

NEPLG MEDIA SUB GROUP MEETING: 2 NOVEMBER 2007

NOTE OF THE MEETING

PRESENT: Julie Bennett BE (Chair)
 Bobby Ronnie Scotland
 Jason Wassell Scotland
 Liz Francis HPA
 Louise Robson BERR

Purpose of the Group

This is a new Group which replaces the previous group which had responsibility for the Media Briefing Centre (MBC) User Guide which has now been published as part of the Consolidated Guidance. The Group hopes to address the media and communications issues raised at the October 2007 meeting of NuSAC through its work programme.

The Group agreed the Terms of Reference as follows:

The Media Sub Group will:

1. Promote the use of the MBC Guide to improve the quality of the media response for exercises and in the event of an emergency
2. Consider the wider communications aspects of emergency planning and how they fit with the media side
3. Test the robustness of arrangements in a separate media exercise.

Feedback from Exercise Indus

The "usual" issues arose at Exercise Indus including: inconsistencies in the information provided; the FSA's information and how this sits alongside the other media information; the lateness of press briefing; the difficulty experienced in coordinating agencies; building issues.

The FSA issue was being picked up through the Scottish Nuclear Emergencies Group in a meeting on 26 November. The other issues should be addressed through this Group.

It was suggested that Exercise Kent (Heysham, 13 February 2008) could provide a useful testing opportunity.

Actions List

Action list for Media Sub Group
***These actions arise from other Groups and have been delegated to the Media Sub Group**

No	Action	Group responsible	Progress
1	Sky shout	BERR	We were unable to find out any more about this alerting issue.
2	To address groundwork on prepared statements	Flu	These already exist both in BE and E3C – Bobby to access the E3C ones for the Group.
3	Improve communication of risk from a radiological release for public information and reassurance including initial responders (ATP)	Action Tracking Paper (ATP)	This is overarching in terms of what the MSG is in existence to address. Julie to circulate information available on Tiims
4	Consideration to be given to requesting GNN to provide an administration and management role of the media Briefing Centre with the Police remaining responsible for the management and co-ordination of the media statements. Any outcome to be documented within the Generic Media Plan	ATP	MSG considered this and remained unconvinced that this was necessarily the best approach.
5	2 hours is too long for approval of press releases. A process should be established so that any press release within the overall media strategy can be release quickly.	ATP	MSG looking to address this through testing in exercises.
6	It would be useful to have a set of standard phrases that would be used following different types of incident. This should include putting into context the risk associated with any residual contamination (as perhaps set	ATP	This relates to 3 and MSG looking to address through standard terminology.

	out in the RIFE report produced by FAS/EA/SEPA) and precautions to be taken.		
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**Action: Bobby to access the E3C press statements for the Group.
Julie to circulate what is available on Tiims**

Work Programme

1. A short note to NEPLG January 2008 meeting
2. Julie to present to the meeting to get NEPLG's buy-in to the work programme
3. MSG to be strengthened by inviting members as follows:
 - i. FSA – Jillian Spindura
 - ii. Police – Jane Astle to be invited via Brian Dillon
 - iii. Magnox - Tim Jones or Nigel Monckton to be encouraged to attend
 - iv. EA – Carol Attwood to be invited to attend or to nominate
 - v. GONW – Julie Dawber to be invited
 - vi. LA rep – Dave Humphreys to be asked to nominate.
4. Next steps: to agree objectives and outcomes with the larger Group; to ensure Scottish interests are covered; and to find some funding.

Action: Julie to approach BE in respect of funding for an exercise.

AoB and Date of Next Meeting

A meeting to be convened after NEPLG i.e. February 2008.