

Business Continuity Management Strategy

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NHS fraud. Spot it. Report it. Together we stop it.

Version control

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 This strategy sets out the approach to be taken within the NHS Counter Fraud Authority (NHSCFA) to provide a robust business continuity management (BCM) framework that establishes a strategic and operational framework that:
 - proactively improves the NHSCFA's resilience against the disruption of its ability to achieve its key objectives
 - provides a rehearsed method of restoring the NHSCFA's ability to supply its key services to an agreed level within an agreed time following disruption.
 - delivers a proven capability to manage business disruption and protect the NHSCFA's reputation.

2. Scope

- 2.1 There are two key components that underpin this strategy:
 - the NHSCFA's Business Continuity Management Plan (BCMP); and

- NHS Department of Health and Social Care Unit's Data Security and Protection Toolkit which sets out a baseline assessment standard for business continuity management.
- 2.2 The Head of Business Support has overall responsibility for overseeing the implementation of this strategy and the Business Continuity Management Plan. They will report to the Senior Management Team (SMT) to ensure that the BCMP is embedded within the organisation.
- 2.3 This strategy should not be considered in isolation as continuity of business processes play a key part in governance, strategic risk, service planning and performance management. The strategy therefore links into all aspects of the organisation and its implementation can help to reduce the overall level of these risks.
- 2.4 Fundamental to the success of delivering the BCM strategy will be raising awareness and developing a business continuity culture within the organisation. Awareness training will be provided to all staff that utilise information in their day-today work to successfully promote this culture.
- 2.5 Any associated resource implications that may be incurred as result of implementing the BCMP, will be identified by the Head of Business Support, as the BCP Manager. A business case will then be developed and submitted to the Board for approval.
- 2.6 Adherence and performance will be monitored by the Information Governance Lead and submitted to the Department of Health and Social Care Unit, via the Data Security and Protection toolkit which is submitted on an annual basis.

3. Strategic Objectives

- 3.1 NHSCFA's organisational objectives are set out in its organisational strategy -'Leading the fight Against NHS Fraud 2017-2020'. The organisation's on-going strategic objectives for business continuity management are to:
 - Adopt a proactive approach to improve the resilience against disruption to achievement of the organisation's vision, values and strategic objectives
 - Provide a framework to identify the core services of the organisation and to understand the critical functions, processes resources that support the resilience of the core functions

- Deliver the DHSC Strategy strategic plan and lead the counter fraud activity in the NHS in England, through effective business continuity arrangements
- Have a planned and effective governance structure in place to support and assure BCM arrangements
- Have documented systems, technology and procedures in place to support BCM arrangements
- Ensure that BCM arrangements are fit for purpose by ensuring there is a planned schedule of testing
- Ensure its staff is made aware of the organisation's BCM arrangements and their role within it, through a structured training and awareness programme; and
- Have the above arrangements reviewed to ensure continued effectiveness, at an interval agreed after consultation with the Governance and Assurance team and/or external and internal auditors, but not exceeding three years.

4. Monitoring compliance with the Strategy

- 4.1 Compliance will be monitored as follows:
 - Business continuity planning will be included as part of the organisation's internal audit programme
 - The results of exercises and tests will be formally documented and relevant action plans developed. Recommended actions will be tracked via the Board Assurance Framework and any un-actioned matters will be added to the Corporate Risk Register and those risks managed in accordance with the organisations Risk Management Policy.
 - Assurance on business continuity planning will be presented to the Board annually.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 The implementation of the BCM strategy and BCMP will ensure that business continuity management is effectively managed at NHSCFA.
- 5.2 Each year the BCMP will be reviewed by the Information Governance Lead and an action plan developed against the Data Security and Protection Toolkit to identify key areas for continuous improvement.