

This is the **Second Bulletin** of the Business Continuity Forum. The key item in this edition (by popular demand!) is Flu Pandemic. But first, here are the main points resulting from the second forum workshop held at Police HQ on April Fool's Day:

- Members would benefit from a web based resource database.
 - The database should be in a form similar to that run by NORMIT in Norfolk.
 - The Business Continuity Team should consider a formal membership scheme which would fund its administration.
 - A proposal should be put to the next meeting of the forum.
- So that is what we will do at the workshop in June, see below.

The next Forum event is...

Half Day Training Course In
Basic Business Continuity.

Morning 8th May at Suffolk
County Council

To book, call Rick Thornton
01473 260439

Flu Pandemic is one of those threats that drifts in and out of vogue. Here is a brief summary of the current state of play and some key points. Why worry? Flu Pandemics come round roughly every 30-35 years, the last outbreak was 39 years ago. Still not worried? While staff infection rates may only be 10-20%, total staff absence may exceed 40% at times. Now I have got your attention – info' on how to prepare is provided by the Health Service at the websites below.



What should you be aware of?

1. Redeployment to make up for absent staff would need to cover not just 1, but 2 phases of infection each lasting up to 15 weeks.
2. Anti Viral drugs (e.g. Tamiflu) neither prevent infection nor cure it, they only reduce symptoms.
3. Your usual sources of temporary staff will be equally affected.
4. Businesses have a duty to implement infection control measures in the workplace.
5. A vaccine will not be available for at least 3 months after the start of the pandemic.
6. Good plans not only include info' on minimum staff numbers, but also who is multi-skilled.
7. Working From Home is not a panacea.

The Suffolk Resilience Flu Pandemic Response Plan:

<http://www.suffolkresilience.com/> (see under Incidents And Multi Agency Plans)

The Department Of Health Guidance:

<http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publichealth/Flu/index.htm>

HSE Guidance For Employers:

» [Pandemic flu - workplace guidance February](#)

The Forum's Next Workshop

The role of the utilities and emergency services in a business continuity incident.

Half Day Workshop, 16th June 2008, morning.

The objective of this workshop is clarify what the utilities and emergency services can, may and will not provide to communities and businesses in the event of a major emergency.

To book a place on this event or to feedback on this bulletin. please contact us.

We are still looking for a forum member to host this workshop, please call us...

Rick Thornton 01473 260439

rick.thornton@epu.suffolkcc.gov.uk

Lesley Pretlove 01473 264099

lesley.pretlove@epu.suffolkcc.gov.uk