on site

Details of the any hazardous substances held on site should be listed, including locations, quantities, classification and UN / CAS numbers where available. Their harmful effects should also be listed.

3.5 Details of site operational hours and staffing

In order to assist the level of response to an incident and assess potential casualties it is useful to list in here what the site operating hours and staffing levels are likely to be at different times and days.

3.6 Details of site access and egress

When responding to a major accident it is vital that the emergency services and supporting organisations are not exposed to unnecessary risks. The External Emergency plan therefore includes the details of the pre-identified primary and if applicable, secondary access and egress routes.
### 3.7 Location of on-site Rendezvous Point (RVP)

One of the key actions of the site operator is to ensure that an on-site Rendezvous Point (RVP) is identified and communicated to the Emergency Services.

The on-site RVP is the point on the site where responders who have to deal with the incident will initially attend and where the site operator will be expected to provide a competent person, if applicable.

The External Emergency plan should include details of the pre identified on-site RVP.

### 3.8 Location of on-site Emergency Control Centre

The External Emergency plan includes the details of the location of the site operator's on-site Emergency Control Centre. Where possible the site operator's competent person will guide the emergency services from the on-site RVP to the on-site Emergency Control Centre.
# SECTION 4: OFF-SITE INFORMATION

## 4.1 Background to Section 4

The purpose of this section is to give pre-planned information to help the multi-agency response to an accident.

## 4.2 Location of the off-site Rendezvous Point (RVP)

As the incident develops, the off-site Rendezvous Point (RVP) will be established at the outer cordon. All emergency, specialist and voluntary services will be directed there, as appropriate.

The External Emergency plan includes the details of the pre-identified off-site RVP.

## 4.3 Location of the off-site Emergency Control Centre

Where applicable the External Emergency plan includes the details of the location of the site operator’s off-site Emergency Control Centre. This will be used if the on-site Emergency Control centre cannot be used owing to the nature of the incident.

## 4.4 Location of the Tactical Co-ordination Group

The location of the Tactical Co-ordination Group will be pre-identified as the safest and most appropriate location from which tactical command can be managed. For further information on the Command please see III.i.

## 4.5 Location of Fire & Rescue Service, Police and Ambulance marshalling areas

A marshalling area, for each responding agency may be established.

This area is for resources not immediately required at the scene, or which, having served their purpose, are being held for future use. It should, therefore, be an area suitable for accommodating large numbers of vehicles and equipment.

The External Emergency plan includes the details of the pre-identified marshalling areas for each emergency service. However a different location may be agreed on the day after
consultation between the emergency service Tactical Co-ordination Group commanders.

A marshalling area may also be used to provide briefing/debriefing areas and recuperation facilities for personnel involved in arduous work at the scene.

As the event is scaled down the utilities and other contractors may need to maintain the marshalling area for the duration of the recovery phase.

### 4.6 Location of off-site helicopter landing zones

Locations of helicopter landing zones cannot be pre-identified as individual pilots will determine them at the time, following dynamic risk assessments.

Helicopters can be used to provide the following:

- Immediate overview of scene, including the size of affected area, ancillary factors etc.
- Casualty search/assessment of numbers
- Casualty evacuation
- Identification of present or potential hazards;
- Weather conditions, including wind direction at scene;
- Area containment, including cordon deployment/infringement;
- Traffic Management/route planning schemes

#### Temporary Landing sites

Temporary landing sites may need to be identified on the day with consideration for the following:

- Safety of crew and aircraft from obstructions such as wires, unit masts and unsuitable terrain
- Safety from harmful chemical release, fire/smoke
- Access to vehicle
- Disturbance of debris/evidence or disruption due to excessive noise
- Ensure that a landing site is selected away from overhead obstructions such as power cables which may not be easily visible, particularly at night, to the helicopter.

#### Emergency Landing Procedures

To help incoming helicopters, an officer from any of the emergency services who has radio contact with the incoming aircraft should be appointed to provide a focal point for the aircraft at the intended landing site, acting as directed by the aircraft commander.

