

Terms of Reference: BCI Partnership Subgroup on 'Discipline Mapping'

Background

Members of the BCI Partnership have expressed a keen interest to address the need for clarity in how a number of related disciplines could be integrated to deliver a coherent and optimised approach to dealing with issues of organisational and broader community resilience. These disciplines include but are not limited to BCM, Risk Management (incl. ERM), Crisis Management, Emergency Planning, and Security.

Desired Outcomes

The Subgroup will work to deliver documented Points of View (PoV) on how resilience can be better achieved through its contributing disciplines, identifying required skills and behaviours and clarifying the challenges of integrating these disciplines.

These PoVs will be shared with the BCI membership and broader resilience community for discussion and based on feedback, it is hoped that advice can be generated to help those dealing with such issues in their organisations or in policy development. It is important to note that the process is as important as the outcome and the Subgroup will proactively engage with interested parties through meetings, surveys, webinars etc.

Note also that the outcomes do not necessarily represent the settled view, or policy, of the BCI or every member of the BCI Partnership.

Scope & Deliverables

Given the breadth of the subject area, it is recommended that a phased approach is taken to this project.

Phase 1: The desired relationship between Emergency Planning and Business Continuity

It is felt that the UK Civil Contingencies Act 2004 does not provide enough clarity about the difference between and the outcomes of the two disciplines mentioned in the Act: emergency planning and business continuity. *This project should not be exclusively UK specific and reference should also be made to similar debates in other countries.*

A PoV document should be made available to review at the September 2010 meeting of the Partnership Steering Group (PSG) for sign-off to allow wider circulation. Feedback on the paper would be reviewed at the December 2010 meeting of the PSG with the objective to publish advice/guidance in time for Business Continuity Awareness Week (March 2011).

Phase 2: Corporate Resilience

This phase will consider how BCM, Risk Management, Crisis Management, Security and other disciplines, if applicable, can help deliver corporate resilience, *where resilience is defined as the ability of an organisation to mitigate and recover faster from disruptive events.* It is intended that this phase can produce an initial PoV document for sign-off by the PSG in March 2011.

Phase 3: Community Resilience

This phase will develop a much broader concept of resilience and the capabilities required to achieve it by consulting users, including customers and communities about their expectations. It is intended that this phase can produce an initial PoV document for sign-off by the PSG in September 2011.

Membership of the Subgroup

Any current member of the BCI Partnership may participate in the Subgroup and external subject matter experts may be invited to contribute as well at the discretion of the Chairman.

Governance

The Chairman of the Subgroup is appointed by the PSG. In this case, Piers Benn, Milton Keynes Council, has agreed to chair the Subgroup. The Chairman will report on progress at each quarterly meeting of the PSG. The BCI Secretariat will provide administrative support to the Subgroup.

The Principles of Membership shall apply to all meetings held and information exchanged within this Subgroup.

Prepared by Lee Glendon, May 2010.

End of document.