

JESIP Update

This paper provides an update to the committee on the status of current JESIP activity and the future ambition from April 2016.

Recommendation

To note the contents of the paper and request the support of elected members in empowering and enabling their officers to continue work on embedding JESIP within all emergency services and extending awareness amongst those in all Cat 1 & 2 and voluntary organisations.

JESIP Achievements to date

JESIP has successfully introduced a national standard for operational multi-agency working which has been embraced and adopted by all emergency services and increasingly by the wider responder organisations.

The [JESIP Joint Doctrine: the interoperability framework](#) has provided a structure against which all organisations responding to or involved with incident response can follow. The five joint working principles and supporting models are scalable and can be applied in any multi-agency environment either dynamic or rising tide.

The JESIP team produced a library of training and awareness products, have recently revised the website to allow easier access to JESIP information and products and are soon to release a JESIP App (March 2016). This App will be free to download and will act as an Aide Memoire and will be available on Apple and Android phones and tablets.

The essential activity now is to ensure emergency services continue to embed JESIP locally and that wider responder organisations become aware of the impact of JESIP on their organisations activities in relation to emergency planning and response.

There is a specific [Wider Responder Awareness Package](#) available for wider responders which can be accessed via the JESIP website. This along with e-learning packages, many other supporting materials and information about the Five Principles of Joint Working, the Joint Decision Model and METHANE (method for consistently passing incident information to Control Rooms, other staff and organisations) are freely available on the [website](#).

HMIC Review – How well is JESIP embedded?

Ministers commissioned a tri-service review, led by the HMIC which took place in the summer 2015. A final report and recommendations were shared with Ministers in October 2015.

A full report from Government has not yet been publically published. However, the key findings and recommendations have been shared with the Emergency Services to support appropriate forward planning activity for training and testing & exercising and to ensure local processes are established to support JOL. For information, a summary is below.

Key Findings

- The review found that JESIP had been highly successful in improving the level of interoperability but that interoperability has yet to be fully embedded across the services visited

- All services visited recognise the importance of interoperability and consider that JESIP provides a welcome focus and structure to help services develop the associated skills of their staff
- For JESIP to become fully embedded it needs to be part of the initial and continuation training and shared across the wider responder community
- Further JESIP training should continue to be delivered in a tri-service format. The benefits of this training have been widely recognised and are considered invaluable. Consideration should be given to extending the tri-service approach into all areas of training (including testing and exercising). This will provide clear benefits in terms of efficiency and effectiveness as well as on-going consistency in the training and improved working relationships

Recommendations

The review report made a number of specific recommendations including:

1. All operational staff across the emergency services likely to attend operational incidents need at the very least to have an awareness of JESIP regardless of rank or grade.
2. The emergency services need to develop a programme for delivering future JESIP tri-service training. This should incorporate refresher training, initial training for newly promoted commanders and awareness for new recruits. It should also be extended to Local Resilience Forums and other category 1 and 2 responders.
3. Multi-agency testing and exercising programmes need to be better coordinated and risk-based beyond Local Resilience Forum Community Risk Registers/National Risk Assessments.¹
4. There needs to be a greater knowledge and understanding of the capabilities of Airwave and the use of the interoperable channels at incidents.
5. The emergency services need to have more effective processes in place for learning and embedding lessons locally and, for cascading the learning to staff. The knowledge and understanding the Joint Organisational Learning process needs to be greatly improved.

Current Activity & Future Ambition

Following the publication of the JESIP Joint Doctrine and the roll out of training across emergency services, the central JESIP team have been completing a programme of work agreed at the start of 2015. This is alongside supporting services as they continue to embed JESIP into local policies, procedures and training programmes.

In light of the findings by the HMIC led Tri-Service Review alongside the Self-Assessment survey JESIP requested all services to complete in 2015; it is clear that whilst JESIP has achieved a great deal there is ongoing effort required to fully embed JESIP so that the application of the Joint Doctrine becomes business as usual.

¹ Learning shared via the Joint Organisational Learning (JOL) arrangements should influence future exercise scenarios/objectives

A revised work plan has been drafted to address the recommendations made in the review. This along with a proposal for future funding has been submitted to Government Departments and a decision with regards future funding is pending as of the submission date for this paper.

The key activities for the central JESIP team are to continue to:

- Coordinate and oversee the four workstreams of doctrine, training, testing and exercising, and joint organisational learning; plus maintaining and developing JESIP communications
- Proactively liaising with Government departments and key stakeholders on all aspects of interoperability, including identifying areas for improvement
- Maintain and publish JESIP management information to track continued training delivery
- Ensure alignment of other emergency service programmes with JESIP principles
- Work within and between Police Services, Fire & Rescue Services and Ambulance Trusts to:
 - Deliver cross cutting requirements commissioned by the JESIP Interoperability board
 - Provide assurance to the Interoperability Board that commanders and services are interoperability compliant
 - Engage with the UK Resilience community to ensure that overall multi- agency response to emergencies is coordinated and appropriate

JESIP Workstream Activity

The work of the team is divided into work streams each on led by a Senior User. Further details by workstream are provided below for information.

Doctrine

Continued effort is being made at a national level to ensure all relevant national doctrine and guidance has been or is being aligned to JESIP.

The Civil Contingencies Secretariat have now started work on the review of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 – Chapter 4 in light of the development and implications of the JESIP Joint Doctrine.

