

What I Need to Know

- This section applies to three types of operational exercises:
 - **Multi-Agency Exercises:** Exercises involving joint emergency services and other agencies.
 - **Multi-Brigade/Group Exercises:** Staff and volunteer training in simulated multi-appliance incidents with planned, achievable outcomes.
 - **Brigade Exercises:** Volunteer training in simulated incidents designed to meet specific training needs.
- Exercises are conducted to increase the competency levels of staff and volunteers in major, joint agency, and small routine incidents through hands-on training.
- Exercises are conducted to test the following:
 - All aspects of Operations Doctrine
 - Ability to liaise with outside agencies
 - Appropriate response and operational procedures
 - Communications plan
 - Response times
 - Suitability and effectiveness of equipment and PPE
 - Operational preparedness.

How I do it

- Determine an exercise objective.
- Select a suitable venue and obtain approval for its use.
- Negotiate a suitable date for scheduling of the exercise.
- Allow sufficient preparation time.
- Arrange sufficient resources appropriate to the scenario. (This may include outside agencies.)
- Contact outside agencies and negotiate and determine their level of involvement.
- Allow sufficient time to complete the scenario and post-exercise procedures.
- Endeavour to maintain adequate local rural operational coverage; arrange suitable standbys with neighbouring brigades with sufficient notice.
- For major exercises, seek assistance with planning from the Area Training and Support Officer.

Reference Materials

- Area Reference Manual - Business Rule: C4.1.1 Coordinate Major Operational Exercises