

Kent Resilience Forum



PREPARING FOR EMERGENCIES IN KENT AND MEDWAY

Emergency Planning in Kent

Role of Leader and Cabinet

Steve Scully – Senior Resilience Officer

Kent Resilience Team



Tonights's Programme

Kent Resilience Forum



PREPARING FOR EMERGENCIES IN KENT AND MEDWAY

- Legislation
- Councils Emergency Management / Kent Resilience Team
- Integrated Emergency Management / Integrated Emergency Response
- Command & Control
- Elected Members Role
- Recovery



What is a Major Emergency

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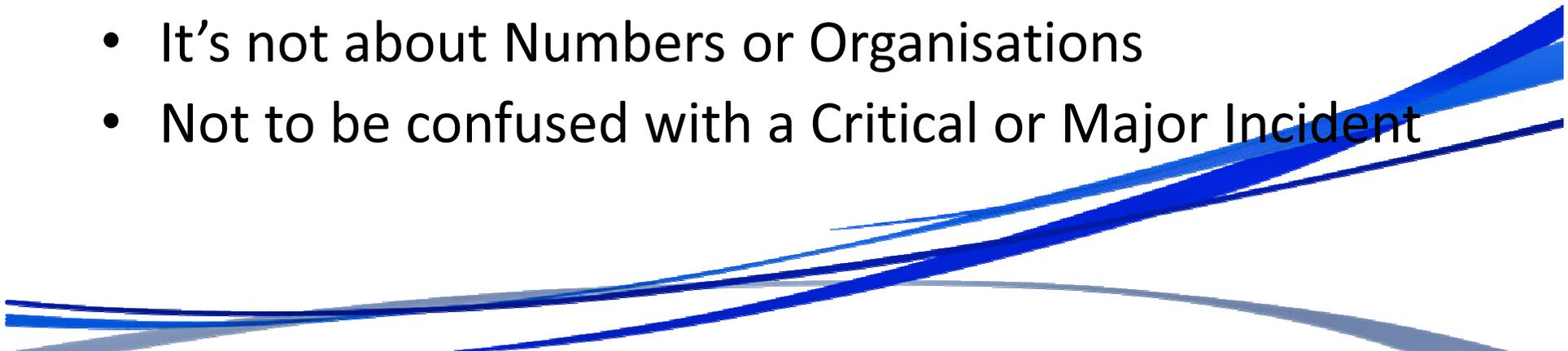


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- Emergency is defined in Part 1 of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 as;

An event or situation which threatens serious damage to *human welfare* in a place in the UK, the *environment* of a place in the UK, or war or terrorism which threatens serious damage to the *security* of the UK.

- It's not about Numbers or Organisations
- Not to be confused with a Critical or Major Incident



CCA 2004

Duties Under the Act

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- Risk Assessment
- Emergency Planning
- Business Continuity Management (BCM)
- Warning – Informing and Alerting the Public
- Information Sharing
- Co-operation
- Business Continuity Management Promotion
(Local Authorities)



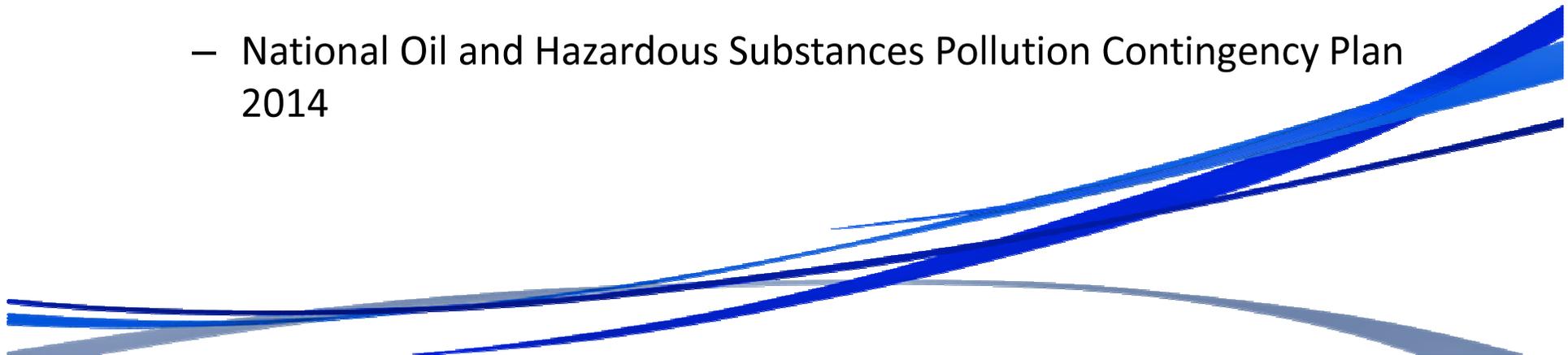
Other Legislation and Guidance

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- Local Authorities must evidence compliance with 28 pieces of resilience legislation and guidance:
- These include:
 - Homelessness under the Local Government Act 1972 Section 138
 - Cabinet Office Evacuation and Shelter Guidance 2014
 - Control of Major Accident Hazard Regulations 1999 (COMAH)
 - National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan 2014



The Kent Resilience Forum

The Kent Resilience Forum is an umbrella forum which is a partnership of organisations that have a role to play in emergency planning and/or response to an emergency. This Forum is a requirement of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (known as CCA) and is made up of Category 1 and 2 responders in Kent along with various other agencies and organisations i.e. Health Protection Agency and the Voluntary Sector.

Kent Community Risk Register

Assesses potential risk over a five year period the purpose of which is to assess potential risk and reassure the citizens of Kent that a joined up approach to emergency planning has been taken both at local and national level.

