



## A guide to the National intelligence Model (NIM)

### Background

All organisations should be able to describe how they do their business for example how do you collect information from customers and other sources to prioritise and inform the allocation of resources? How do you measure successful outcomes and learn from them?

The term intelligence is now regularly used outside the traditional preserve of the intelligence professionals such as the police service.

Similar to the police service there is a need to professionalise the management of intelligence within environmental regulating organisations.

A lack of professional management can result in inconsistencies nationally in the way that offences were tackled, with the focus on small-scale offences at permitted sites rather than on serious environmental crime.

The Environment Agency has initiated a National Enforcement Strategy and supported the introduction of the National Intelligence Model (NIM) a model which has been developed since 1999 by the Law Enforcement Agencies of England & Wales.

## **Brief History of the National intelligence model (NIM)**

In 1993 the Audit Commission identified “a vicious cycle of failure to address crime” and subsequent enquiry revealed that there was in fact a huge variation nationally of intelligence practices which inhibited the flow of information locally, regionally and nationally.

In 1999 the National Criminal Intelligence Service (NCIS) created the NIM which is based upon the “collective wisdom and best practice” nationally and internationally.

### **So what is NIM?**

The NIM has its roots in criminal intelligence but it is a business process model with certain key elements. It facilitates the organisation of knowledge, informs resource allocation, co-ordinates activity and allows lessons to be learnt from that activity.

The Model was designed by NCIS to drive activity, not just in relation to crime and criminals, but all policing issues from organised crime to road safety.

NIM requires that a number of capabilities are defined and built in order to professionalise and improve intelligence work and to enable the compilation of standardised intelligence products.

Intelligence products inform staff of significant threats, including those arising from serious and less serious crime.

Risk management, the allocation of resources, engagement with partner agencies and a review of tactics are all systems driven by NIM.

In the police service NIM operates at three levels:

- Level 1 Area Command – localised crime and problems
- Level 2 Force (or inter-force) level – cross border crime & criminals
- Level 3 National & International – serious & organised crime.

The Environment Agency could interpret the three levels to fit its own structure locally, on an area regional and national basis adopting common intelligence practice and products which can be aggregated and standardised across the whole of the Agency.

### **Benefits of information sharing**

NIM improves the opportunities to share intelligence across police forces, governmental and non-governmental agencies.

The Model has been developed by the 43 Police Forces in England & Wales to a national standard and has been adopted by other agencies such as the Serious and Organised Crime Agency (SOCA), United Kingdom Immigration Services (UKIS) and by Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRP).

It reduces barriers to effectiveness by producing standardised processes and language to create a co-operative working environment.

Intelligence lies at the heart of business planning where account is taken of local and governmental objectives of required levels of performance and value for money principles. The vital central ingredient in successful business planning is information and understanding on five issues:-

- An accurate picture of the business
- What is actually happening on the ground

- The nature and extent of the problems
- The trends
- Where the main threats lie

An intelligence led business process is concerned with the proactive deployment of resources to reduce environmental crime, incidents and associated problems that are detrimental to the quality of life of communities.

The need to secure intelligence in line with the Agency priorities is fundamental to the process. This will ensure that both strategically and tactically all information that may impact on decision making is clearly outlined.

Further information can be found here

[http://tulliallan.police.uk/workingparties/nim/documents/NIMManual\(New05InteractiveManual\).pdf](http://tulliallan.police.uk/workingparties/nim/documents/NIMManual(New05InteractiveManual).pdf)

Intelligence is information which has been graded. Where information is received from individuals it should be evaluated according to the intelligence, source and dissemination on a 5x5x5 form exemplified over.

**Confidential**

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**NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE REPORT (Form A)**

<b>ORGANISATION and OFFICER</b>	Environment Agency		<b>DATE/TIME OF REPORT</b>		
<b>INTEL SOURCE or INTEL REF N<sup>o</sup>. (I.S.R.)</b>			<b>REPORT U.R.N.</b>		
<b>SOURCE EVALUATION</b>	<b>A</b> Always Reliable	<b>B</b> Mostly Reliable	<b>C</b> Sometimes Reliable	<b>D</b> Unreliable	<b>E</b> Untested Source
<b>INTELLIGENCE EVALUATION</b>	<b>1</b> Known to be true without reservation	<b>2</b> Known personally to the source but not to the officer	<b>3</b> Not known personally to the source, but corroborated	<b>4</b> Cannot be judged	<b>5</b> Suspected to be false
<b>HANDLING CODE</b> To be completed at time of entry into an intelligence system and reviewed on dissemination	<b>PERMISSIONS</b>			<b>RESTRICTIONS</b>	
	<b>1</b> May be disseminated to other law enforcement and prosecuting agencies, including law enforcement within the EEA, and EU compatible ( No Code or Conditions )	<b>2</b> May be disseminated to UK non prosecuting parties (Code 3.7 conditions apply )	<b>3</b> May be disseminated to non EEA law enforcement agencies (Code 4.7 and/or conditions apply, specify below)	<b>4</b> Only disseminate within originating agency/force. Specify internal recipient(s)	<b>5</b> <u>Disseminated Intelligence</u> Receiving agency to observe conditions as specified below
<b>REPORT</b>					
<b>SUBJECT</b>	OTHER _____ : DoB _____ : NIB _____				
<b>FLAGGED? NO</b>	Where Flagged ???				<b>EVALUATION</b>
<b>OPERATION NAME/NUMBER</b>				NIM Level 3	<b>S I H</b>
<b>PUBLIC INTEREST IMMUNITY SHOULD BE SOUGHT: ???</b>					
<b>DISSEMINATION TO:</b> <i>(Is the handling code correct? If there are conditions on the receiving agency's use of the material, assign the relevant code.)</i> <b>RISK ASSESSMENT FORM C COMPLETED ? NO</b> Record location of Form C (When Completed) Handling Codes 2, 3 or 5? Conditions apply? Yes:- <b>Discussed with originator and documented below</b> <b>DETAILED HANDLING CONDITIONS</b> <i>NOT to be disseminated further without permission from originating officer</i> Time and date conditions agreed between originator and recipient (if applicable).					