

By email



Ref: 09/12/30/kk/388

Mr Wyllie  
[Request-25248-87be62f3@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:Request-25248-87be62f3@whatdotheyknow.com)

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Health Protection Agency

Communications

Public Information Access  
61 Colindale Avenue  
London  
NW9 5EQ

Tel +44 (0)20 8327 6920  
Fax +44 (0)20 8327 6633

[www.hpa.org.uk](http://www.hpa.org.uk)  
Email: [foi@hpa.org.uk](mailto:foi@hpa.org.uk)

Dear Mr Wyllie

**Re: Response to Audit Scotland report**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 30 December 2009 regarding the plans the Health Protection Agency (HPA) has formulated since the '*Improving civil contingencies planning*' publication to keep Category 1 responders in Scotland informed of the HPA's work. Under section 1 (1) (a) of the act I can confirm that we do hold the information you require.

No new plans have been formulated by the HPA since August 2009.

The HPA is not classified as a Category 1 Responder in Scotland under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, so the HPA does not have direct representation on the Scottish Strategic Co-ordination Groups as it does on the English Local Resilience Forums and Regional Resilience Forums.

Under the CCA Act 2004 Schedule 1 Part 2, Section 17 states that the Health responder is:

"A Health Board constituted under section 2 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978 (c. 29)".

However, the HPA does routinely share its emergency preparedness plans with the corresponding agency in Scotland, Health Protection Scotland, as well as with the Scottish Executive. The HPA also provides advice and support on request to the Scottish health community on a wide range of health protection issues.

The agency does have radiation protection functions as specified in section 3 of the Health Protection Act 2004 which cover the whole of the UK.

In relation to radiation emergencies, HPA has not initiated any plans in response to the specific audit referred to in the inquiry.

I hope you have found this information useful, however, if you are dissatisfied with this response and would like a copy of the HPA complaints procedure then please

contact Mr George Stafford, Complaints Manager at: Health Protection Agency, 61 Colindale Avenue, London NW9 5EQ.

Please note that you have the right to an independent review by the Information Commissioner's Office if a complaint cannot be resolved through the HPA complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner's Office can be contacted by writing to Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Please contact me if you require any further information or assistance.

Yours sincerely

**Leigh Kelly**  
**Freedom of Information Officer**  
**Health Protection Agency**