Figure 1: Risks of terrorist and other malicious attacks

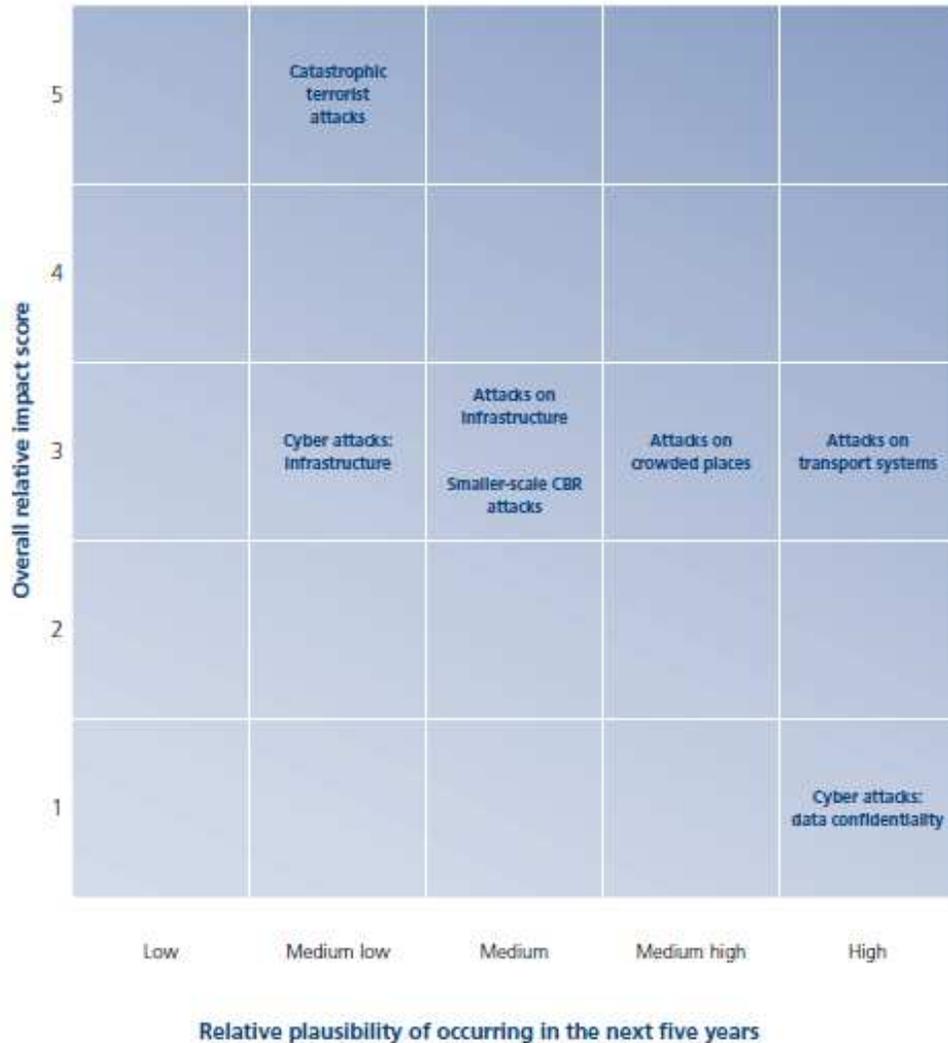
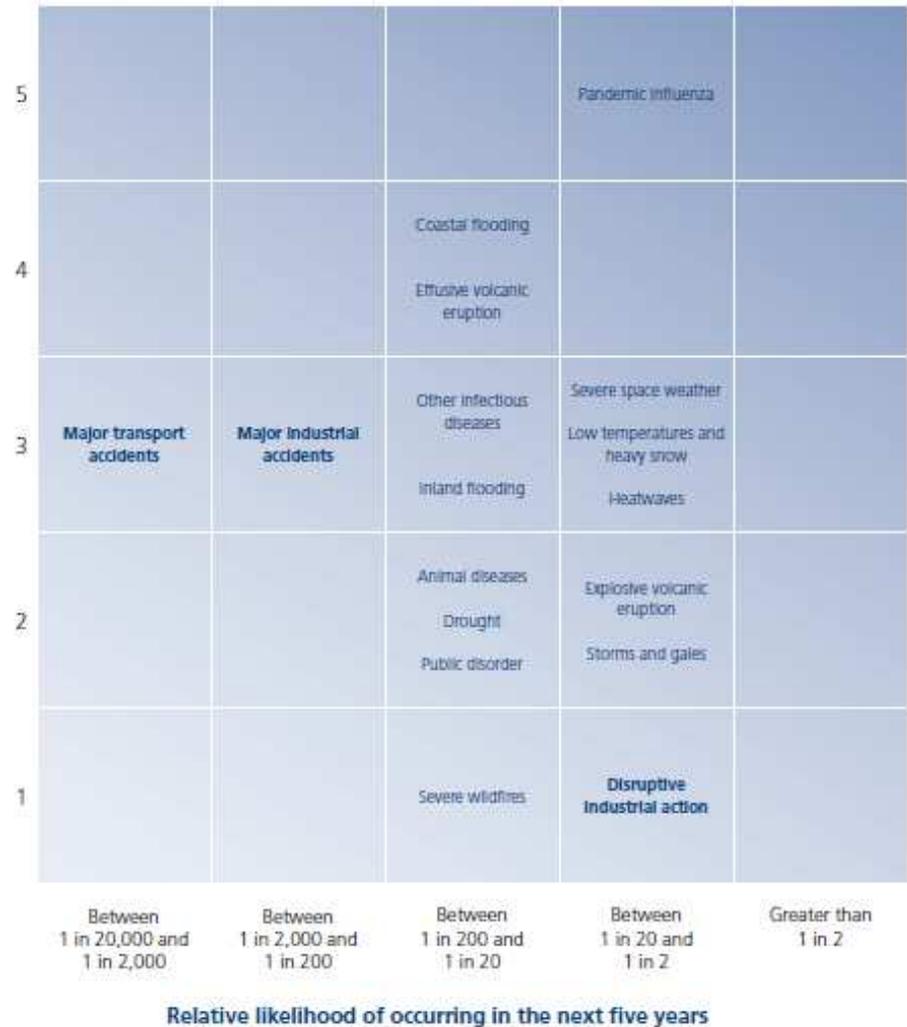
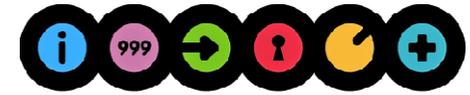


