

MEM Guidance Document 6 - A Guide to Evacuation & Rest Centres 2015

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Overview

- Background & Key Changes
- Systems approach to Evacuation & Rest Centres
 - Risk-based approach
 - Planning & Preparedness
 - Response
 - Recovery
- Rest Centres
- Next Steps
- EU Mass Shelter Capability Project (MaSC)



Background

- “Protecting Threatening Populations” outlined in Section 5.9 of Framework document
- A “Guide to Managing Evacuation” published originally in 2008
- NWG undertook review of “A Guide to Evacuation” 2014-2015
- Key issues to consider:
 - Benchmark with international best practice
 - Capture the experience and learning from previous evacuations; and
 - Provide some practical tools to assist with the planning and response stages.
- Extensive consultation period
- Revised Guide approved for publication by NSG in October 2015



A FRAMEWORK FOR MAJOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

A Framework enabling An Garda Síochána, the Health Service Executive and Local Authorities to prepare for and make a co-ordinated response to major emergencies resulting from events such as fires, transport accidents, hazardous substance incidents and severe weather.

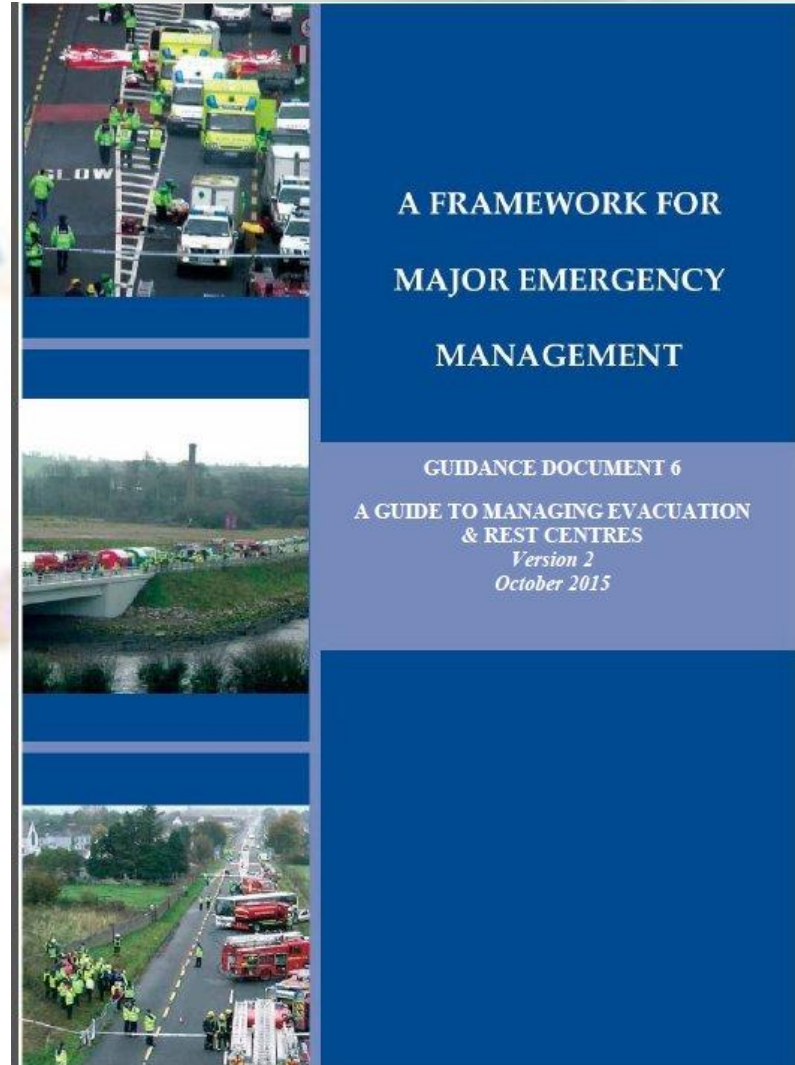


A FRAMEWORK FOR MAJOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

WORKING DRAFT
GUIDANCE DOCUMENT 6
A GUIDE MANAGING EVACUATION

Key changes

- Three Sections
 - Section A – Evacuation
 - Section B – Rest Centres
 - Section C – Appendices
- Align the Guide to the five stages of emergency management from Risk Assessment through to Recovery;
- Set out roles and responsibilities of the PRA's and supporting organisations;
- Provides outline template for 'Generic' Evacuation Plan
- Inclusion of Useful Checklists and aids for:
 - On-Site Co-ordination Group
 - Rest Centre Managers/staff
 - Local Co-ordination Group
- New formatting & indexing



Evacuation – Risk based approach



- Evacuation & shelter planning to be proportionate to the risk identified locally.
- Reference – Local, Regional & National Risk Assessments
- Emergencies most likely to require evacuation or shelter
 - Flooding
 - Haz-Mats (incl. SEVESO Sites)
 - Fire
 - Explosives
- ‘Generic Evacuation Plans’ or Site-specific Evacuation plans ??

