

Take 5 To prepare



Resilience and specialist operations team briefing note:

Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles (JESIP)

When we look back at incidents within the United Kingdom, there is a consistent theme of where an emergency response can be improved. From the Fennell Inquiry in 1989 into the Kings Cross Fire in London, up to present day the Manchester Arena Inquiry, chaired by Sir John Saunders, the reoccurring theme is a failure in communication.

The JESIP Doctrine originally focused on the interoperability of the three emergency services but is now being rolled out to all Category 1 and 2 responders and partner organisations. The doctrine sets out the way responders should train and operate and is built upon a common backbone which defines terminology, principles, and ways of working.

To aid us in communication at the scene of an incident, JESIP have devised several tools to support the joint working required to ensure a safe, robust, and effective response to an incident.

JESIP Principles for Joint Working

If the principles are followed then the result should be a jointly agreed working strategy where all parties understand what is going to happen, when and by whom.

The principles will often, but not always, be followed in the order in which they are presented.

CO-LOCATE

Co-locate with other responders as soon as practicably possible at a single, safe and easily identified location.

COMMUNICATE

Communicate using language which is clear, and free from technical jargon and abbreviations.

CO-ORDINATE

Co-ordinate by agreeing the lead organisation. Identify priorities, resources, capabilities and limitations for an effective response, including the timing of further meetings.

JOINTLY UNDERSTAND RISK

Jointly understand risk by sharing information about the likelihood and potential impact of threats and hazards, to agree appropriate control measures.

SHARED SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

Establish shared situational awareness by using M/ETHANE and the Joint Decision Model.

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The Joint Decision Model (JDM)

The JDM will help commanders bring together available information, reconcile objectives, and then make effective decisions together. It is organised around three primary considerations:

Situation

What is happening?
What are the impacts?
What are the risks?
What might happen and what is being done about it?

Direction

What end state is desired?
What are the aims and objectives of the emergency response?
What overarching values and priorities will inform and guide this?

Action

What needs to be decided and needs to be done to resolve the situation and achieve the desired end state?



Shared Situational Awareness – M/ETHANE

M/ETHANE is a common communication model and aide memoire established by JESIP to ensure Major Incident information is shared in a consistent, quick and effective way between the emergency services and partner agencies.

This tool is a very straightforward situation report that enables any person to share pertinent detail on an incident both to their own control rooms, but also with all agencies at scene.

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M	MAJOR INCIDENT	Has a major incident been declared? (Yes/No – If 'No', then complete ETHANE message)	Include the date and time of any declaration.
E	EXACT LOCATION	What is the exact location or geographical area of the incident?	Be as precise as possible, using a system that will be understood by all responders.
T	TYPE OF INCIDENT	What kind of incident is it?	For example, flooding, fire, utility failure or disease outbreak.
H	HAZARDS	What hazards or potential hazards can be identified?	Consider the likelihood of a hazard and the potential severity of any impact.
A	ACCESS	What are the best routes for access and egress?	Include information on inaccessible routes and rendezvous points (RVPs). Remember that services need to be able to leave the scene as well as access it.
N	NUMBER OF CASUALTIES	How many casualties are there, and what condition are they in?	Use an agreed classification system such as P1; P2; P3 and dead.
E	EMERGENCY SERVICES	Which, and how many, emergency responder assets and personnel are required or are already on-scene?	Consider whether the assets of wider emergency responders, such as local authorities or the voluntary sector, may be required.

For incidents falling below the major incident threshold 'METHANE' becomes an 'ETHANE' message.

During the decision making process using the JDM, there should be period consideration of the M (representing 'major incident') by responders to establish whether a developing incident goes above the Major Incident threshold.

NARU/JESIP Posters will be coming out to stations in the coming weeks to be displayed for all as a reminder of our approach to joint working and responding to incidents.