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1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of the paper is to describe the key milestones of the Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery (EPRR) self-assessment and assurance process for 2019/20 and to prepare the Trust Board for formal review and declaration of compliance by the 31st December 2019.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) Trust Board are required to annually approve the EPRR Statement of Compliance as set out in the NHS England Core Standards and the NHS EPRR self-assessment process.
- 2.2 The NHS needs to plan for, respond to and recover from, a wide range of incidents and emergencies that could affect health or patient care. These could be anything from extreme weather conditions to an outbreak of an infectious disease or a major transport accident.
- 2.3 All providers of NHS funded care are required to work towards meeting the requirements for EPRR as set out in the NHS England Core Standards for EPRR and NHS standard contract (Service Condition 30). The domains of the core standards are:
 - 1. Governance
 - 2. Duty to risk assess
 - 3. Duty to maintain plans
 - 4. Command and control
 - 5. Training and exercising
 - 6. Response
 - 7. Warning and informing
 - 8. Cooperation
 - 10. Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear and Hazardous Material
 - 11. Interoperable Capabilities (NHS Ambulance Trusts only)

The applicability of each domain and core standard is dependent on the organisation's function and statutory requirements.

2.4 NHS Trusts which are designated as Category 1 Responders under the Civil Contingencies Act (2004), such as YAS, are required to undertake a self-assessment against these core standards. From this self-assessment the Accountable Emergency Officer (AEO) is required to submit a Statement of Compliance on behalf of the Trust Board. This year's Statement of Compliance must be made to NHS England by the 31st December 2019.

3.0 ASSURANCE PROCESS FOR 2019/20

- 3.1 The EPRR annual assurance process for 2019/20 consists of four stages.
 - 1. Organisational self-assessment against the core standards
 - 2. Local Health Resilience Partnership (LHRP) 'confirm and challenge'
 - 3. NHS E/I regional EPRR 'confirm and challenge'
 - 4. NHS E/I national EPRR 'confirm and challenge'
- 3.2 The Associate Director A&E Operations, Head of EPRR and the Special Operations Manager within YAS are currently undertaking a thorough self-assessment against the core standards and where required are developing an action plan.
- 3.3 Each year there is also an annual deep dive section, where focus is given to a specific area of the EPRR function. For 2019/20 the deep dive focuses on severe weather and climate adaption. This 'deep dive' is outside of the formal assurance process.
- 3.4 The draft self-assessment, action plan and statement of compliance will be presented to the Trust Board on the 17th October 2019 prior to submission to the Regional NHS E/I EPRR team on the 31st October 2019.
- 3.5 The Regional EPRR team will then share consolidated self-assessments of each NHS Organisation with each of the four LHRPs on the 13th November 2019 in preparation for '*confirm and challenge*' sessions during late November.
- 3.6 After the four LHRP '*confirm and challenge*' meetings the statement of compliance will then need to be formally approved by the Trust Board on the 28th November 2019 before final submission to the National EPRR team (via the Regional EPRR team) on the 5th December 2019.
- 3.7 This will ensure YAS will comply with the deadline of the 31st December 2019 for the submission of the 'Statement of Compliance'.

4.0 NEXT STEPS

4.1 The YAS EPRR team will complete the self-assessment and the AEO will present the draft to the Trust Board on the 17th October 2019 prior to submission to the Regional EPRR team on the 31st October 2019.

5.0 RECOMEMNDATION

5.1 The Trust Board are asked to **NOTE** the content of this report in preparation for EPRR self-assessment and statement of compliance approval required by the 31st December 2019.