



Dear Prospective Member,

Co-ordinated terrorist attacks, climate change, global warming, the threat of a possible pandemic and a realisation that modern, information based societies and cities, particularly insofar as critical infrastructure is concerned, are extremely fragile and vulnerable. These are just some of the problems that exist in today's environment. The UK government has to make informed decisions about these and other threats that its citizens face.



Within the United Kingdom, there is a plethora of small, learned associations, institutes and other bodies representing the interests of those who work in, and have an interest in, disaster and emergency management, and resilience. These learned bodies are the repositories of knowledge and experience that should be brought to bear in order to assist government to make these important decisions. However, because of their fragmented nature, these associations do not speak in a co-ordinated manner nor do they speak with a unified voice. Consequently, the advice that government receives is fragmented.

With this in mind, and recognising there was considerable synergy and overlap between the two, the Institute of Civil Defence and Disaster Studies (ICDDS) and the Institute of Emergency Management (IEM) merged on 1 January 2009, to form the Institute of Civil Protection & Emergency Management

We believe the benefits of the merger include:

- An improved package and offering for current and new members;
- A greater say and influence in matters affecting civil protection at all levels;
- Wider access to eminent sources of background information, experience and knowledge
- Greater access to resources, thus strengthening the scope to generate conferences, study days, newsletters, periodicals, exercises and briefings for the benefit of members and the profession as a whole.
- The bringing together of both educators and professionals, to ensure that what is being taught is to the benefit of those in the field and those aspiring to take up work in the field.

The journal of the Institute of the Civil Defence and Disaster Studies, Alert, is now the journal of the new Institute.

We do hope that you will take the opportunity to join the Institute.

Yours sincerely



(Signed) Tony Moore

Acting Chair, General Council
Institute of Civil Defence and Disaster Studies

Bill Blake

Chair, Executive Committee
Institute of Emergency Management