Crisis Readiness Self-Assessment

Fifteen questions that reveal how ready your organisation is to respond when a serious incident happens. Answer honestly, ideally with your senior team in the room. The value is in the discussion as much as the score.

	Plans and structure	Yes	Partly	No
1	We have a written crisis or emergency response plan that has been reviewed in the last 12 months.			
2	Everyone on the crisis team knows their role and who deputises for them.			
3	We have a clear threshold for when an incident becomes a crisis, and who declares it.			
4	We know which external agencies we would work with, and how to reach them out of hours.			

	People and decisions	Yes	Partly	No
5	Our senior leaders have practised crisis decision-making together, not just read the plan.			
6	We have a way to account for all staff, contractors and visitors quickly.			
7	Arrangements exist to support staff and families affected by a serious event.			

	Communication	Yes	Partly	No
8	We can alert the crisis team within 30 minutes at any time of day or night.			
9	Approved holding statements are ready for the most likely scenarios.			
10	A named, trained spokesperson is ready to speak to media and stakeholders.			

	Continuity and recovery	Yes	Partly	No
11	We know which activities must continue, and how quickly they must be restored.			
12	Critical records, systems and contacts are available if our main site is lost.			
13	Key suppliers and contractors are included in our continuity planning.			

	Learning	Yes	Partly	No
14	We have run a realistic exercise in the last 12 months.			
15	Lessons from exercises and real incidents are tracked until the actions are closed.			

Your score: 2 for each Yes, 1 for each Partly, 0 for each No (maximum 30)

24 to 30	**Well prepared**	Strong foundations. Keep exercising, and test the plan against a scenario you have not tried before.
15 to 23	**Foundations in place**	The basics exist but would be stretched by a real event. Focus on the questions you answered No.
0 to 14	**Significant gaps**	A serious incident would likely be managed by improvisation. Start with a plan, a team and a first exercise.

Sentinel Global Solutions designs and runs scenario-based crisis exercises and crisis leadership training. Contact **info@sentinelglobalsolutions.ie** to talk through your results.