

With world leaders and biosecurity experts fearing that a pandemic is almost inevitable, have you got a pandemic and appropriate Business Continuity Plan in place?

TIPS FOR PREPARING FOR A PANDEMIC

While the majority of the coronavirus impact has so far occurred overseas, the health and economic impacts domestically could easily escalate putting severe pressure on your business.

To address the risk of loss of key staff, some key measures you should be considering now are:

1. Pandemic plan activation processes

How and who is authorised to activate your BCP and manage the event?

2. Identifying staff shortages

Who is responsible for determining if staff are impacted and who will design the resourcing strategy?

3. Staff health and welfare measures

What protections do you need to implement, to ensure your staff's ongoing safety and wellbeing?

4. Alternative work arrangements

Can staff work from different locations? If so, will the locations meet your organisations OH&S requirements?

Can temporary staff be quickly sourced, inducted and trained?

5. Communication plans

How and what do you communicate to your staff, customers, suppliers and other stakeholders?

6. Technology Requirements

What technology is required for staff to be working remotely i.e. IT systems access, phones, etc? Consider IT support, access to suppliers, systems security, data privacy and data backup.

7. Prioritising resources

How do you prioritise resources, i.e. required skills, staff rosters, etc. Consider key services/functions continuity and regulatory requirements.

8. Decision planning

Do you have the right delegations and authorisations to make key/critical decisions to ensure operational continuity?

9. Testing and rehearsing

Being prepared is vitally important. Have you tested and walked through possible pandemic scenarios and how they might impact your organisation?

START PLANNING AND PREPARING NOW

With this in mind, and we all do hope the current situation is contained soon, have you got your Business Continuity Plans up to date?

Should you wish to discuss operating risks regarding pandemics, including loss of suppliers, loss of customers and financial sustainability, please do not hesitate to contact Jeff Webb on 0437 539 015. Our risk intelligence will enable you to anticipate disruption, predict emerging risk events and build your capability and preparedness to act.