

Take 5

To prepare



Resilience and specialist operations team briefing note:

Incident Commander Competency & CPD Process

The Civil Contingencies Act (CCA) 2004 and its associated statutory guidance places a duty on the East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust (EEAST), as a Category 1 responder, to have plans in place with the capacity and capability to respond to major emergencies. Recently, outputs seen from evidence given at the Manchester Arena Bombing (plus the Kerslake Report) and Grenfell Tower inquiry have highlighted the just how important it is to integrate emergency preparedness into day to day business and for incident commanders to be up to date with training, exercising and knowledge – In essence ‘ready to go’.

On a 24/7 basis, EEAST is required to draw upon a sufficient number of available, appropriately trained and competent Incident Commanders, to undertake roles within a full Command structure, with appropriate level of authority, capable of safely directing resources to discharge EEAST’s duty of care, whilst collaborating with partners to manage a major incident through to resolution.

The National Ambulance Resilience Unit (NARU) Command & Control Guidance (2019) and NHS England’s Standards for Ambulance Command and Control Guidance (2018) articulates this requirement as follows;

Post incident inquests, inquiries and legal action have concentrated their scrutiny on the quality of command decision making and the subsequent impact on patient outcomes. Over the last decade the duty of care for the NHS Ambulance Service has been legally clarified and the expectation of Coroner’s, Inquest Chairman and Judges has considerably increased.

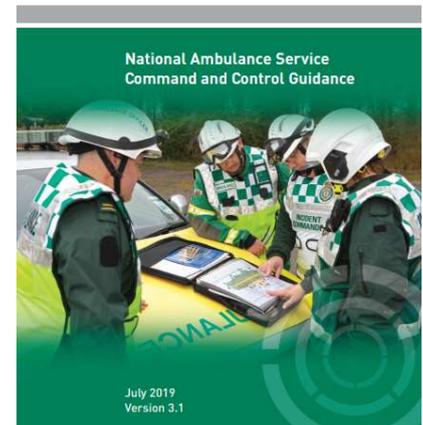
High standards of Commander competence are now the starting point for any such inquiry particularly where the emergency event was within the contemplation of the National Risk Register for Civil Emergencies and where similar events have occurred in the past.

Command decisions have a direct impact on clinical outcomes, survival rates and the safety of responding staff. A key outcome of this specification is, therefore, to increase the effectiveness of NHS Ambulance Service command by maintaining high standards of competence and credibility among NHS Ambulance Service



National Ambulance
Resilience Unit
NARU

NHS



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Commanders. Both the public and the NHS Ambulance personnel that put their lives at risk to respond to complex emergency situations have a right to expect no less.

Inquests aside, demonstrable evidence of Command and Control capability is required by our Commissioners, which is undertaken by way of an annual compliance assurance process set against the mandated NHS Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR) Core Standards.

The Resilience & Specialist Operations Department have produced a process to identify areas of Commander CPD which the organisation deems mandatory, support how individuals can access Commander CPD opportunities, how this evidence is kept and how it's audited on an annual basis.

Commander Competency Record

East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust

Hi Steven, when you submit this form, the owner will be able to see your name and email address.

* Required

1. Name *

Enter your answer

2. Substantive Command Level *

Select your answer

3. County *

Select your answer

4. Date evidence gained *

Not date of submission

Please input date in format of dd/MM/yyyy

5. Portfolio Evidence Type *

*Please remember you are required to attend at least one exercise per calendar year

Using a simple MS Teams form, it takes just minutes to save your training, operational experiences or other CPD learning activities undertaken to maintain knowledge and skills against the National Occupational Standards for your Command level.

The Commander Competency and CPD Process document have been shared with all Managers.

The links to the MS team form for you to use as a repository for information you need to keep as CPD evidence can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/EEAST-Commander-Competency>

For more information on this process please contact your local Resilience Manager who will be more than happy to guide you through any problems you have...

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|------------------|------------------|
| • Bedfordshire | Micky Harrington |
| • Cambridgeshire | Jamie Fountain |
| • Essex | Steve Brant |
| • Hertfordshire | Wesley Routledge |
| • Norfolk | Rob Hayes |
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