

Revised Annex ‘A’ to Strategic Emergency Planning Guidance – Lead, Principal and Other Support Roles (Roles and Responsibilities in Emergency Planning)

Emergency/Incident Type	Lead Government Department	Lead Response Agency as per Framework	Principal Support Role	Other Potential Support Roles	Remarks
Infectious Diseases (Animal) e.g. Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Avian Influenza, other ‘exotic’ diseases	DAFF		DF (DOD) HSE (See Remarks)	Local Authorities (DEHLG) AGS (DJLR) DFA CD (DOD) DTRANS (IRCG/MSO/Shipping) DTCS	HSE role relates to zoonotic diseases; infectious animal diseases with a human health dimension.
Contamination of Animal Feedstuffs	DAFF			Circumstance dependent	
Food safety incidents in food processing plants (dairy and meat)	DAFF		FSAI (DHC)	HSE (DHC)	
Tsunami - Monitoring & Warning	DCENR		Local Authorities (DEHLG) AGS (DJLR) HSE (DHC) Met Eireann (DEHLG)	DIAS (DES) GSI (DCENR) DTRANS DFA IRCG (DTRANS)	Local Authority Lead Agency per Framework for coordination of on-shore response
Earthquake –Monitoring & Warning	DCENR		Local Authority (DEHLG) GSI (DCENR) AGS (DJLR) HSE (DHC)	DFA DTRANS DIAS (DES) IRCG	Principal responders would be lead agencies as per framework for earthquake impact
Communications Services Emergency	DCENR		COMREG	System operators, users, providers	

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ICT Infrastructure – Cyber Attacks or Failures	DCENR		DFINANCE AGS (DJLR) COMREG	DETI Systems operators, users, providers.	
Broadcasting Services Emergency	DCENR		BCI RTE	Systems operators, users, providers	
Energy Services Emergency (Electricity/ Gas)	DCENR		CER ESB Bord Gais	Other Systems operators, users, providers	
Oil Supply Emergency	DCENR		NORA Irish Oil Supply Industry	AGS (DJLR) DF (DOD) Local Authorities Systems operators, users, providers	
Nuclear Accidents/Incidents/Events Abroad (as described in NEPNA)	DEHLG		RPII (DEHLG) AGS (DJLR) Local Authorities HSE (DHC) Met Eireann (DEHLG) IRCG (DTRANS) FSAI (DHC) CD (DOD) DF (DOD) DAFF, DHC, DCENR DOD, DOT,DFA, Revenue Commissioners (D FINANCE), RTE (DCENR) and Commercial Radio Stations	Teagasc (DAFF) DTRANS EPA (DEHLG) Laboratories	

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Incidents Involving Hazardous Materials (Including in transit) ¹	DEHLG ²	Local Authority	HSA ³ (DETI) AGS (DJLR) HSE (DHC) DJLR IRCG (DTRANS) (Marine incidents) DTRANS	DETI ⁴ DF (DOD) ⁵ Site/vehicle/material owners Harbour Masters/Port Authorities National Poisons Information Centre Laboratories	Local Authority is Lead Agency per Framework. AGS is the lead Agency (regardless of the agent) where terrorist/malign involvement is suspected, sometimes referred to as CBRN. Likely handover to Local Authority (Chem., Rad) or HSE (Bio) if it transpires that there is no terrorist involvement.

¹ Hazardous Materials: One definition is: any solid liquid or gas that can harm people, other living organisms, property, or the environment. Hazardous materials may be flammable, toxic, corrosive, oxidizer, asphyxiant, an allergen, or may have other characteristics that make them hazardous in specific circumstances. They would also include items that are dealt with separately for convenience on this table, such as: radioactive materials, explosives, and bio-hazardous materials. The Seveso II Directive covers the greater majority of these materials (Seveso Sites: primarily chemical or pharmaceutical facilities or gas and oil storage facilities) but it has certain exclusions: military establishments, hazards created by ionising radiation, transport, pumping stations, pipelines, etc. For the purpose of this entry chemical incidents including fires, spillages/ release of chemicals into the environment, and Seveso II materials, with the exceptions mentioned above, are included under Hazardous Materials.