Figure 2: Other risks

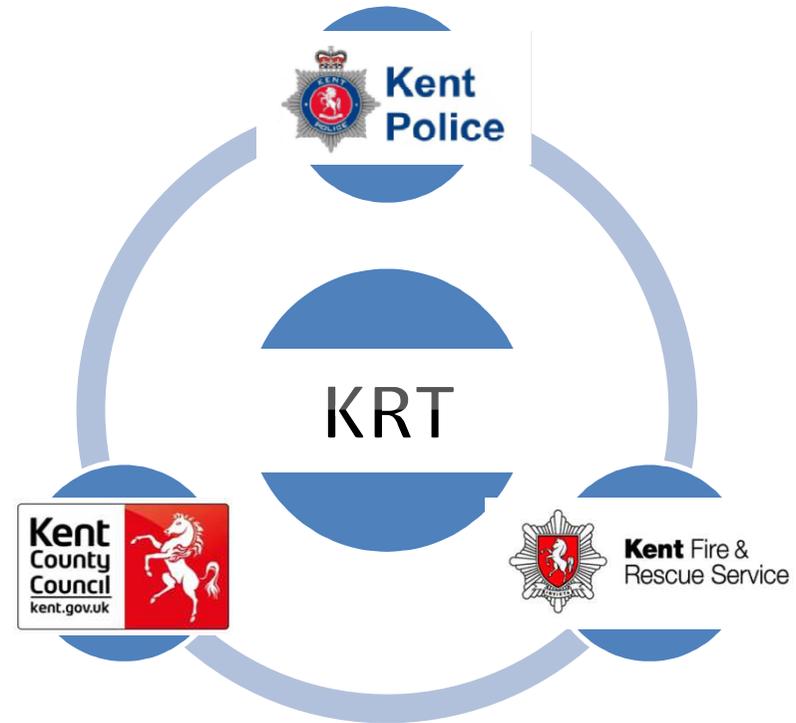


Kent Resilience Team - Why have the KRT?

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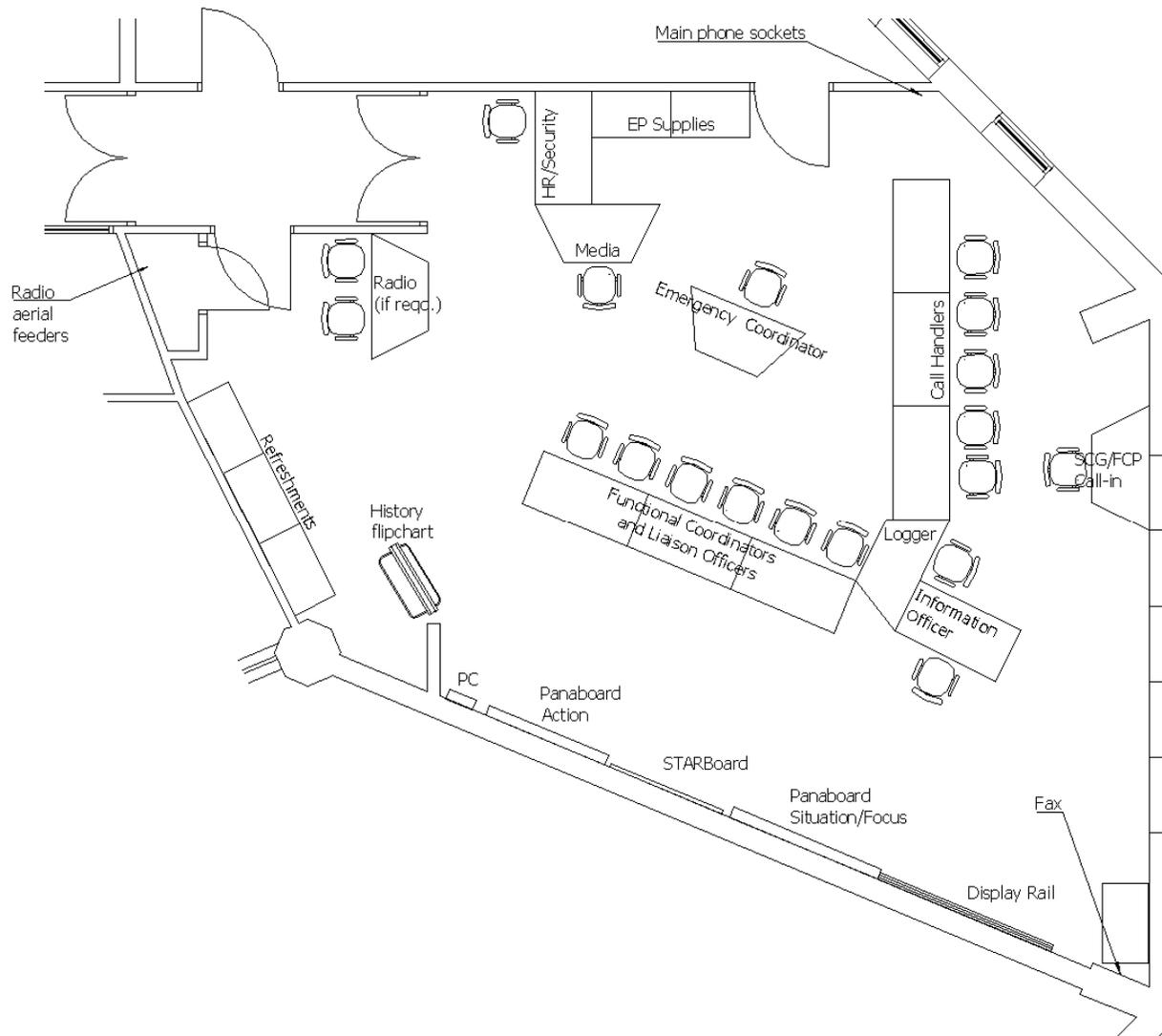


Councils Emergency Planning

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PREPARING FOR EMERGENCIES IN KENT AND MEDWAY



District Emergency Centre Layout

Conference Room
Council Offices,
Argyle Road,
Sevenoaks
Kent
TN13 1 HG

Role of the Councils Emergency Planning



- Develop and maintain resilience documentation including Major Emergency, Business Continuity, Recovery and other relevant Emergency Plans
- Ensure that resilience principles are considered within major infrastructure planning and delivery, and when determining, or consulted upon, planning applications (in compliance with NPPF)
- Ensure operation of Emergency Response Team, to support and supplement the Council's core emergency preparedness and response capability
- Represent the Council on Kent Resilience Forum and other inter-agency, regional and national groups, as appropriate
- Be responsible, with the Duty Director and Emergency Activation Officer, for the activation of Council's Major Emergency Plan
- Alongside the Duty Director, support the corporate response to any major emergency impacting the Councils area of responsibility and support the wider County

Command and Control

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There are three different methods of management in use in the response to an emergency – **Command, Control and Co-ordination**.

