East Riding of Yorkshire’s role in Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR)

The NHS needs to be able to plan for, and respond to, a wide range of incidents that could impact on health or patient care. These could be anything from prolonged period of severe pressure, extreme weather conditions, an outbreak of an infectious disease, or a major transport accident. A significant incident or emergency is any event that cannot be managed within routine service arrangements. It requires the implementation of special procedures and involves one or more of the emergency services, the NHS or a local authority.

NHS England has the main co-ordinating role for the NHS in any major incident or emergency which crosses CCG boundaries. Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) have a duty to co-operate with the NHS England Area Teams.

In summary, our CCGs EPRR function is to:

- Ensure contracts with our provider organisations contain relevant emergency preparedness, resilience (including business continuity) and response elements
- Support NHS England in discharging its EPRR functions and duties locally
- Provide a route of escalation for the Local Health Resilience Partnership (LHRP) should one or our providers fail to maintain necessary EPRR capacity and capability
- Fulfil the responsibilities as a Category two responder under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004
- Maintain business continuity plans for our own organisation
- Have Director level responsibility and appropriate representation on the LHRP
- Seek assurance from provider organisations are delivering their contractual obligations.

We undertake this function by:

- Working with the Local Health Resilience Partnership to develop strategic multi-agency plans for responding to emergencies
- Participating in training and testing exercises which are used to review multi-agency plans
- Assisting with the local co-ordination of the response to emergencies in partnership with the Area Team
- Working with the LHRP to ensure the capacity, skills and competencies required are in place to co-ordinate the local health response to an emergency
- Undertaking regular performance monitoring of CCG commissioned and NHS funded services
- Co-operating with the multi-agency planning and response network in accordance with the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (as amended) requirements as a category two responder
- Ensuring a 24 hour a day, seven day a week on-call system through a collaborative approach with neighbouring CCGs.
- Ensuring compliance with the national core standards for EPRR for both CCG’s and NHS funded healthcare providers
- Maintaining business continuity plans to ensure CCG service delivery is maintained.

We expect to be compliant in all our responsibilities by November 2015.