The Joint Doctrine: The Interoperability Framework is currently under review following feedback post initial training. The revised guidance will be released shortly for consultation to all Cat 1 & 2 organisations and wider stakeholders and finalised and published as soon as is practicable after this dependant on current future funding arrangements.

Training

A review of the current JESIP products has been undertaken to assess what is required by the emergency services in future. The one day commander training is likely to require updating following feedback received from services, the Joint Doctrine review and findings from JOL.

As there is clear evidence that the joint training has been the key to the culture change required within services to improve joint working, JESIP have been promoting and supporting collaboration on training across all parts of the country. In some areas collaborative plans are already underway and training schedules have been planned in advance.

Initial findings from 2015 winter engagement events have provided detailed information which will support the development and design of future JESIP products to meet needs of services and wider responders.

Two new consolidation exercises have been produced for services to refresh the 1 day operational and tactical command courses.

A multi-agency Communications Advisor training course has been developed by a multi-agency team from the education establishments. A pilot course was completed in November. It is planned this new multi-agency course will be adopted by all education establishment currently offering a single service course during 2016.

The development of an online tool to monitor numbers of trained JESIP Commanders. This will be completed retrospectively by services as training is completed.

A multi-agency training group has been established with membership including JESIP, EPC, FSC, CoP and NARU Ed Centre. An initial meeting was held in July 2015. The group is chaired by Dr Rob McFarlane (CCS). Initial actions for this group are to explore and develop a “standard” course for strategic commanders or personnel who would attend an SCG to be available at multiple education establishments. This would complement existing strategic management courses such as MAGIC.

Testing & Exercising

Continued joint exercising is required to maintain skills.

Local Resilience Forums have access to a National Exercise Calendar via Resilience Direct. JESIP are continuing to work with CCS to develop this exercise calendar to support emergency service exercising at local, regional and national level

The following programme for testing and exercising is:

- JESIP exercise and assurance framework document was released in July 2015 for tri services to adopt. This has provided an efficient, effective and affordable option for exposing Commanders to live/table-top exercises. It may be used locally to evaluate tri service Commanders application of the JESIP principles where CPD requirements have not been met through attendance at incidents, exercises or training.
- A complete set of JESIP objectives for training and testing and exercising is available on the website for services to embed into the core of all multi agency scenarios. This will ensure that debriefs capture interoperability lessons and subsequently inputted onto JOL where appropriate
- JESIP continues to work with hydra user groups, service education establishments and other respective training delivery services to ensure JESIP principles and objectives are at the core of all multi agency scenarios.

Joint Organisational Learning

JESIP launched the new Joint Organisational Learning (JOL) arrangements and supporting application during 2015. This is the first system of its kind in the UK which provides a single repository for capturing and sharing interoperability lessons and notable practice from all of the emergency services and wider responders. The application is hosted on ResilienceDirect.

Use of it will ensure interoperability lessons are identified, recommendations (where necessary) are actioned and lessons identified do lead to changes in operational practice.

JOL was one of the key drivers for JESIP when it was initiated driven by findings from reviews into multiple major incidents which identified that there have been consistent failures to learn from and act on lessons identified from past emergencies and disasters.

In 2015 JESIP completed 11 JOL workshops across England and Wales. Each FRS, police, ambulance service and LRF have provided a JOL Single Point of Contact with responsibility for inputting any JOL or notable practice onto the JOL app on behalf of their organisation.

Post launch it is essential that services continue to submit learning from incidents, training and testing & exercising onto JOL.

Work is still required in supporting services as they integrate JESIP and JOL into daily business. JESIP team members attended a number of major incidents de-briefs during 2015 and will continue to support services and LRF's in developing local processes for capturing, identifying and inputting lessons identified and notable practice onto the JESIP JOL app.

Any issues that arise from submissions to JOL are brought to the national Interoperability Board for attention and if required action and decision.

Since launch, two JOL recommendations have been approved at Interoperability Board, they include:

1. Alternative identification of Police Commanders at Public Order events should be incorporated into FRS and Ambulance procedures
2. Services with Commanders within niche capability groups should be identified as priority Commanders for attendance at future 1 day joint JESIP commander training (e.g firearms, CT,)

Through JOL and evaluation of tier 1 and 2 exercises, progress in some key areas of joint working have been achieved already.

An example of this is the inclusion of JESIP into the drafting of the current Police CT Command, Control and Coordination at CT incidents guidance. We have ensured FRS and ambulance officers are embedded into the CT Command structure.

As Organisational Learning is a topic being explored by all sectors, JESIP is working with national teams who already have organisational learning systems or who are developing them. Specifically for FRS this includes working with the National Operational Guidance Programme on the UKFRS Organisational Learning Project.

Communications and Engagement

JESIP team have developed and launched a new website. This is due to the evolution of JESIP and the requirement from end users to access a much more user friendly website. Additional Communications include:

- Winter engagement events across England and Wales took place during November – December 2015. The key focus for these events was to explore what services wanted in respect of future JESIP training products
- The release in March 2016 of a JESIP App for mobile devices. This will provide operational staff with the facility to access key JESIP models including the JDM, METHANE and the Principles remotely
- Continued editorial content provided to sector publications, notably the Emergency Services Times.
- Continuing engagement with CCS to support wider responders via LRF's to embed JESIP

Devolved Administrations

- JESIP delivered Train the Trainer workshops in Scotland in January 2016 in support of the delivery of JESIP 1 day commander training. Scotland have agreed to commence roll out of JESIP 1 day Commander training from April 2016
- Northern Ireland have agreed to commence roll out of JESIP 1 day Commander training from April 2016