Command

is the authority of an organisation to direct the use of its own staff and equipment.

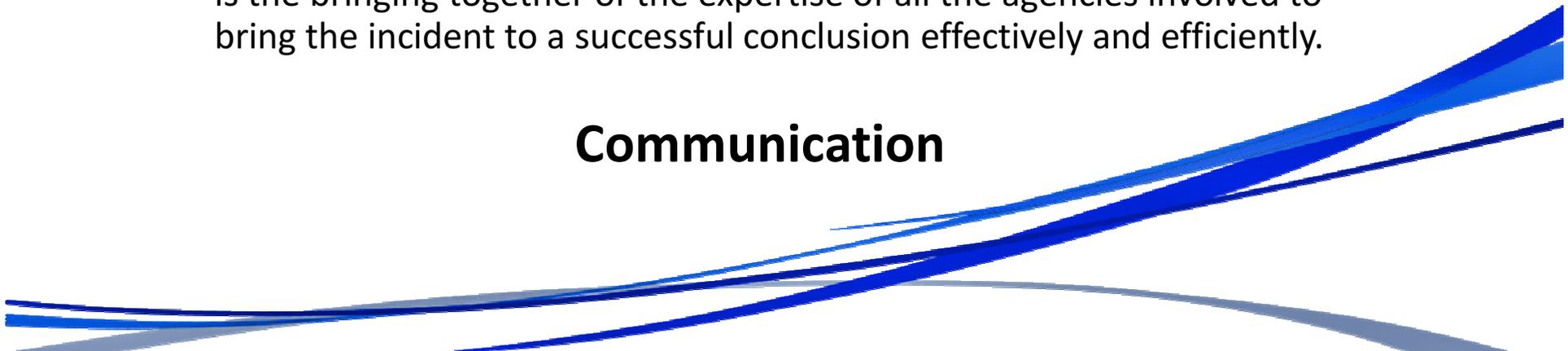
Control

is the authority to direct strategic and tactical operations in order to complete the assigned function, and includes the ability to direct the activities of other agencies engaged in that task. Control of a function also carries with it a responsibility for the health and safety of those involved.

Co-ordination

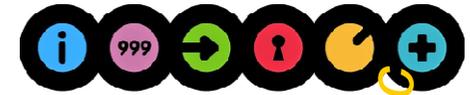
is the bringing together of the expertise of all the agencies involved to bring the incident to a successful conclusion effectively and efficiently.

