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1. Name

Matthew Hogan

2. Organisation

Greater London Authority

3. Type of Organisation

Parliament

Local Government

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6. What subject area of the Foreign Policy Report does your evidence relate to?

Civil Protection

7. What are the comparative advantages/disadvantages of working through the EU in the area you wish to comment on, rather than the UK working independently?

No Response

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8. In what areas of global affairs does the EU add value or deliver impact or not on behalf of the UK?

At the working/local resilience forum level, there is little tangible benefit. However, the GLA is aware of the wider work and initiatives of the EU which do add value. It's challenging to assess whether these arrangements offer value for money as they have been used in response to a handful of incidents in the UK, and no events in London.

9. How effective is the EU at combining its foreign, defence, economic and civil contingency policy instruments to deliver best effect in foreign policy? What, if anything, should it do differently?

Consistency of approach and common understanding of industry specific terminology Interoperable operating practices and equipment Agreed process for provision of international mutual aid Although the GLA has not taken part in EU Civil Protection activity we understand that it includes mechanisms to share information and influence policy. As an initial comment these would offer opportunities to learn from comparable cities and, as Europe's leading business centre to influence policy

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10. How effective are the EU's delivery mechanisms? Would any changes make them more effective, and if so, which ones and why?

Unable to comment as little experience of EU policy instruments in civil protection - perhaps an opportunity to be more overt about where EU foreign policy is utilised. No experience of EU delivery mechanisms

11. Would a different division of EU and Member State competence in a particular area produce more effective policies? If so, how and why?

No direct experience of EU policies with regard to Civil Protection

12. How might the national interest be served by action being taken in this field at a different level e.g. regional, national, UN, NATO, OECD, G20 – either in addition or as an alternative to action at EU level?

Greater London Authority is supportive in principle of any initiatives to enhance civil protection and economic development. With specific respect to civil protection, projects bringing together comparable places to share information, ways of working and develop interoperability should be capitalised on, as they offer an opportunity for efficiency savings as well as developing consistent capabilities

13. What future challenge/opportunities might we face in this area of policy and what impact might these have on the balance of competence between the UK and the EU?

No Response

14. Are there any general points you wish to make which are not captured above?

A comment on Government processes, more than the EU Civil Protection mechanism - at the local resilience forum level, there is a confusion about what liaison with EU is possible in addition to there being a broad lack of resources and experience of working in this environment. Individual Category 1 and 2 responders rarely have resources and organisational awareness to apply for or participate in EU activities. Furthermore, the EU initiatives which do get mentioned are not routinely followed up, meaning that responder organisations are left unaware of the outcomes of projects and develop a view that EU projects do not lead to tangible outcomes, the 'return on investment' is seen to be low. We are aware that the UK Government is represented in these initiatives but little information is provided to the LRF level.