

METHANE – Shared Situational Awareness for Control Rooms

From December 2013 onwards, operational and tactical commanders in police, fire and ambulance services will be receiving training that uses a single method for the sharing of information between commanders, the incident ground and control rooms.

Until appropriate training is received, Control Room staff should be aware incident reports from commanders may be received using the mnemonic **METHANE** instead of CHALETS or SAD CHALETS.

This method has been agreed as a clear a simple method to obtain the critical information.

Current control room systems may not be designed to receive information in this order, therefore, in the interim period, control rooms may wish to use the **Incident Initiation Form** on page 2 to help ensure all relevant information is gathered.

The form can then be referred back to at any time to ensure all relevant information is entered onto systems correctly. Once complete the form should be retained with any logs created for the incident.

Shared Situational Awareness

In the initial stages, pass information between emergency responders and Control Rooms using the METHANE mnemonic.

- M** Major Incident declared?
- E** Exact Location
- T** Type of incident
- H** Hazards present or suspected
- A** Access - routes that are safe to use
- N** Number, type, severity of casualties
- E** Emergency services present and those required

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Incident Initiation Form

Time of Call	Date
Organisation	
Name of Caller	Tel No

M ajor incident	Major incident declared Yes / No? (Include date & time of declaration and which organisation declared)	
E xact Location	Exact location / geographic area of incident	
T ype of Incident	Flooding / Fire / Utility Failure / HazMat/ Disease outbreak etc.	
H azards	Present or suspected	
A ccess	Routes that are safe to use, any inaccessible routes and RVP's	
N umber of casualties	Numbers, type and severity	
E mergency Services	Present and those required	

Signature (once complete)

Restricted once complete

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