² Should the incident occur at sea, lead may pass to DTRANS

³ The Central Competent Authority for Ireland in respect of Seveso Regulations is the HSA. Under these regulations the HSA seeks to ensure that operators coming under the scope of the Regulations - operators of a Seveso site - prepare emergency plans and safety reports. It is in a position to advise the relevant public authorities to prepare external emergency plans for dealing with emergencies that may escalate outside the boundary of the Seveso site. The main functions of the HSA include administration and enforcement of all workplace health and safety legislation and of certain chemical legislation. It also has a role in investigation of accidents and prosecution.

⁴ DETI policy responsibility for chemicals includes EU internal market rules governing classification, packaging and labelling of chemicals and obligations of operators to register chemicals with the EU Chemicals Agency under the REACH framework.

⁵ If requested, including where terrorist involvement (or other malign motive) is suspected, render safe devices with a potential dispersal effect.

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Radioactive Contamination - Local (e.g. spillages, dispersal of material) – including in transit.	DEHLG		Local Authorities (DEHLG) RPII (DEHLG)	AGS (DJLR) HSE (DHC) DAFF DCENR DF (DOD) CD (DOD) FSAI (DHC) DOT HSA (DETI) IRCG (DTRANS)	AGS is Lead Agency where terrorist involvement (or other malign motive) is suspected, sometimes referred to as ‘CBRN’ context.
Environmental Pollution	DEHLG	Local Authorities		EPA (DEHLG) DAFF HSE (DHC) CD (DOD) OPW (DFINANCE) IRCG (DTRANS) (Marine incidents)	Local Authority Lead Agency per Framework
Severe Weather	DEHLG		Local Authority (DEHLG) AGS (DJLR) HSE (DHC) DJLR Met Eireann (DEHLG) OPW (DFINANCE)	DF (DOD) CD (DOD) DCENR EPA (DEHLG) NRA (DTRANS) DAFF IRCG (DTRANS)	Local Authority Lead Agency per Framework
Flooding Response	DEHLG	Local Authorities	HSE (DHC) AGS (DJLR) OPW (DFINANCE) (Ref Govt Decision S180/20/10/0996 Met Eireann (DEHLG) EPA (DEHLG) DAFF	Coillte (DAFF) Waterways Ireland (DCEGA) DSP DF (DOD) CD (DOD) IRCG (D TRANS)	OPW is responsible per Government Decision (Sept 2004) in respect of risk identification, mitigation and awareness

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Coastal erosion	DEHLG	Local Authorities (DEHLG)		OPW (DFINANCE) AGS (DJLR) HSE (DHC)	Ref Govt Decision S180/20/10/0996
Major impacts on water services, quality, infrastructure or supplies	DEHLG	Local Authorities	HSE (DHC)	EPA	
Fire	DEHLG	Local Authorities		AGS (DJLR) HSE (DHC) Coillte (DAFF) CD (DOD) DF (DOD)	Local Authority Lead Agency per Framework
Landslide Response	DEHLG	Local Authority		AGS (DJLR) HSE (DHC) GSI (DCENR)	
Building Collapse/Accidental Explosions	DEHLG	Local Authority	AGS (DJLR)	HSE (DHC) HSA (DETI)	Local Authority Lead Agency per Framework with likely handover to AGS when rescue phase complete
Financial Systems Emergencies	D Finance		Central Bank Financial Services Authority of Ireland	DETI, AGS (DJLR)	
Any Emergency Overseas, affecting Irish citizens.	DFA		Incident dependent	DOT (G.I.S.) DJLR (AGS) DF (DOD) HSE (DHC) Consular Services of EU Member States and other Partners	