Communication

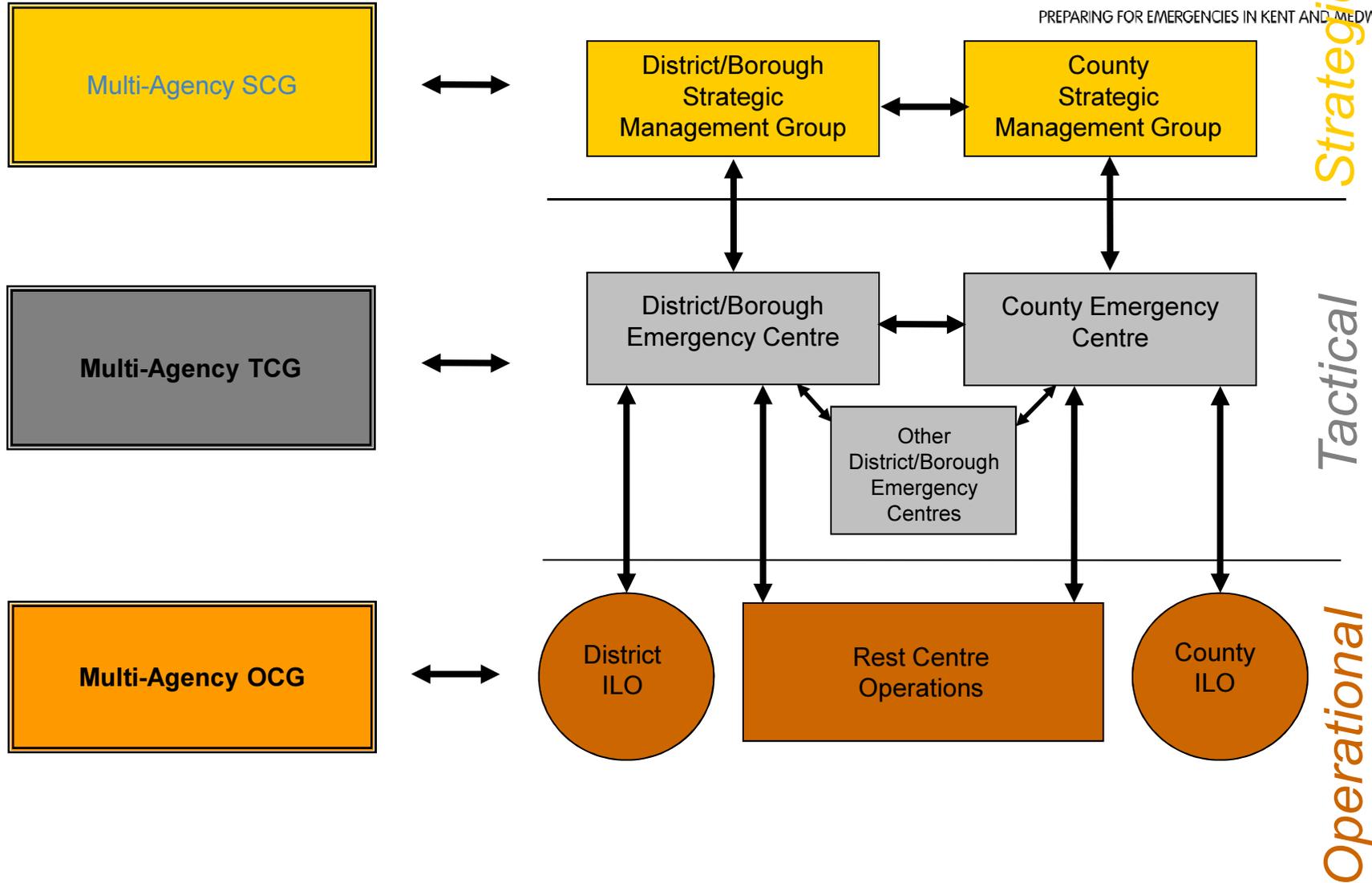


Local and Multi-Agency Command and Control

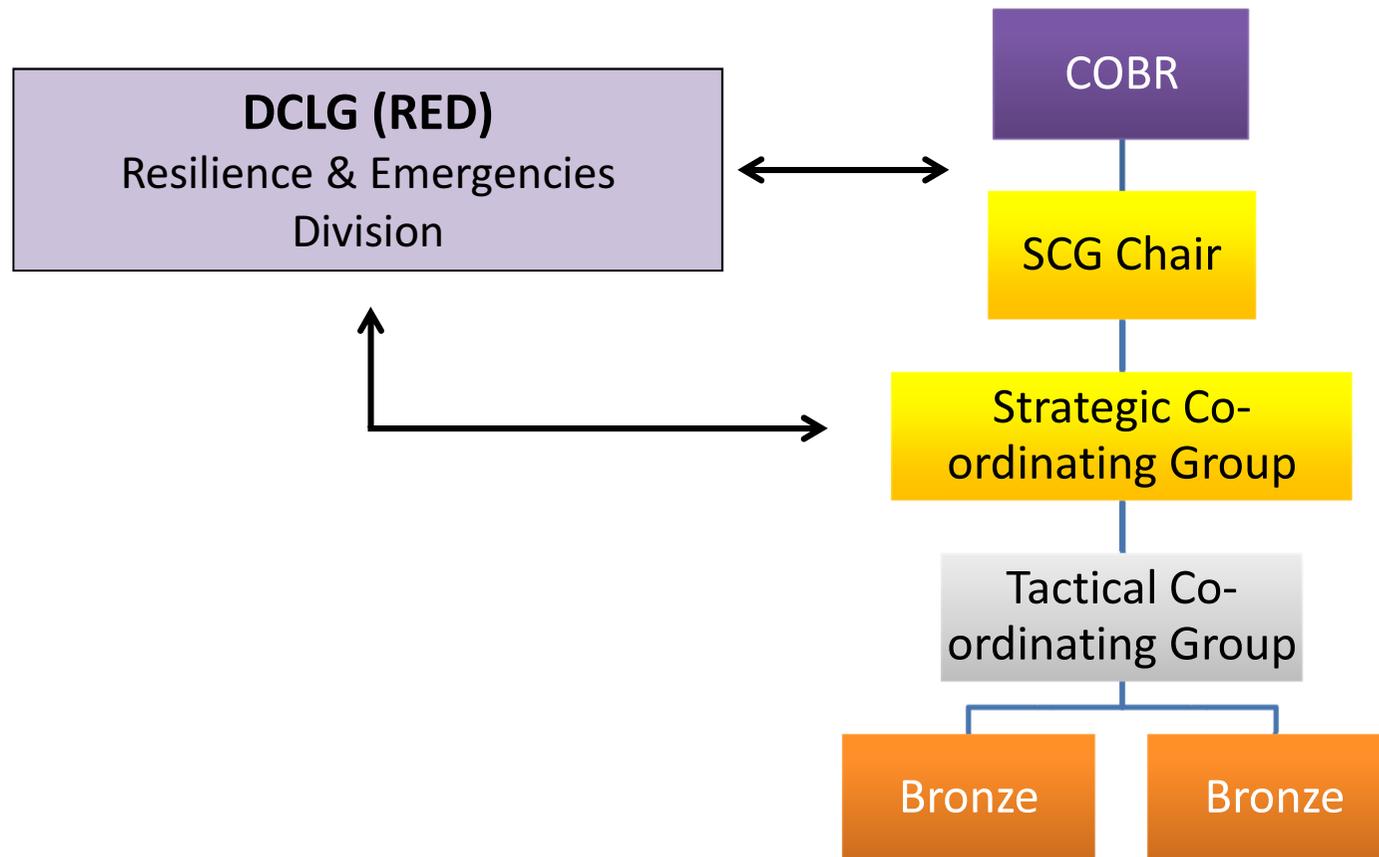
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Relationship Between Central and Local Response



Principles for joint working

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Principles for Joint Working

