



National Defence Wargaming

Al Edwards

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Brief History of Home Defence

- Pre-WW2
- Early Cold War – Civil Defence Act 1948
- Later Cold War – focus on warning and monitoring
- Post-Cold War focus towards civil contingencies
- National Defence and Resilience Plan announced 2024
- Strategic Defence Review 2025 – ‘whole-of-society’ approach to national resilience

Defence and Resilience Scenario Simulation Centre (DRSSC)

- Bringing together academics and practitioners
- Intersection of national defence and civil resilience
- Dual goal of educating audiences and generating insights
- Contribute to the SDR's whole-of-society approach to resilience

Key Insights

- Prioritise containing the crisis during the early stages
- Attribution matters – need to understand adversary intent
- Public communication needed early – delay erodes trust and allows hostile states to spread disinformation without challenge
- Limitations in the powers available under the Civil Contingencies Act
- MACA is unlikely to be available
- Vital to understand interdependencies between sectors
- Importance of private sector engagement