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Emergency Incidents requiring humanitarian assistance in disaster management (Outwards)	DFA ⁶		Incident dependent	Incident dependent DEHLG DF (DOD) NGOs	Where Irish Aid provides humanitarian assistance
Emergency Incidents requiring humanitarian assistance in disaster management (Inwards)	Incident Dependent		Incident dependent	DFA	DFA will provide a supporting role in facilitating international contacts where appropriate. EU Civil Protection Monitoring and Information Centre (MIC) mechanisms may also apply.
Biological Incident	DHC	HSE		Local Authority(DEHLG) AGS (DJLR) DF (DOD) DJLR (See remarks) Regional Laboratories Universities	HSE Lead Agency per Framework. DHC will act as LGD where the incident is primarily a public health emergency. AGS is Lead Agency where terrorist involvement or other malign motive is suspected, sometimes referred to as ‘CBRN’ context. The initial assumption, and subsequent changes in lead and supporting roles, both at agency and parent department level, will be subject to the assessment of evolving indicators and will be agreed under the procedures laid down in the Framework for Major Emergency Management.

⁶ EU Civil Protection Monitoring and Information Centre (MIC) mechanisms may also apply.

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Pandemic Influenza and Other Public Health Emergencies	DHC	HSE	HSE All members of the Interdepartmental Steering Committee on Public Health Emergency Planning	Local Authorities (DEHLG) CD (DOD) Revenue Commissioners FSAI ⁷ (DHC)	
Emergencies Involving Explosive Ordnance (Conventional or otherwise and regardless of provenance)	DJLR	AGS	DF (DOD)	Government Inspector of Explosives Local Authority(DEHLG) HSE (DHC) IRCG (DTRANS) (Marine Incidents)	
National Security Related Incidents (Including terrorism)	DJLR		AGS (DJLR)	DEHLG DF (DOD) HSE (DHC) Local Authority(DEHLG) DTRANS (incl. IRCG) DFA	DJLR lead role is incident dependent.
Incidents Requiring Water Rescue Inland	DJLR ⁸		AGS (DJLR) IRCG (DTRANS)	HSE (DHC) DCEGA (Waterways Ireland) Local Authority(DEHLG) DTRANS RNLI	AGS Lead Agency per Framework for initial coordination, with likely handover following consultation with IRCG.
Public Order/Crowd Events (including sports grounds emergencies)	DJLR	AGS	DF (DOD)	Local Authority(DEHLG) HSE (DHC) DTCS	AGS lead agency per Framework

⁷In the event of a food safety incident

⁸Lead may be reviewed if other elements are involved, e.g. an aircraft crash in a lake, in which DTRANS (IRCG) would lead

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Emergencies Abroad with the result of mass inward population displacement	DJLR		HSE (DHC) Local Authority (DEHLG) DFA Revenue Commissioners (CUSTOMS)	CD (DOD) Red Cross DSP	
All Major Emergencies requiring Cabinet or Cabinet Committee and central media /communications response ⁹	DOT		GPO and LGDs ¹⁰	Lead and support departments and agencies involved in the emergency ¹¹	
Aircraft Accident	DTRANS	Local Authority	IAA (ATC) Airport Authorities AGS (DJLR) IRCG HSE (DHC) DOD (DF) DTRANS (AAIU)	Airlines DTCS	Local Authority Lead Agency per Framework with likely handover to AGS when fire fighting/rescue complete.
Emergency Incidents at Airports	DTRANS		IAA (ATC) DTRANS (AAIU) Airport Authorities Local Authority (DEHLG) AGS (DJLR) HSE (DHC) DTCS	Airlines DF (DOD)	

⁹ Leadership role in this context is limited to specific functions in relation to convening the Cabinet or Cabinet Committees.

¹⁰ The GPO plays a key role in preparing, coordinating and projecting the Government’s message. Depending on the circumstances, it is likely that the Lead Government Department will be the focus of media/public enquiries and press briefings. In other circumstances the GPO may provide a focus through which media enquiries will be handled and through which the Government message will be promulgated.

