



Professor Nigel Lightfoot CBE has a long and distinguished career in public health and global health security and is now the Chief Executive Officer of CORDS (Connecting Organisations for Regional Disease Surveillance). He is an Associate Fellow of Chatham House and a Member of the Kangaroo Group in the European parliament.

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Professor Lightfoot was until very recently the Chief Advisor for Emergency Response at the Health Protection Agency, leading on pandemic influenza, emerging health threats, CBRN response strategies and international relations in these areas. He continued this expert advisory work as consultant to the Department of Health, the Home Office and the Drinking Water Inspectorate. He is also Senior Advisor to Emergent Biosolutions.

Trained originally as a consultant medical microbiologist, Nigel served for several years in the Royal Navy. He was a Director in the Public Health Laboratory Service from 1982-2002 and appointed to the Department of Health as Head of CBRN Training and Scenario Development. He developed cutting edge multi-agency exercises for CBRN preparedness, and as Director of Emergency Response he set up the Emergency Response Division of the Health Protection Agency from its inception in 2003 until 2010. He was also a non-executive Director of the Centre for Applied Microbiology and Research, Porton Down, from 1994 to 2003.

Professor Lightfoot has enormous experience in public health microbiology. He was responsible for the development of medical countermeasures policy in the Royal Navy, becoming the Navy's consultant medical microbiologist in 1979, and on leaving continued in this role as consultant advisor. During the Gulf War in 1991 he developed methods for the detection of BW agents in water and thereafter directed a research project to develop rapid methods, now available to the water industry. This work built upon his wide experience in water and public health where he has published many papers and co-ordinated 4 important EU projects. He has carried out research into anthrax and tularaemia and in 1995 he joined a DH working group to develop guidance on responding to the deliberate release of chemical

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Executive Director

*CORDS
France*

and biological agents. He later implemented the PHLS Deliberate Release Team - a multi agency group that went on to produce the leading public health guidance on biological terrorism agents.

He is a past member of the Defence Service Advisory Council (CBRN Board), examining and informing MOD research in this area. He was appointed by Secretary of State for Defence to the Advisory Group on Medical Countermeasures - a body that advises on defence against chemical and biological weapons. As expert advisor to the Chief Medical Officer, he has made significant contributions to the Global Health Security Network of the G7 where he is co-chair of the Risk Management and Coordination Working Group. Nigel's breadth of work is a testament to his talent and expertise - he leads the Early Alerting and Reporting project, he is expert adviser to the FCO Arms Control Department and contributes to policy in the control of terrorist threats, he was a member of the Royal Society's Working group on Detection and Decontamination of Chemical and Biological Agents, and he has sat on Government Expert Inquiries into anthrax vaccine, quarantine of birds and the Foot and Mouth disease outbreak at Pirbright.

Professor Lightfoot was appointed CBE in the 2009 New Year's Honours List for services to public health.