The officer, if requested, should undertake the following:

At night, indicate the landing zone by converging the headlights of two vehicles over the area and placing the vehicles downwind to facilitate the helicopter landing into the wind.

All Coastguard officers are trained in preparation of landing sites and could be utilised to assist. Additionally their communications fit allows them to communicate directly with Search
& Rescue helicopters as well as police and some air ambulance aircraft.

**Emergency Flying Restrictions**

Police and HM Coastguard have the facility, through the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), to request the imposition of temporary emergency flying restrictions over the scene of an incident under certain circumstances. The most likely reason would be the safety of those in the air or on the ground. Requests for temporary emergency flying restrictions should be made via the appropriate multi-agency command.

Please note Emergency Flying Restrictions cannot be used to specifically exclude press aircraft.

### 4.7 Domino sites

The competent authority identifies Domino establishments as: “establishments where the risk or consequences of a major accident may be increased because of the geographical position of establishments, proximity of establishments to each other or inventories of dangerous substances held by establishments” (See Regulation 24.1)

For those operators who have been designated as being part of a domino group they must take into account the overall hazard and exchange information about the establishments between each other. In particular share details about potential incidents which could occur and how these can trigger a major accident at another domino establishment.

### 4.8 Additional information

Any other information that the Site deems useful for the responding organisations to be made aware of should be listed. For example, the location of vulnerable people, such as schools and old people’s homes and nearby train lines, pipelines etc.

### 4.9 Off Site Hazards from a Major Accident

Details of the hazards / consequences resulting from major accident hazard scenarios taken from the site safety report e.g.

- Radiated heat from a fire.
- Seepage of hydrocarbon liquids into watercourses.
- Vapour cloud composed of volatile fractions of the oil liberated in a spillage.
- Dense smoke clouds generated by burning oil.
- External factors i.e. lightning or flooding.
### 4.10 Flood risk to the site

Details of the flood risk to the site including any mitigation measures or plans in place to reduce the likelihood of a COMAH accident.
5.1 Background to Section 5

The purpose of this section is to provide a quick overview of the wider community, highlighting Town and Parish councils who have emergency plans in place to support the local population and also informing responders of vulnerable locations within a 2 mile radius of the site.
### SECTION 6: INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC PRIOR TO AN INCIDENT

#### 6.1 Background to Section 6

This section explains what the Public Information Zone is and what arrangements the site have in place to inform residents and businesses within the zone.

#### 6.2 Public Information Zone (PIZ)

The competent authority determines an area around an upper tier establishment as a public information zone (PIZ). The site operator has a duty to provide information to people, businesses, schools, hospitals and other areas of public use within this zone who could be affected by a major accident at an establishment. They must be given specific information about the establishment, the major accident hazards and the safety measures that are in place. The duty is on the site operator to provide the information.

Details of the PIZ for each site are detailed in the respective External Emergency plan. (The PIZ does not cover areas where a major accident might cause solely environmental damage.)

#### 6.3 Provision of information to the public

This information should be issued at least once every three years.

The External Emergency plan includes:

- Details of the advice that the site operators have issued beforehand.
- The period that this information was last issued to the public.
- How the information was disseminated to the public.
- Anyone who receives the information outside of the PIZ.
## SECTION 7: WARNING AND INFORMING THE PUBLIC DURING AN INCIDENT

### 7.1 Background to Section 7

This section describes how the public will be kept informed if a major accident takes place.

### 7.2 How the public will be notified and kept informed about a major accident

The External Emergency plan should include information on the arrangements the site operators and Local authority have in place for providing the public with specific information relating to the accident and the behaviour which they should adopt.

The External Emergency plan includes arrangements for providing the following information, including details of:

- How the public will be notified of an incident e.g. by site sirens, company representative or radio broadcasts, social media links etc.
- How the public will be kept informed during an incident
- How the public will be notified of the ‘All Clear’.
- Social media information
SECTION 8: WORKING WITH THE MEDIA

8.1 Background to Section 8

This section provides background information on how the various agencies have arrangements in place to deal with the media.

