

The BCI and other interested parties, including the FSA, are eager to ensure that Disaster Recovery service companies provide comparative and transparent information to help potential customers understand the risks involved in procuring shared recovery services.

The BCI understand that there are many factors to consider in assessing this risk, and that all of these components that should be considered when making purchasing decisions. To make informed decision, contractual commitments, overall supplier capability and past performance need to be included in the risk model.

In support of this aim the BCI request all stakeholders, including suppliers, regulatory bodies and BCI members to work towards a Voluntary Service Risk Declaration (VSRD) to best serve the interests of current and potential customers of shared recovery services. The VSRD should have maximum supplier applicability such that it will allow organisations to make more informed purchasing decisions.

This will give organisations a greater understanding of the service they can actually expect, the subscription syndication ratios, the risks that the service and sites will provide cover for, the key issues affecting service availability, roll-back to alternative recovery centres, and proven recovery effectiveness.

The BCI would expect the industry to initiate the debate and agree terms of reference for the VSRD. The Institute will provide updated information on its website and its other publications as work is undertaken and results emerge.