¹¹ All other departments must have complementary arrangements in place in respect of Cabinet engagement.

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Aviation Security/ Terrorist Incident (Actual or attempted hijacking or other terrorist activity at an Irish airport, in Irish airspace.)	DTRANS		AGS (DJLR) Airport Authorities	(DF) DOD Local Authority(DEHLG) HSE (DHC) Airlines DTCS	
Railway Accident	DTRANS	Local Authority	Railway Safety Commission (RSC) / Chief Investigator Local Authority (DEHLG) AGS (DJLR) HSE (DHC) Systems Operators	DF (DOD) DTCS	Local Authority Lead Agency per Framework with likely handover to AGS when rescue phase complete. Note: Discussions ongoing between RSC and AGS on detail.
Major accident on national & non-national roads and/or infrastructure (incl. bridges, tunnels etc)	DTRANS	AGS	HSE (DHC) Local Authority (DEHLG)	DF (DOD) IRCG (DTRANS) NRA DTCS	AGS Lead Agency per Framework (except when hazardous materials are involved, the local authority is the lead agency)
Incidents Requiring Marine Search and Rescue	DTRANS		IRCG (DTRANS) DF (DOD)	DCENR HSE (DHC) Harbour Masters Port Authorities Commissioner for Irish Lights DTCS RNLI	
Ferry and Other Shipping Disasters	DTRANS		IRCG (DTRANS) DCENR HSE (DHC) AGS (DJLR)	DF (DOD) DCEGA Local Authorities (DEHLG) DFA DTCS RNLI	

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Marine and Coastal Pollution	DTRANS ¹²		IRCG (DTRANS) Local Authorities (DEHLG) DCENR	Commissioners for Irish Lights Harbour Masters Port Authorities DF(DOD)	
Marine Emergency Impacting On-shore	DTRANS		IRCG (DTRANS) Local Authorities (DEHLG)	Commissioners for Irish Lights Harbour Masters Port Authorities DCENR AGS (DJLR) HSE (DHC)	Local Authority Lead Agency per Framework for coordination of on-shore response

N.B. There are 41 Emergency/Incident Type

¹² Onshore impact. Lead may pass from DTRANS to DEHLG as circumstances dictate.

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Acronyms	Title	Acronyms	Title
AGS	An Garda Siochana	DTRANS	Department of Transport
BCI	Broadcasting Commission of Ireland	EPA	Environment Protection Agency
CBRN	Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear	FSAI	The Food Safety Authority of Ireland
CD	Civil Defence	GIS	Government Information Service
CER	Commission for Energy Regulation	GPO	Government Press Office
COMREG	Commission for Communications Regulation	GSI	Geological Survey of Ireland
DAFF	Department of Agriculture Fisheries & Food	HSA	Health & Safety Authority
DTCS	Department of Tourism, Culture & Sport	HSE	Health Service Executive
DCENR	Department of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources	IRCG	Irish Coast Guard
DCEGA	Department of Community, Equality & Gaeltacht Affairs	MSO	Marine Survey Office
DEHLG	Department of the Environment Heritage & Local Government	NEPNA	National Emergency Plan for Nuclear Accidents
DES	Department of Education and Skills	NGO	Non-Government Organisations
DETI	Department of Enterprise Trade & Innovation	NORA	National Oil Reserve Agency
DF	Defence Forces	NRA	National Roads Authority
DFA	Department of Foreign Affairs	OPW	Office of Public Works
DFINANCE	Department of Finance	REACH	Registration Evaluation and Authorisation of Chemicals
DHC	Department of Health & Children	RNLI	Royal National Lifeboat Institute
DIAS	Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies	RPII	Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland
DJLR	Department of Justice, & Law Reform	SAR	Search and Rescue
DOD	Department of Defence		
DOT	Department of the Taoiseach		
DSP	Department of Social Protection		