

TRUST BOARD

Title:	EPRR CORE STANDARDS ASSURANCE 2021-21
Action:	FOR NOTING
Meeting:	15 September 2021

Purpose:

The Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR) Core Standards 2021- 2022, issued by NHSE/I, is an annual self- assessment which determines the Trust’s current resilience status, in alignment with its statutory obligations. It also identifies areas for improvement.

Over the last 12 months, the Trust has delivered the following:

- A versatile Incident Management Team (IMT), attended by members of the senior leadership team, that continues to oversee the Trust’s ongoing response to Covid which includes risks, lateral flow testing programme, the distribution of personal protective equipment, etc.
- Continued safe service delivery alongside recovery planning. This is supported by using innovative methods to deliver care packages e.g. using virtual appointments alongside face to face appointments and accessing digital platforms
- Maintaining Covid secure environments to reduce the spread of the virus to keep staff and patients protected
- Regular communications with staff on the latest guidance on safer working and infection protection and control procedures
- Consistent messaging and signposting on staff emotional health & wellbeing
- Liaising with hard to reach community groups around vaccine hesitancy
- Supporting the Mass Vaccination Directorate in its business continuity planning
- Further strengthening relationships with our health partners and the wider resilience system in the localities of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough, Bedfordshire, Luton & Milton Keynes and Norfolk to provide a more cohesive response to incidents
- A Trust wide lessons learnt exercise after the second Covid surge and embedding learning
- Pro-active Trust wide business continuity planning exercises for recurrent and emerging risks; future anticipated Covid surges and winter planning 2021-2022

This paper and its respective excel spreadsheet has been ratified by the EPRR Operational Group and approved by the Quality, Improvement and Safety Committee on 2nd September 2020.

Recommendation:

The Board is asked to note:

- The completion of EPRR Core Standards self-assessment.
- CCS NHS Trust Work Plan & Schedule for EPRR Core Standards 2021 -2022- attached at Appendix A

	Name	Title
Author:	Jo Downey	EPRR & PREVENT Lead
Executive sponsor:	Rachel Hawkins	Director of Governance and Service Redesign

Trust Objectives

Objective	How the report supports achievement of the Trust objectives:
Provide outstanding care	This report reviews the EPRR portfolio and the protocols in place that support the Trust's primary aim to maintain the provision of safe care to service users and safe working for its staff pre, during and post incident. It will also highlight areas that require improvement to assist the aim listed above.
Collaborate with others	Adapting care delivery and using the hybrid approach of face to face to face and video consultations allowed the Trust to continue its essential service during the Covid pandemic.
Be an excellent employer	This report conveys the wider system response, joint working via JESIP modelling, and a more integrated approach to incidents across the areas of Bedfordshire, Luton, Milton Keynes, Cambridgeshire, Peterborough, Norfolk & Suffolk, particularly over the last 18 months and the Covid pandemic.
Be a sustainable organisation	This report demonstrates the command & control structure, policies and procedures in place to ensure staff safety

Trust risk register

- Risk 2470: There is a risk that the localised Business Continuity Plans for new services to the Trust are not current or in situ which may result in a failure of the service provision.
- Risk 2844: There is a risk that due to adverse weather conditions there may be an impact on the Trust's ability to deliver services leading to a negative impact on patients.
- 43 Trust Covid19 risks on the risk register as at 19.08.2021

Legal and Regulatory requirements:

- The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 ("CCA")
- Health & Social Care Act 2012 (England)
- Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations 1999
- Radiation (Emergency preparedness & Public Information) Regulations 2001
- Health & safety at Work 1974
- Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations 1999
- The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Health Protection Legislation (England) Guidance 2010
- Data Protection Act 1998
- HMG Security Policy Framework
- Emergency Preparedness – Statutory Guidance to the CCA
- Emergency Response and Recovery – non statutory guidance CCA
- NHS England Emergency Preparedness Framework 2.0 Nov 2015
- NHS England Core Standards for Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response
- NHS England Business Continuity Management Framework (Service Resilience)
- Care Quality (Registration) Regulations 2009
- Caldicott Principles
- Government Security Classifications 2014

Previous Papers:

Title:	Date Presented:
EPRR Core Standards Assurance 2020-21	September 2020

Diversity and Inclusion implications:

