

Resilience FAQs

Civil Contingencies NOS Consultation 2024

About the review

Where can we find the consultation so that I can support this project?

[Respond to the consultation – English survey](#)

[Respond to the consultation – Welsh survey](#)

Do we reply individually or as an organisation / groups of organisations (such as a local resilience forum)?

You can reply in any way that makes the most sense for you or for your network.

You can complete as an individual or as an organisation through the online survey.

Group responses are best submitted via our downloadable survey, please email resilience@wdtrust.org.uk and one will be sent to you. Please note that you will need to send your response by 30 September for it to be included.

Can we have a downloadable version of the consultation to discuss as a large group?

Yes, we have a downloadable version available, please email resilience@wdtrust.org.uk and one will be sent to you.

Please note that you will need to send your response by 30 September for it to be included.

There are 17 NOS being reviewed, but 18 in the civil contingencies suite currently. Have some been amalgamated?

Two of the NOS have been merged in line with current NOS writing principles, they are:

SFJCCAC1 – Develop, maintain and evaluate emergency plans and arrangements

SFJCCAD1 - Develop, maintain and evaluate business continuity plans and arrangements

They are now merged into SFJCCAC1 - Develop, maintain and evaluate emergency and business continuity plans and arrangements.

Where can I find the 17 NOS to look at before submitting a consultation response?

The core NOS have all been embedded in the consultation – they will open up in a new tab once selected, so that you can review them alongside your consultation response.

In addition, you will be able to save and continue your submission later by entering your email, so that you can complete in multiple sessions and have time to review the standards. The survey system will send you a link which will have saved all of your existing answers.

Can new NOS be suggested if there are gaps in the existing suite?

If there are any functions that you think have been missed, please let us know your suggestions via the consultation survey. There is a free-form section to allow for you to provide any feedback in addition to responding to individual NOS in the suite.

Will the review look at non-technical skills as well as technical competencies?

We have imported a number of NOS relating to generic skills to cover non-technical functions.

Is the focus for this work personal competence to do the job i.e. plan for emergencies and validation?

Yes, NOS relate to individuals performance.

As this also relates to apprenticeships, can you advise what occupation map this belongs to as described by the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education?

This sits within the protective services occupation.

We are currently using existing NOS or other standards to review competencies or develop training. Should we wait until the review has been completed?

We are not in a position to say what changes may be made or how significant they may be at this point. We are anticipating that the new standards will be available in April 2025. We cannot advise organisations on whether they should wait for the new standards to be available.

To support whole of society resilience how have governmental and non- governmental organisations been approached to ensure cohesiveness and applicability across all sectors?

We have reached out to a wide range of sectors and organisations in order to gain as much feedback as possible. Across all four nations we have reached out to, among others, resilience professionals, devolved governments, local resilience forums, as well as sectors such as water, energy, transport, logistics, healthcare, hospitality and more.

In addition, we have promoted the consultation wider through any available channels to encourage as many parts of society have the chance to feed back on the standards as possible.

About the use of the revised standards

Will the NOS be aligned with any existing standards, reports or post-incident learnings?

Such as National Resilience Standards, NHS Minimum Occupation Standards, ISOs, JESIP, NCSR Strategy and Manual, BSI670000 City Resilience, or other existing or emerging standards; or post-incident learning, public inquiries (including the ongoing Covid-19 inquiry reports or Grenfell), coronal recommendations, or other reports.

The project group are aware of other reports and resources which will impact on the further development of the NOS. It would be helpful if those responding to the survey could highlight any information that we should be aware of.

The full results of the Covid inquiry will not be available for some time. There is an intention to regularly review and refresh these NOS, which will allow for the incorporation of any new recommendations from this or other relevant work.

Will NOS replace resilience standards? Or will they be used to evidence meeting resilience standards?

They will be used to evidence meeting standards.

Is there a proposal to provide standard roles aligned to the civil contingencies NOS, or update or standardise existing qualifications to NOS specifications?

There are no fixed proposals that we are aware of, however the NOS are being reviewed to standardise language, knowledge and skills across the entire resilience sector. It would make sense to standardise other processes as much as possible, but they do not form part of this initial NOS review.

Will the new NOS become mandatory / statutory as part of the National Resilience Act?

No. NOS are not mandatory to use, however organisations / sectors / industries can choose to make them mandatory for their staff.

To have impact the revised resilience NOS need to be standalone and visible, how will you support their use in this way?

A functional map detailing all of the resilience NOS – both core and generic – will be available once the NOS review is completed.

Will these NOS be applicable to each agency within a local resilience forum as a single agency or as a collective?

The NOS will form the core and generic competencies for local resilience forums. Each sector will have their own specific NOS which will be relevant in their participation of a local resilience forum.

Would you suggest we align our training just to the 17 civil contingency NOS or also include relevant ones among the other 30 something as well?

Aligning to both the core, imported and sector specific NOS will ensure complete coverage of competencies.

About the Resilience Academy

Will the Resilience Academy or the Emergency Planning College offer commercial training / support on how to apply the NOS and use them practically? Will you work with existing training and exercise organisations such as the UK Health Security Agency?

There is a commitment for the UKRA to be built up and out of the Cabinet Office Emergency Planning College (EPC). The UKRA's core learning offer for responders and resilience professionals will build on the EPC core training prospectus.



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