Co-location

Communication

Coordination

Joint Understanding of Risk

Shared Situational Awareness

Kent Prepared



JESIP Joint Decision Making Model

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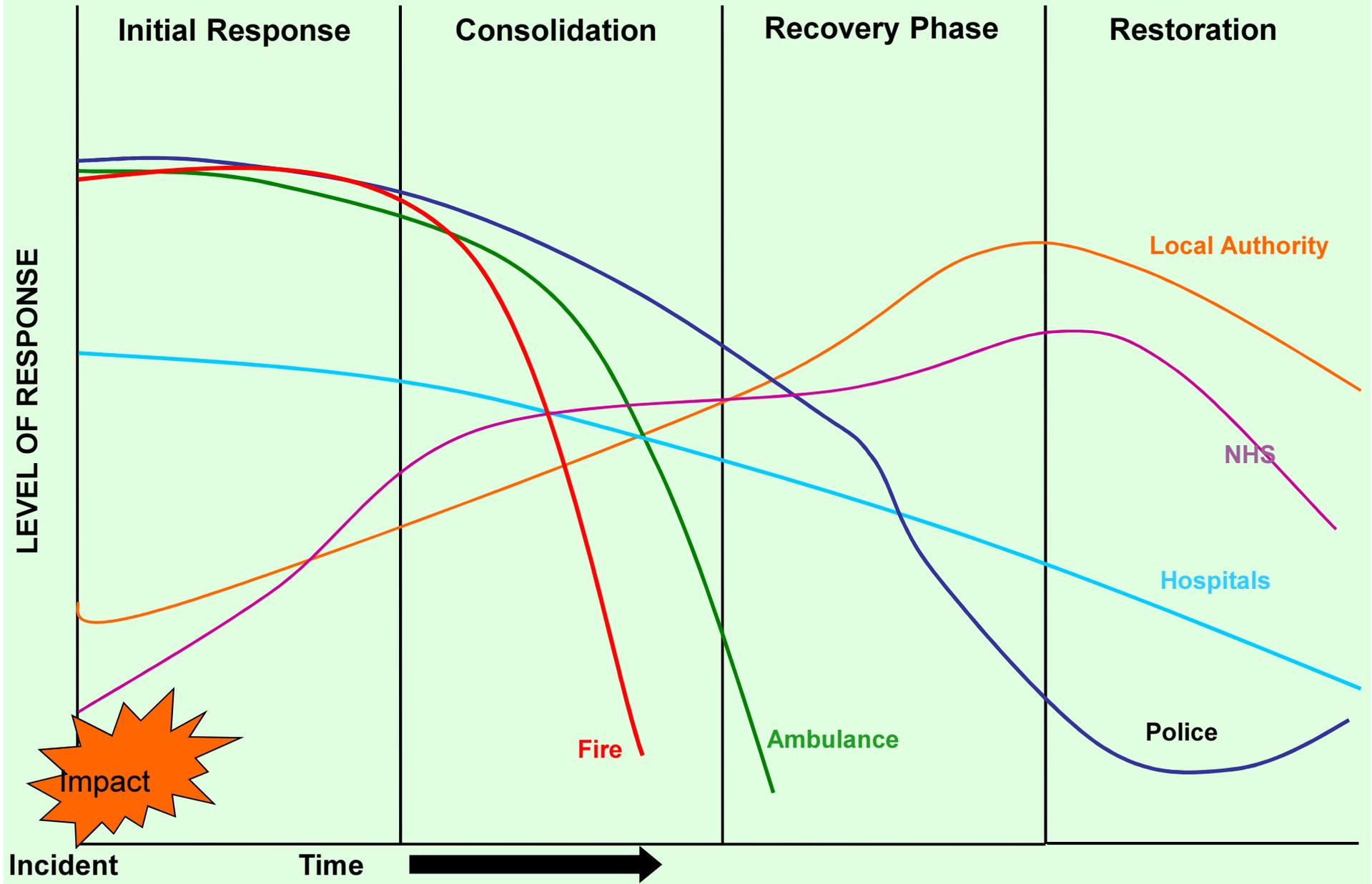


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Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Programme (JESIP) Doctrine (2013)

Stages of Emergency Response



Borough & District Councils Roles and Responsibilities

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- Support the Emergency Services
- Establishment and transport of Welfare Centres for displaced people
- Provide support services for the community and others affected by the emergency
- Assist in the identification of vulnerable members of the community
- Role of the Housing Authority in accommodating displaced persons
- Establishing mutual aid arrangements
- Lead role in recovering from an emergency
- Maintain statutory services at an appropriate level
- Public warning and informing
- The co-ordination and lead on several key contingency plans

Behind these relatively general points lie a host of more specific roles, some of which are defined in statutory guidance, others of which are determined locally

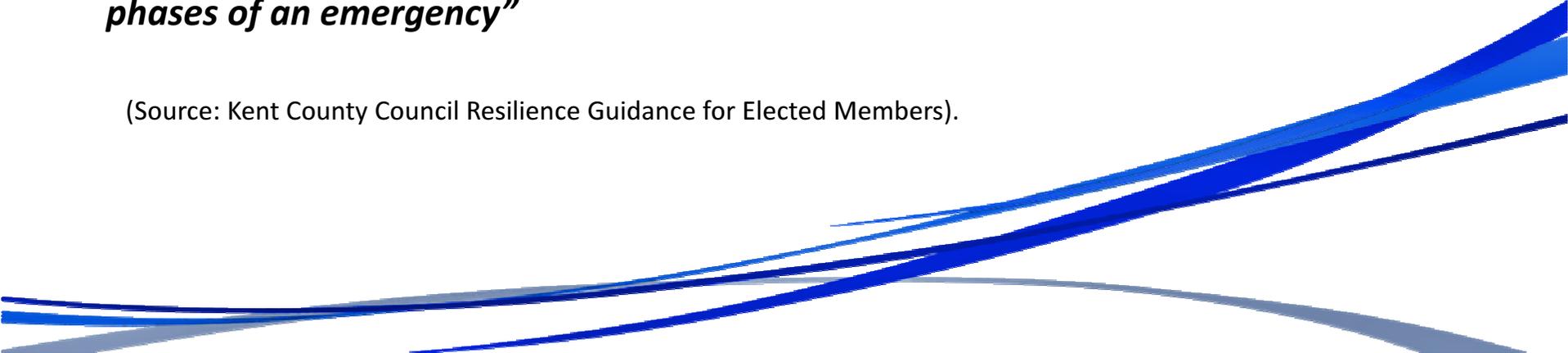
The Elected Member Role

- ***“As community representatives and figureheads in their local community, Elected Members for the affected community have an important role to play (particularly) in assisting with the recovery process. Although they have a limited role in the operational response phase, the role of the local authority’s Elected Members is vital to rebuilding, restoring, rehabilitating and reassuring the communities affected and speaking on their behalf”***

(source: National Recovery Guidance).

