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**TYNE AND WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY  
EMERGENCY PLANNING UNIT**

***Committee Report***

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**Meeting : CIVIL CONTINGENCIES COMMITTEE : 18 JANUARY 2010**

**Subject : LRF MULTI AGENCY PANDEMIC INFLUENZA PLAN UPDATE**

***Report of the Chief Emergency Planning Officer***

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise members of the completion and publication of the LRF Multi Agency Pandemic Influenza Plan.

**2. BACKGROUND**

2.1 The LRF Pandemic Influenza Working Group (PIWG) has been working to incorporate updated planning assumptions issued by the Department of Health and the Cabinet Office into the LRF Multi Agency Pandemic Influenza Plan.

2.2 The PIWG has involved partners from a range of organisations including local authorities, health organisations, further education establishments, private healthcare providers, prisons and the emergency services. It is Chaired by Newcastle City Council and the Secretariat/Plan author duties lie with the EPU in support of the Chair.

2.3 Version 3 of the Northumbria Multi Agency Pandemic Influenza Plan (LRF MAPIP) has been recently consulted upon with the PIWG, members of the wider LRF and the LRF Public Communications Group and was signed off by the Chair and Vice Chair of the LRF on 18<sup>th</sup> December.

**3. PLAN CONTENTS**

3.1 The LRF plan describes a framework in which Category 1 and 2 responders will work together to respond to future influenza pandemics.

3.2 Although A H1N1 (which has become known as Swine Flu) has been the focus of planning and response throughout the most part of 2009, it is still important to address implications arising from other potential strains of influenza which may result in a future pandemic, such as A H5N1 (known as Avian flu).

3.3 The main content of the plan describes how responders will work together to:

- Respond effectively to each phase of a pandemic;

- Support the health response to a pandemic;
- Provide advice and assistance to the public and partners in a pandemic;
- Make strategic decisions about the response and recovery phases of a pandemic.
- Share information with each other in the response to a pandemic;
- Share information consistently with communities in order for people to help themselves and others in a pandemic; and
- Help to promote the need for public sector organisations to have business continuity plans in place;

3.4 The plan is designed to be a publicly accessible document and is hosted on the Government Office for the North East website ([www.go-ne.gov.uk](http://www.go-ne.gov.uk))

## **4 RECOMMENDATION**

4.1 Members are requested to note this report.

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### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- Civil Contingencies Committee – ‘Pandemic Influenza Update’ – 6<sup>th</sup> July 2009
- Civil Contingencies Committee – ‘Pandemic Influenza Update’ – 12 October 2009
- LRF Multi Agency Pandemic Influenza Plan (located in the Planning for Emergencies Section of [www.go-ne.gov.uk](http://www.go-ne.gov.uk) )