

Service Specification No.	QVV/0278 v3
Service	Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response
Commissioner Lead	Chief Operating Officer, NHS Dorset ICB
Provider Lead	Deputy Director of Operations
Period	1 st April 2025 – 31 March 2026
Date of Review	1 January 2026

1. Population and/or geography to be served

1.1

As outlined in the NHS England EPRR Framework 2022; the NHS needs to plan for and respond to a wide range of incidents and / or emergencies which impact on patient care and the health sector. The Civil Contingencies Act (CCA) 2004 describes how NHS organisations and providers of NHS funded care have statutory duties under the act, and how they should demonstrate their ability to respond to and recover from incidents whilst maintaining critical and core functions.

1.2

This programme of work is referred to as Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR). The arrangements for local health EPRR are also underpinned in the Health and Care Act 2022.

2. Service aims and desired outcomes

2.1 NHS Outcomes Framework Domains & Indicators

Domain 1	Preventing people from dying prematurely	x
Domain 2	Enhancing quality of life for people with long-term conditions	
Domain 3	Helping people to recover from episodes of ill-health or following injury	x
Domain 4	Ensuring people have a positive experience of care	x
Domain 5	Treating and caring for people in safe environment and protecting them from avoidable harm	x

2.2 Aim and objectives of service

South Western Ambulance Service Foundation Trust (SWASFT) must ensure that they can effectively respond to emergencies, major, critical and business continuity incidents whilst maintaining services to patients.

3. Service description and location(s) from which it will be delivered

3.1 NHS England annual assurance process

SWASFT will comply with the annual Core Assurance process, which both describes and demonstrates the Trust's ability to meet both Core and Interoperability Standards set out by NHS England. As Lead Commissioner, NHS Dorset is responsible for conducting the Core Assurance by reviewing the self-assessment and evidence submitted by SWASFT. This process will be followed by a Confirm & Challenge Meeting with both NHS Dorset and SWASFT Accountable Emergency Officers to discuss the final outcome and compliance.

3.2 Local Health Resilience Partnership engagement

The Trust will also engage with the Local Health Resilience Partnership structures across the South West Region to address local health EPRR matters, ensure that there is coordination across ICS plans and providing a framework for local assurance, including maintaining a quantifiable and accurate assessment of the effectiveness of the resilience capability.