8.2 Humber LRF Communications Plan

The Humber LRF Communications Plan applies when:

- a multi-agency emergency has been declared
- a multi-agency emergency is anticipated and contingency planning is appropriate

It can also be activated when:

- an emergency is not formally declared, but emergency communication is required

When requested by another category 1 responder, the lead responder will co-ordinate the media response to the emergency by following the plan and the supporting guidance. The lead responder will request support from other responders in carrying out the actions as necessary. This could include a request for cross-border support.

The aim of Multi-Agency joint media working is to communicate effectively to help protect the public, or help them protect themselves, and reduce any disruption to their lives before, during and after a major emergency by:

- issuing warnings, advice, instructions
- avoiding alarming the public unnecessarily
- providing information so that people can decide for themselves how to deal with situations
- ensuring the public feels safe and well informed
- gaining sympathetic coverage for victims
- achieving positive coverage of the work of emergency and relief workers
- developing public confidence in the handling of the aftermath
- building goodwill among the media for help with publicity, or for restraint
- media and social media monitoring to assess communications needs

The messages issued should, where possible, not release information or advice without consulting the relevant partner organisations. It is difficult to repair the damage to public confidence if the information released is inconsistent or contradictory.

Initial statements to the media, from all agencies, should be confined to a correct statement of facts, as far as they are known e.g. time, nature and location of incident, type of response...
being made by the agencies concerned (if appropriate).

The public will alert the media quickly about an incident and it is likely that there will be media pressure to release information about casualty numbers.

**The type of information that should be considered for public issue include:**

- basic details of the incident - what, where and when (who, why and how if possible)
- implications for health and welfare
- advice and guidance (e.g. stay indoors, symptoms, preparing for evacuation); and reassurance (if necessary)
- practical implications - the effect on traffic, power supplies, telephones, water supplies etc.
- a helpline number, if applicable
- what is being done to resolve the situation

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### 8.3 Site operator media strategy

The operator should nominate who will be the media contact for each site and, if they have one, where their own media briefing centre would be based.

The organisation leading the multi-agency media response should work with the designated site media lead to co-ordinate activities wherever possible.

Where applicable, the External Emergency plan should include details of the site operator’s Media Briefing Centre.
SECTION 9: COMMUNITY RECOVERY REVIEW

9.1 Background to Section 9

This section is designed to give background information on how the community recovery can be assisted after a major accident.

9.2 Multi-agency response to recovery

Recovering from an emergency involves supporting the community (including the business community and the environment) in returning to normality after the incident.

Following a major accident, the local community may be both frightened and angry. People are likely to feel the need to seek reassurance from the site operator and all agencies who have been involved as either category one or two responders. It is important that this need is recognised and that steps are taken to provide a focal point within the community where assistance can be obtained, combined with agencies providing a highly visible presence.

When the emergency has been brought under control and enters the recovery phase the lead responder will hand over the co-ordination to an appropriate organisation to lead on the recovery efforts.

It is anticipated that in most cases one of the following organisations will lead on recovery following handover from the lead responder:

The Local authority will lead multi-agency recovery work when the majority of the impacts are welfare, community or economic based.

Directors of Public Health, NHS England, Primary Care Organisations and Public Health England will work in partnership to coordinate the multi-agency recovery work when the majority of the impacts are health related.

The Environment Agency will lead multi-agency recovery work when the majority of the impacts are environmental.

The lead recovery organisation will identify a suitable location for hosting the Recovery Coordination Group (usually be at the lead organisation’s headquarters).

It is the responsibility of the lead recovery organisation to determine the format, frequency and attendance of Recovery Meetings and in particular, to decide whether co-ordination is best managed through a multi-agency or single agency group. There is no requirement for these meetings to be multi-agency if this is not considered necessary by the lead organisation. However, the lead organisation should always consider:

- how the operator can be engaged in the recovery process.
• how all Category 1 and 2 responders could be involved in the recovery work
• holding a regular multi-agency recovery meeting (e.g. weekly) of all Category 1 responders to update / involve them on recovery activities

All responding organisations will make every effort to co-ordinate all interactions with the public, so that where ever possible there is only one interaction made and thereby avoiding unnecessary contact / distress.