- ***“Elected Members have an important role in the preparation, response and recovery phases of an emergency”***

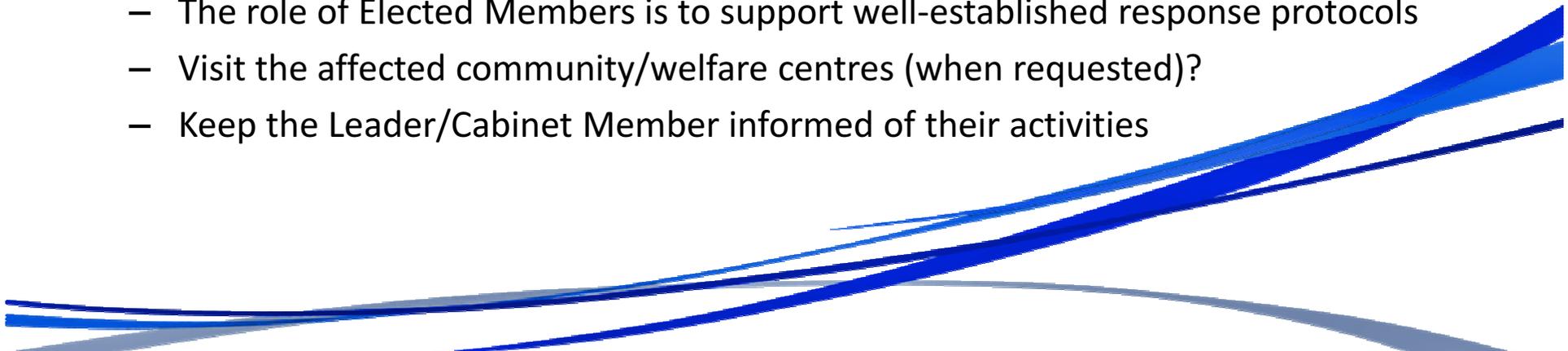
(Source: Kent County Council Resilience Guidance for Elected Members).



The Elected Member Role



- **In the planning phase:**
 - Elected Members play a vital role in providing strategic direction
 - Ensuring sufficient resource and priority is given to the resilience agenda.
- **Alerting:**
 - The Duty Director will contact the Leader/Cabinet Member for any Major Emergencies affecting Kent
 - The press office will alert and update all members via e-mail
 - The leader will (If required) nominate the talking head/spoke person
- **In the response phase:**
 - The role of Elected Members is to support well-established response protocols
 - Visit the affected community/welfare centres (when requested)?
 - Keep the Leader/Cabinet Member informed of their activities

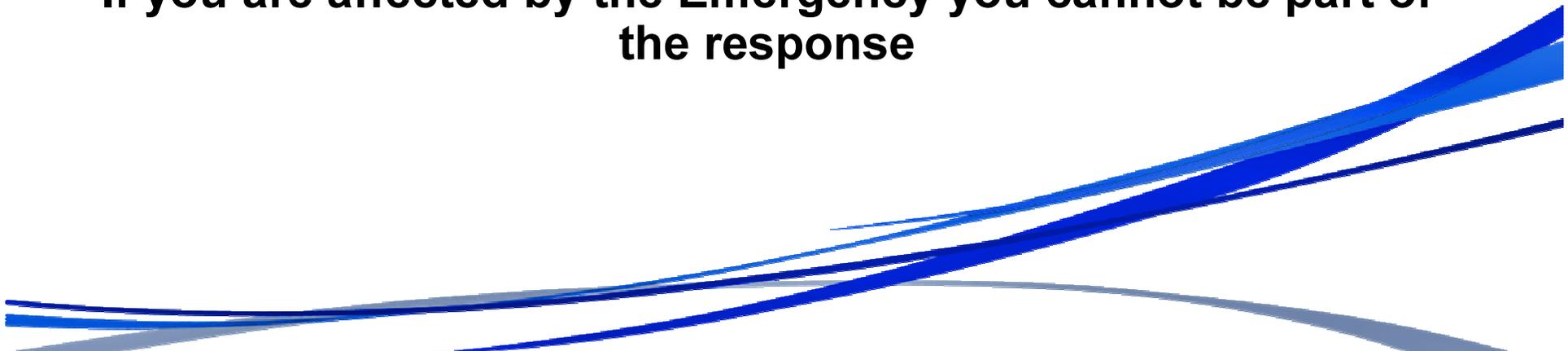


The Elected Members Role



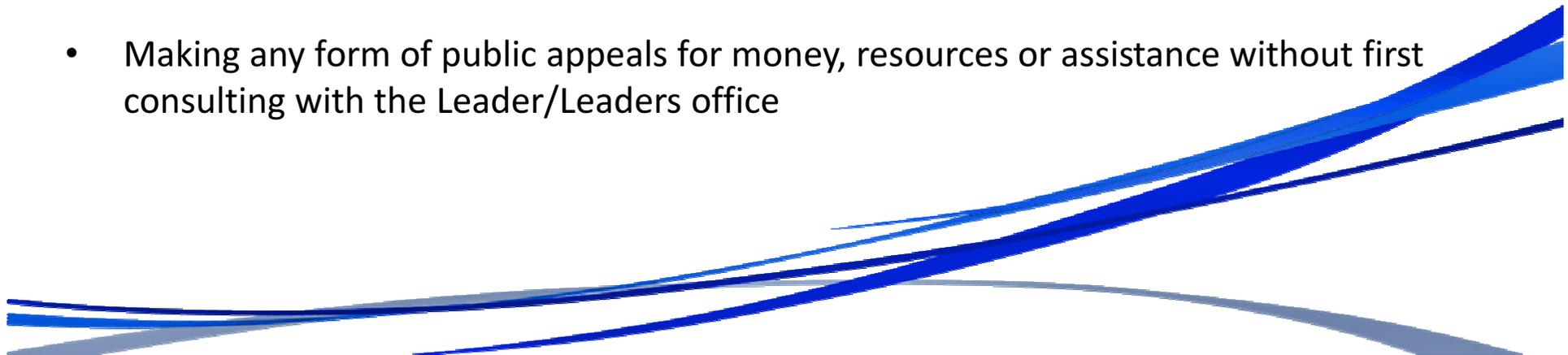
- **Members must remember to:**
 - Report any Emergencies to the relevant authorities
 - If relevant inform both the Council and Leader
- **Members should always:**
 - Check with the Leader/Press Office for further information
 - Always keep to the agreed Council and Multi-Agency media line

