

# EXERCISE NETWORK

Dear NBRT members,

We are pleased to invite you to the long awaited, all-NBRT professional development activity, ***Exercise Network***.

Although we wish that we could have delivered a face-to-face activity to catch up with familiar faces and also properly send off many of you as your tenure in the Program wraps up, alas, the COVID-19 response has proven its tenacity yet again.

No matter, we as the NBRT Advisory Group and Exercise Planning Team have ventured to provide you with a series of interactive virtual workshops and networking opportunities we are sure you will enjoy.

The following document outlines some key information – so, please read its contents carefully and contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

We look forward to seeing you all there!

Regards,

The NBRT Advisory Group

[NBRT@animalhealthaustralia.com.au](mailto:NBRT@animalhealthaustralia.com.au)



NATIONAL  
BIOSECURITY  
RESPONSE TEAM

The logo for the National Biosecurity Response Team is a white circle containing the text 'NATIONAL BIOSECURITY RESPONSE TEAM' in blue, with a red starburst graphic to the right of the text.

## Background

Control centres are established during the initial stages of a biosecurity emergency response to facilitate the coordination and management of the response. Traditionally, this has involved setting up physical facilities with the necessary resources and IT infrastructure such that response personnel are co-located. While this approach of physical co-location has its advantages, it has not been a viable option in light of the COVID-19 response.

To accommodate the changes to the response environment imposed by COVID-19, jurisdictions have adopted the use of virtual control centres. Although the transition from physical to virtual control centres have been relatively smooth, their rapid introduction has not allowed for a chance to carefully consider the nuances of a virtual control centre.

Delivered as a fully virtual activity, *Exercise Network* provides an opportunity to build virtual capability within the NBRT and also inform future virtual incident management processes and capabilities.

## Aim and objectives

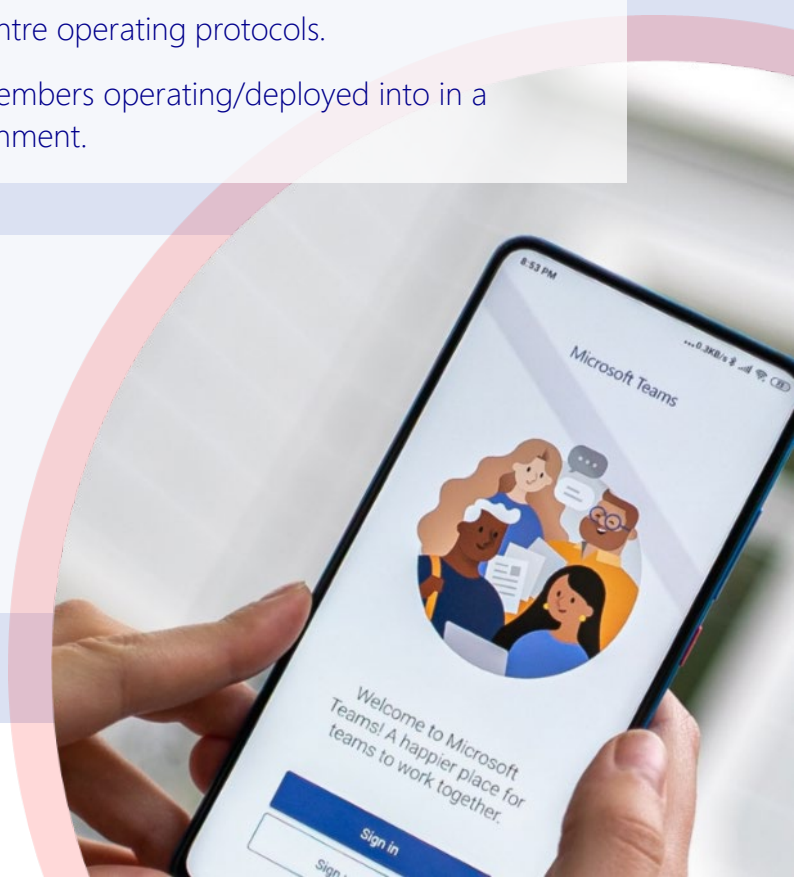
*Exercise Network* aims to enhance preparedness of the NBRT to respond in a virtual control centre.

To achieve this, the following objectives have been set:

- a. Analyse needs, gaps and challenges for NBRT members managing a biosecurity emergency response in a virtual control centre.
- b. Formalise and test virtual control centre operating protocols.
- c. Build the capabilities of the NBRT members operating/deployed into in a virtual incident management environment.

## Joining instructions

Joining instructions to access the exercise platform will be circulated a week prior to the exercise. This will be supported by a training/briefing session on **28 May** for which an invite will be circulated.



## Exercise schedule

The schedule for the exercise sessions, along with their respective focus areas, have been captured below. As seen in the table, there is a training/briefing session, two (2) phases and a virtual networking event to the exercise.

**Training/briefing session:** is targeted at **all NBRT members**. Two time slots will be made available – *please only respond to one (1)*.

**Phase 1:** is targeted at NBRT members in the **mentor and Incident Manager cohort**.

**Phase 2:** is targeted at **all NBRT members**.

**Networking event:** a virtual networking event will be arranged for **all NBRT members**. The details and calendar invite for this event will be circulated separately and closer to the exercise date.

PHASE	SESSION	DATE	TIME	TOPIC
0	0	Fri, 28 May	1030–1200 or 1430–1600	Exercise briefing/platform training session ( <i>please only respond to one of the time slots</i> )
1	1	Tues, 15 June	1030–1230	Deployment and setting up the IMT
	2	Wed, 16 June	1030–1230	Situational awareness, common operating picture and operational tempo
	3	Wed, 16 June	1430–1630	Multi-agency coordination, liaison and safety management
2	1	Thurs, 17 June	1030–1230	Activation, mobilisation, set-up and induction
	2	Fri, 18 June	1030–1230	Planning cycle
	3	Fri, 18 June	1430–1630	Stakeholder engagement and communication and coordination

## Contact

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact [NBRT@animalhealthaustralia.com.au](mailto:NBRT@animalhealthaustralia.com.au) or Yuta Himura at 02 6203 3927.