

## **Pandemic Planning**

### *What is pandemic preparedness planning?*

WHO has defined pandemic as “an epidemic occurring worldwide, or over a very wide area, crossing international boundaries and usually affecting a large number of people”.

Pandemic preparedness planning can be referred to as the documented strategy that an organisation will follow to provide and maintain its critical services when an outbreak of infectious disease or pandemic occurs. The scope of the pandemic planning should include guidelines, communication plans, workforce flexibility, escalation, governance, business continuity and workforce safety. This is an ongoing process that considers strategic and operational planning, reviews and exercises, implementation, and evaluation.

### *Why is pandemic preparedness planning important?*

The likelihood to predict an outbreak is very low, but once an outbreak exists the probability of controlling the impact is greater when a preparedness plan is established, and the responses are introduced opportunistically.

### *How can a business respond and have a pandemic preparedness plan?*

A pandemic preparedness plan is beneficial for the decision-making process within any organisation when decisions need to be made in real-time, under complex situations with high levels of uncertainty with the use of situational analysis that can include potential scenarios and forecasts combined with social and political context inputs.

### *What services can Resilient Services offer businesses for pandemic preparedness planning?*

- Identify critical services and functions
- Establish and assess service level agreements
- Identify legal and regulatory requirements
- Determine the required skills and special requirements to perform the critical services and functions
- Prepare an action plan
- Create, test, and monitor a business continuity plan (BCP)