If you are affected by the Emergency you cannot be part of the response



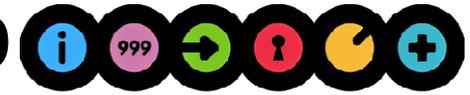
Some Potential Pitfalls For Elected Members

- Placing yourselves in danger or adopting the role of an Officer
- Taking on tasks for which you are not trained or equipped
- Seeking to 'fix' a problem without being briefed on context
- Issuing press statements on behalf of the Council without appropriate consultation or discussion with officers / colleagues ('left-hand not knowing what the right is doing')
- Making statements that imply failure, shortcomings or blame on the part of the local authority or any other agency involved before all the facts are clear
- Speculating on the cause, being drawn into comparisons or commenting on other agencies' performance or activities
- Making any form of public appeals for money, resources or assistance without first consulting with the Leader/Leaders office



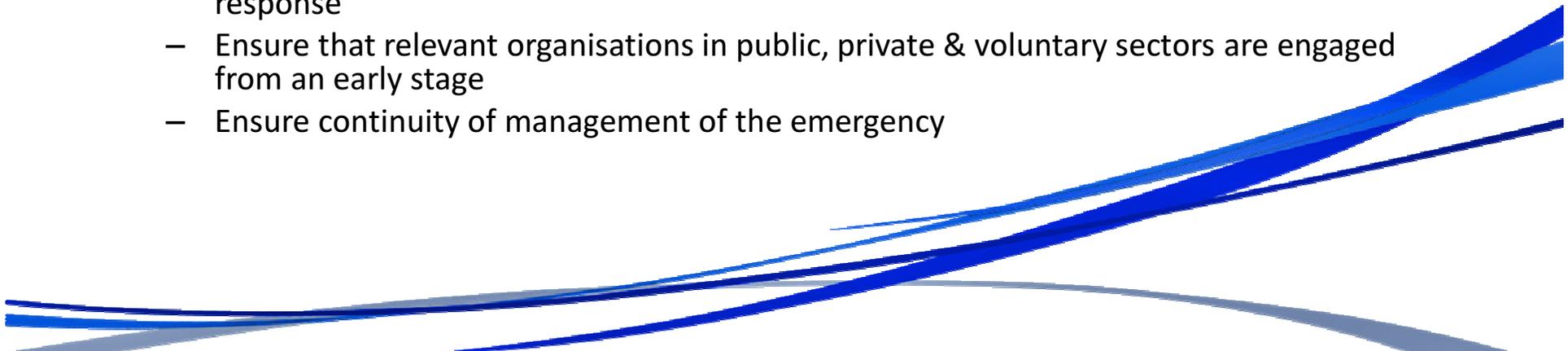
Recovery Co-ordinating Group

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- A Local Authority Responsibility
- RCG should be set up early into a response
- Should work in parallel to the SCG to ensure a seamless transition from response to recovery
- Wide area & catastrophic incidents may require co-ordination at the national level
- RCG will seek to;
 - Ensure that longer-term recovery priorities are reflected in planning & execution of the response
 - Ensure that relevant organisations in public, private & voluntary sectors are engaged from an early stage
 - Ensure continuity of management of the emergency



Components of Recovery



Leader and Cabinet Role in Recovery

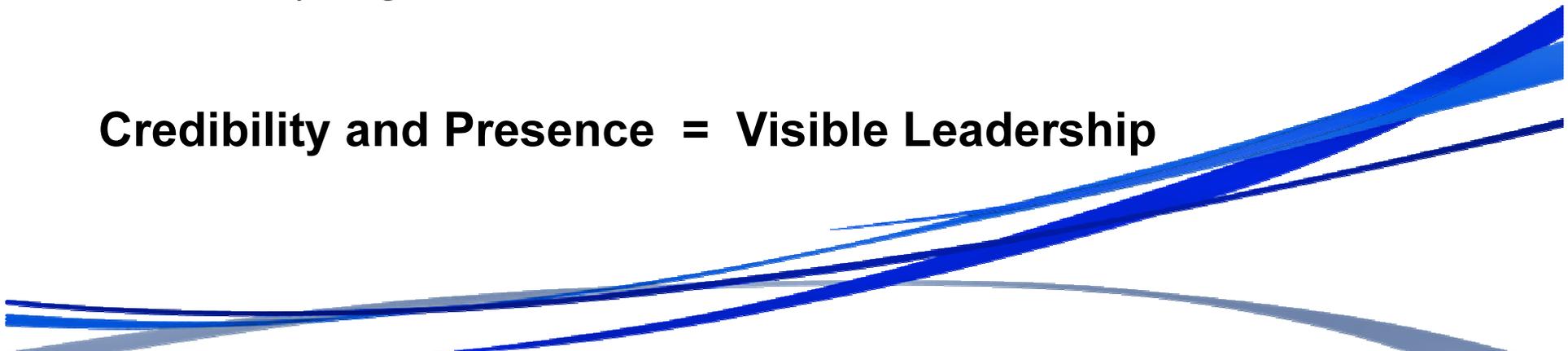
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- Day-to-day Executive Leadership role on Council direction
- Leadership and visibility in the recovery process
- Liaising with other local and national senior representatives
- Enhancing community liaison
- Assisting with VIP visits
- Working with the news media
- A 'knowledge bank' of local personalities and resources
- Scrutiny: organisational readiness

Credibility and Presence = Visible Leadership



Visible Leadership

- “...the Review notes the value of a high media profile for local leaders, as achieved by Council Leaders and Gold Commanders in a number of areas affected by the floods ... using the media as a way of communicating advice to the public and providing visible leadership at a local level”.

Learning lessons from the 2007 floods: Interim Report of the Review by Sir Michael Pitt
See Ch.7, 'Engaging the public'

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A local newspaper floats in flood waters at Otney Island near Oxford © Getty Images

When it goes Wrong

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Residents of [Grenfell Tower](#) have handed a list of demands to the council, following the devastating blaze which killed 71 people.

The local Authority has been criticised for ignoring Residents.

Thank you Questions?

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Steve Scully
Senior Resilience Officer
KCC - KRT