Evacuation – Planning & Preparedness



- Each MEM Region to establish an Evacuation Sub-Group
- Membership
 - An Garda Síochána (chair by agreement)
 - Local Authority
 - H.S.E.
 - Civil Defence
 - Voluntary Emergency Services
 - Others

Objectives

1. Prepare Generic Evacuation & Shelter Plan
2. Prepare Site-specific Evacuation & Shelter Plans (where necessary)
3. Link with LA Rest Centre Plans
4. Implement Training & Exercise Programme

Generic Evacuation Plans



7.2 Outline of a generic Evacuation & Shelter Plan

The following provides a generic structure of an evacuation and shelter plan:

Control Version of the Plan (dated)

Overview

- Purpose of the plan
- Scope of the plan
- Key principles of the plan

Roles and Responsibilities

- An Garda Síochána
- Local Authority
- Health Service Executive
- Department of Social Protection
- Voluntary Emergency Services
- Community and Voluntary sector

Action plan

- Designation of 'Lead Agency' and 'On-site Co-ordinator'
- Decision to evacuate or shelter-in-place
- Support arrangements for shelter-in-place decisions
- Identification of evacuation zones and assembly points
- Warning & informing (public communications)
- Evacuation & transportation
- Rest Centres, welfare and refreshments

Decision to return

- Communicating 'All Clear' to the public
- Return and Recovery

Annexes

- Key contacts details (including numbers)
- Useful checklists
- Rest Centre Plans
- Distribution List
- Maps (where relevant)

CHECKLIST 1 - DECIDING TO EVACUATE

KEY ACTIONS FOR ON-SITE CO-ORDINATION GROUP

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#	Item	YES	NO
A	Can buildings provide protection for the period the hazard is expected to last?		
B	Or is evacuation necessary to ensure the health and safety of people in the affected area?		
C	Can the evacuation be carried out without exposing people to more danger than if they had stayed indoors?		
D	Can the evacuation be carried out without exposing responding staff to an unacceptable degree of danger?		
E	If the situation does not currently warrant evacuation, has the situation the potential to reach a point where evacuation will be necessary?		
F	If precautionary evacuation is considered, can the economic and social costs be justified?		
G	Consult with the Local Co-ordination Group and Crisis Management Teams if sufficient time allows		
H	Is there a necessity to consult with the HSE Public Health Department in respect of public safety?		

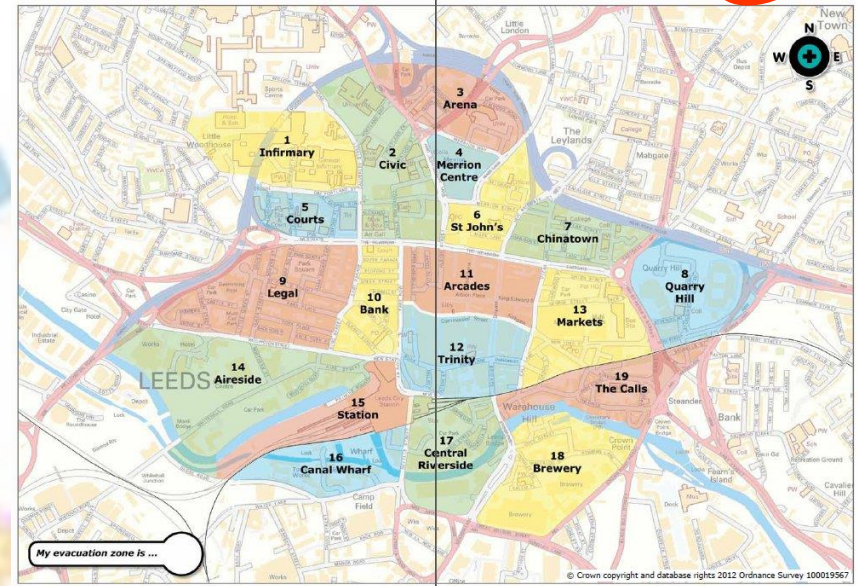
Site-specific Evacuation & Shelter Plans



- Identification of Risk Area
- Division of area into Evacuation Zones
- Identification of Evacuation Routes & Assembly Points
- Transport & Rest Centres

Key issue

- Public warning mechanism
- Public information
- SEVESO Sites (Upper Tier)
- Protecting at risk population - principally Shelter-in-place plans
- Support may be required for Shelter-in-place



The diagram illustrates the four phases of disaster management in a clockwise cycle:

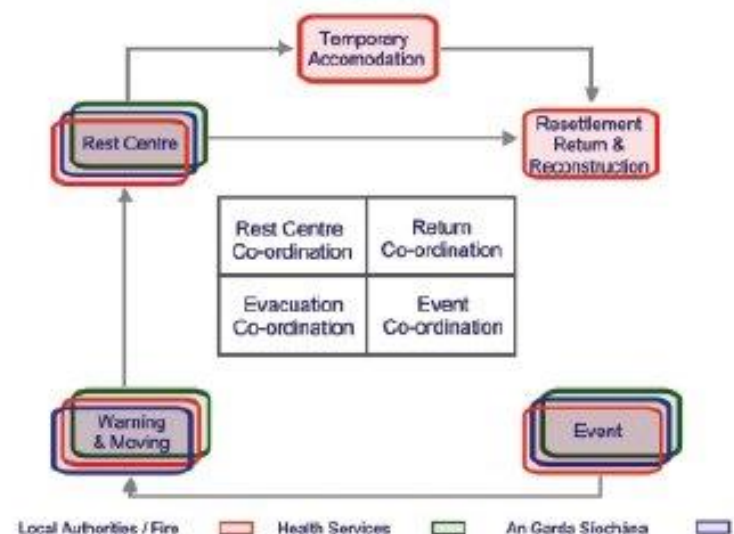
- HAZARD ANALYSIS** (Blue arrow)
- MITIGATION** (Red arrow)
- PLANNING & PREPAREDNESS** (Purple arrow, highlighted with a red circle and a starburst)
- RESPONSE** (Green arrow)
- RECOVERY** (Orange arrow)

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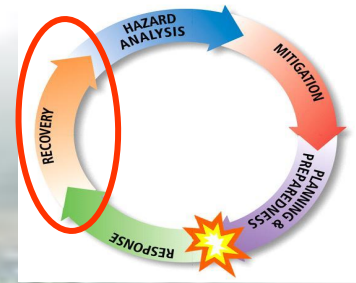
Implementing the Response



- Protecting a threatened population
 - ‘Lead Agency’ role designated by the MEM Framework
 - On-Site Co-ordinator decides in consultation with other Controllers of Operations and others as necessary
 - Roles & Responsibilities now defined
- The Event
 - Deciding whether to evacuate or shelter-in-place
 - Deciding how to evacuate - When to move and how to move
 - Warning & moving
 - Rest Centres
 - Return & Recovery



Resettlement, Return & Recovery



- Many evacuations may last only a few hours – no long term consequences
- Some evacuations may last for extended periods of time – considerable planning and investment required
- Before evacuees can return home, LA to assess safety in terms of public infrastructure and services
- Some people may be unable to return to their homes
 - Temporary accommodation required
 - Multi-sectoral approach involving a range of public and private agencies
- Psycho-social support

Rest Centres

- Provision of shelter & welfare care
- Responsibility of LA to provide and manage
- Multi-agency approach required incl.
 - An Garda Síochána
 - H.S.E.
 - Civil Defence
 - Department of Social Protection
 - Voluntary Emergency Services
 - Community volunteers
- **Recognition that Community based response often takes on this role – Community resilience**

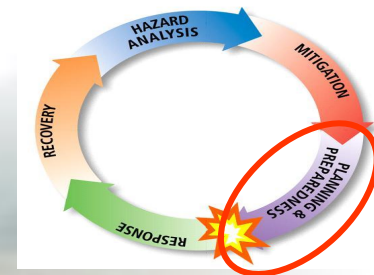


Rest Centre facilities



- Identification and assessment
 - Location / Size – Base on Risk Assessment (suggest 50 – 200 persons dispersed across City/County)
 - Types – Local Authority facilities, Community Centres, Sports Centres, Parish Halls, Schools
 - Audit of facilities
 - Health & Safety Risk Assessment
 - Permissions / costs / insurance /contact details
- Sleeping facilities or not?
 - If yes, beds/sleeping bags/layout/fire safety wardens?
 - If no, what alternatives?
- Rest Centre Plans required

Rest Centre Plans - Issues to consider



- Layout of facility
 - Access/Egress
 - Parking
- Facilities & equipment available on-site
 - Cooking & food safety
 - Heating
 - Toilets / showers
 - TV/Phones/internet
 - Waste
 - Sleeping?
- Evacuee arrival & registration procedure
- Medical issues – public health
- Safety & Security
- Children First: National Guidance - PRA staff and Voluntary Emergency Services to comply
- Community Volunteers – Can these be used?

Next Steps

- Revised Guide published via Circular Letter EM 02-15
www.mem.ie
- Implementation of revised Guide within PRA's
- Establishment of WG's at regional level
 - Risk identified
 - Evacuation & shelter plans prepared
 - Rest Centres identified and audited (by LA)
 - Co-ordination arrangements agreed
- Approval of Evacuation Plans by PRA Management and RWG/RSG
- Nomination and training of PRA staff and VES
- Exercises
- Appraisal



EU Mass Shelter Capability Project

- EU funded project under the EU Civil Protection Mechanism
- Aim – To develop planning guidelines for the provision of an EU Mass Shelter capability under the Civil protection Mechanism for deployment inside and outside the EU.
- Project Partners include:
 - Northamptonshire County Council (UK)
 - Cabinet Office (UK)
 - Department for Communities & Local Government (UK)
 - National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management, DECLG (Ireland)
 - THW (Germany)



Project co-funded by the EU Civil Protection Mechanism



EU Mass Shelter Capability Project

- Three sequential workshops involving Mass Shelters experts from across the EU.
- Next Workshop hosted in Dublin from 7th-8th December
- Places may be available
- Further information

www.mascproject.eu
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L'Aquila Earthquake, Italy 2009



Za'atari Refugee Camp, Jordan 2012-2015



Any Questions



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