People are likely to be deeply frustrated etc. during the recovery phase and may become angry. Responding organisations should make sure that any officers involved in the recovery phase, in particular public meetings, are capable of dealing with stressful and challenging situations.

The recovery phase of an emergency may present a window of opportunity to promote community preparedness and business continuity against future events.

Experience has shown that people recover from an incident quicker if they are empowered to respond themselves. People that have been involved in the incident should be given all the information and support needed to make their own decisions about how they react to the situation. Reliance on public sector support should be kept to a minimum. Decisions on the future of a community should be made by people at the closest possible level to / from that community.

9.3 Local Authority Recovery Phase

The Local authority will lead multi-agency recovery work when the majority of the impacts are welfare, community or economic based. It is likely that the recovery to the majority of significant emergencies, such as flooding, severe weather or industrial accident, will be led by the council.

Recovery arrangements will be initiated by the incident / control centre manager and a dedicated Recovery Manager will usually be appointed when it is deemed that the emergency has the potential to create a significant impact to the community, such as:

• leaving a community without basic resources and essential services
• causing a high demand on council services beyond the response phase
• damaging infrastructure such as utilities, education provision, roads etc.
• leaving a number of businesses unable to trade

A Recovery Co-ordination Group will be formed to manage the recovery phase, and will decide whether this is a multi-agency or a single agency group, depending on the nature of the emergency and the elements of recovery required.

9.4 Public Health England and NHS England

• Provide expert health advice
• Monitor health effects, both physical and mental, in the short and long term
• Respond to any emerging health issues (liaising with health providers)
• Advise on long term health risks
• Provide health advice to other agencies
• Provide health advice to the public (including media management)

9.5 Environment Agency Recovery Phase

The Environment Agency will continue to assist partners as the incident moves from emergency response to recovery

Where the impacts have been environmental only, an Environmental Restoration Group will be formed to manage the recovery phase. The make-up of the group will be dependent on the nature of the emergency and the elements of remediation/restoration required.

For all COMAH events, the operator will be expected to play a significant role in environmental restoration.

The Environment Agency will:

• Support and advise on environmental restoration as part of the multi-agency recovery.

• With partners, consider needs for on-going environmental monitoring and assess impact on ground and surface waters, land quality and sensitive receptors.

• Fulfil regulatory duties, including issuing permits and taking enforcement action where appropriate

• Ensure that remedial actions are carried out in an approved, professional and competent manner.

9.6 Site insurance/ financial support

Where applicable, the External Emergency plan should include details of the care and welfare facilities and procedures which the site operators have in place.
SECTION 10: ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION & RECOVERY

10.1 Background to Section 10

This section gives background information on what site-specific engineering measures or other processes or other arrangements are already in place to protect the environment.

In terms of COMAH, the ‘environment’ comprises built features, air, water, soil, flora and fauna. This includes those features which have protected, designated or controlled status, such as controlled waters, any sensitive land within the site boundaries, protected buildings and monuments, protected ecological species, and protected habitats or designated areas.

A Major Accident to the Environment (MATTE) is defined as one causing permanent or long-term damage to a particular unique, rare or otherwise valued component of the built or natural environment, or if there is widespread environmental loss, contamination or damage. The effect of an accident on the natural environment may be direct or indirect, immediate or delayed, temporary or persistent.

10.2 Site-specific measures to protect the environment

Details of planned measures to protect the environment and any existing site containment measures should be listed.

10.3 Site key actions for the management of environmental clean-up and restoration

These are the actions the site will take to manage the clean-up after an accident. Specific measures should be listed along with details of any organisations that should be consulted. Also any existing arrangements with contractors should be listed.

The External Emergency plan should include details of specific measures for the clean-up and include details of those organisations which the site operator will consult regarding off-site recovery and restoration.

