



2nd Experts' Symposium on Multi-Hazard EWS, Toulouse, France 5-7 May 2009

Dave Robinson, Head of Government Services



Legislative & Policy Context in the UK

- No legislative responsibility
- Influence – often event driven
- Long game
- Awareness & positioning
- Evidence based
- After 152 years will have a duty!



“70% of Emergencies in the UK since 2005 have been either severe weather related or where weather played an essential part in the management of the emergency”



UK Public Weather Service Advisors

- Two complementary delivery methods:
 - Directly to the Public (National Severe Weather Warning Service, Media, Website)
 - Embedded within the Civil Protection Community
- PWS Advisors were introduced as a response to the UK Civil Contingencies Act (2004)



High Impact Weather Events





PWS Advisors – essential qualities

- Meteorological Understanding
- Communication Skills
- Customer Focus
- Innovative
- Willingness to follow a consistent message – be the authoritative voice



Socio-economic benefit

- UK Civil Protection Community now better prepared when it comes to Weather
- PWS Advisors well integrated into Emergency Response up to the highest levels of Government
- Latest survey shows that 84% of Civil Protection responders were Very Satisfied with the service of the PWS Advisor



Future Plans

- Development of a Weather / Climate / Environmental Impacts Service
- Focus on customer need to drive research & development e.g. severe Weather Impact Models & new services e.g. Flood Forecasting Centre
- Training / engagement of the customers e.g. How to use probabilistic warnings