Objective	How the report supports achievement of objectives:							
To support the development of a Trust wide Anti-Racism Strategy and Organisational Development Plan.	N/A							
To finalise the roll out of reverse mentoring as part of all in house development programmes.	N/A							
We will measure the impact of our virtual clinical platforms, ensuring that they are fully accessible to the diverse communities we serve.	A BAME Mass Vaccination Cell was set up by the EPRR lead to address vaccine hesitancy in the local BAME communities the Trust serves. This resulted in our social media project work being cascaded to our Local Health Resilience Partners across Norfolk & Cambridgeshire for further cascade in their organisations, see s. 5 below							
We will ensure that the recruitment of our volunteers are from the diverse communities they serve.	N/A							
Are any of the following protected characteristics impacted by items covered in the paper								
Age <input type="checkbox"/>	Disability <input type="checkbox"/>	Gender Reassignment <input type="checkbox"/>	Marriage and Civil Partnership <input type="checkbox"/>	Pregnancy and Maternity <input type="checkbox"/>	Race <input type="checkbox"/>	Religion and Belief <input type="checkbox"/>	Sex <input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual Orientation <input type="checkbox"/>

1. Summary

The Trust is assessed on its emergency planning and preparedness annually via the Emergency Preparedness Resilience & Response (EPRR) Core Standards.

The Trust has rated itself as **fully compliant** for 2021-2022.

2. NHS EPRR Core Standards

The NHS EPRR Core Standards were first introduced in 2013 and clearly set out the minimum standards expected of NHS organisations and providers of NHS funded care with respect to emergency preparedness, resilience and response (EPRR)

This national annual review aims to co-ordinate a cohesive multi-agency response to domestic emergencies. It also facilitates a framework for self-assessment, peer review and assurance processes. In addition, it incorporates lessons learnt from testing, national legislation and guidance changes and updates to the NHS England governance programme.

The Trust is required to undertake an annual assurance process on these standards and ensure the Trust Board are sighted on the level of compliance achieved. This includes the results of the self-assessment and any work plan to address areas of improvement.

3. EPRR Core Standards 2021/2022

The Trust reports its annual cycle of self-assessment to both Bedfordshire & Luton and Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Local Health Resilience Partnerships (LHRP). The Norfolk LHRP

will be sighted on the documents but will take its assurance from the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough LHRP review process.

The Trust is compliant with the total of all 43 core assessment standards that are applicable to the Trust, presented in this year's assessment, at this given time.

The Trust has assessed itself as fully compliant for 2021/2022, with an action plan which is aligned with the Trust EPRR work plans. See attached Excel spreadsheet, tab 5

Domain	Compliance level	Work plan
Governance	Fully compliant	Business as usual
Duty to access risk	Fully compliant	Business as usual
Duty to maintain plans	Fully compliant	Business as usual
Command & Control	Fully compliant	Business as usual
Training and Exercising	Fully compliant	Business as usual
Response	Fully compliant	Business as usual
Warning and informing	Fully compliant	Business as usual
Cooperation	Fully compliant	Business as usual
Business Continuity	Fully compliant	Business as usual
HAZMAT/CBRN	Fully compliant	Business as usual

4. 2020/2021 Work plan update

The Trust was substantially compliant against the EPRR Core Standards 2020/2021 and the work plan during the year has addressed the following areas:

Business Continuity plans	Operational business continuity plans have undergone review post Covid surges. The EPRR lead has been working continuously over the past 12 months and continues to work with Service Managers to adapt Service business continuity plans to reflect the changing methods of care delivery.
---------------------------	---

5. Trust EPRR 2021/22

The Trust is committed to continually improving its EPRR strategies in dealing with current, new and emerging risks such as Covid variants, infectious diseases, terrorism, industrial action, severe weather and sustainability in relation to the Trust's estates portfolio. It is essential that the Trust has adequate resources to respond to incidents as well as striving to continually improve and enhance its capacity and capability to effectively deal with these events.

The Trust's key EPRR priorities are to:

- Continue to adhere to government guidance and engagement with the wider resilience system to mitigate risks from the continuing Covid pandemic; includes addressing health inequalities and concerns from hard to reach groups and maintaining Covid secure environments for staff and patients
- Evaluate and embed lessons learnt from the Covid pandemic and other emergency incidents
- Ensure the Trust EPRR Operational Group maintain, monitor and address EPRR risks and hazards as specified in the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and accompanying statutory instruments and guidance

- Support the Trust in its objectives to become a more sustainable organisation, for example utilising existing logistics contracts to effectively distribute equipment, increase in the use of digital platforms/media within the organisation etc.
- Continue system wide engagement; the Accountable Emergency Officer and EPRR Lead will maintain membership, at their delegated levels of authority, at local and regional EPRR groups to enhance coordination and efficiency
- Continue to participate in regular internal and multi-agency table top, live exercises and workshops to further improve corporate resilience
- Seek to continually improve its EPRR training resource and explore new training opportunities to enhance delivery of training across tactical, operational and strategic levels
- Maintain a watching brief on any future outcomes of the UK's exit from the EU
- Maintain the Incident Control Centre through Quarter 2 and potentially to Quarter 4. The Trust has redeployed an internal member of staff to support the Incident Control Centre (ICC) for an indefinite period; this will assist with the Covid response during the winter season.

Jo Downey
EPRR & Prevent Lead
18 August 2021