The following information may be included. Details on:

- Removing contaminated soil and debris
- Restricting food stuffs including those grown at home
- Restricting access to areas
- Re-stocking watercourses, lakes, woods etc.
- Remedial action on surface and groundwater supplies
- Advice to home owners/business owners on decontamination of their property
**10.4 Details of any environmentally sensitive areas**

Any environmentally sensitive areas around the site should be listed here.

The following information was supplied to Humber Emergency Planning Service by the Environment Agency and Natural England. It will be added to all plans for sites that border the Humber or are on the coast.

**Environmentally Sensitive Areas**
The Humber estuary supports an impressive array of wildlife and natural habitats and should be regarded as an environmentally sensitive area.

In the event of an incident with the potential to impact on the estuary, it is essential that Natural England and the Environment Agency are made aware at the earliest possible opportunity.

The Humber has a range of national and international designations which give it a high level of protection. It is designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA), candidate Special Area of Conservation (cSAC) and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) because of the wide range and species and habitat types present, including:

- coastal lagoons
- Atlantic salt meadows
- sand dunes
- grey seals
- river lamprey and sea lamprey
- migrating and wintering birds
- breeding populations of bittern, marsh harrier, avocet and little tern
- intertidal and subtidal areas (mudflats, sandflats and sandbanks)

The following map shows the extent of each designation.
The risk to specific environmental features will vary depending on the time of year. Expert advice should always be sought prior to any incident response activity.

### 10.5 Details of land use

Where applicable, the External Emergency plan include details of the use of the land around the site and any particular measures they have in place to protect this land.

This may include the following uses:

- Residential
- Agricultural
- Fisheries
- Water Organisations
- Woodland

And the following measures:

- Restricting access to contaminated areas.
- Neutralising, removing and disposing of chemical contaminants.
- Removing of dead animals, plants or contaminated soil or parts of the built environment.

### 10.6 Hazards to the environment

The External Emergency plan includes details of what the hazards to the environment around the site would be if an accident occurred.

### 10.7 Predicted environmental effects of an accident

The External Emergency plan includes details of the predicted environmental effects of an accident at the site.
### SECTION 11: CONTACT DIRECTORY

#### 11.1 Emergency contact details

The External Emergency plan includes contact details for all the Upper Tier sites, the sites media contacts and the responding organisations and lower-tier COMAH domino sites. This information is for use during an incident and is carefully controlled in order to ensure that it remains restricted. It is updated twice yearly and circulated to all plan holders.

#### 11.2 Routine contact details

For further information regarding the Control of Major Accident Hazard Regulations or the External Emergency plan, then please contact:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Humber Emergency Planning Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HF126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beverley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Riding of Yorkshire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HU17 9BA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Telephone: 01482 393050  
Email: comah@eastriding.gov.uk

For enquiries relating to the operation of a specific top-tier establishment or the public information provided by a company, then please contact the appropriate site operator direct.
### SECTION 12: MAPS

**12.1 Map details**

This section contains maps, plans and drawings that will assist the response to an accident.

Section 12 will contain as many of the following as possible:

- 1 x A4* OS map showing the location of the site within the Humber region (showing the direction of North and including SSSI areas) and also the suggested off-site RVP’s.
- 1 x A4* OS map showing vulnerable locations surrounding the site.

*The above maps will be prepared and supplied by Humber Emergency Planning Service.

Also any of the following where available:

- 1 x Aerial photograph of the site
- A plan(s) of the site showing on-site RVP’s, access/egress points, locations of substances etc.
- A site map showing toxic refuges; dry risers; fire equipment, weather stations; etc.

Some of the above maps may be provided through the Local resilience Forum (LRF)
SECTION 13: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This section can now be used as an appendix if appropriate.
## SECTION 14: FURTHER READING

### 14.1 Publications

1) The Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations 2015 (HSE Books. Series code HSE L111 (third edition))


3) Guidance on the interpretation of major accidents to the environment for the purposes of the COMAH Regulations 1999. ISBN 0 11 753501 X (The Stationary Office Limited)


7) Humber LRF Communications Plan. Available from HEPS


**Note**

Humber Emergency Planning Service cannot guarantee the future availability and accuracy of the publications listed above.