



**University of  
Nottingham**

Nottingham Geospatial Institute



**31<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the  
US Space-Based PNT Advisory Board**

# **United Kingdom PNT Update**

**Professor Terry Moore OBE**

**Emeritus Professor  
University of Nottingham**

**Royal Institute of Navigation**

# PNT Resilience

PNT (Positioning, Navigation and Timing), is a technology vital to the functioning of Critical National Infrastructure and underpins many everyday activities in modern society.

## Why PNT matters

PNT underpins the safe operation of Critical National Infrastructure and many everyday activities in modern society including:

- Our travel - cars, trains and planes
- Our personal navigation - maps on mobile phones
- Our telecommunications - phones and TV
- Our finances - touch payments and mobile banking
- Our computers and internet
- Our emergency services - ambulance, police and fire

## Why PNT is at risk

The UK's PNT is almost completely provided through Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS), primarily the US Global Positioning System (GPS), which is operated by the US Space Force.

There are many potential major disruptions to GNSS provided PNT, including hazards like severe space weather and catastrophic technical failure, and threats like cyber and physical attacks.

## What is PNT?



Positioning, the ability to determine location and orientation.



Navigation, the ability to determine current and desired position.



Timing, the ability to acquire and maintain accurate and precise time from a standard anywhere in the world.

## What will HMG do?

Strengthen the resilience of the PNT services on which our Critical National Infrastructure and economy depend by scoping a new Government Policy Framework for Greater PNT Resilience.

## Government Policy Framework for Greater PNT Resilience will scope the proposals below

National PNT Office

Next Generation PNT

PNT Crisis Plan

PNT Growth Policy

National Timing Centre

PNT Skills

MoD Time

Satellite Based Augmentation System (SBAS)

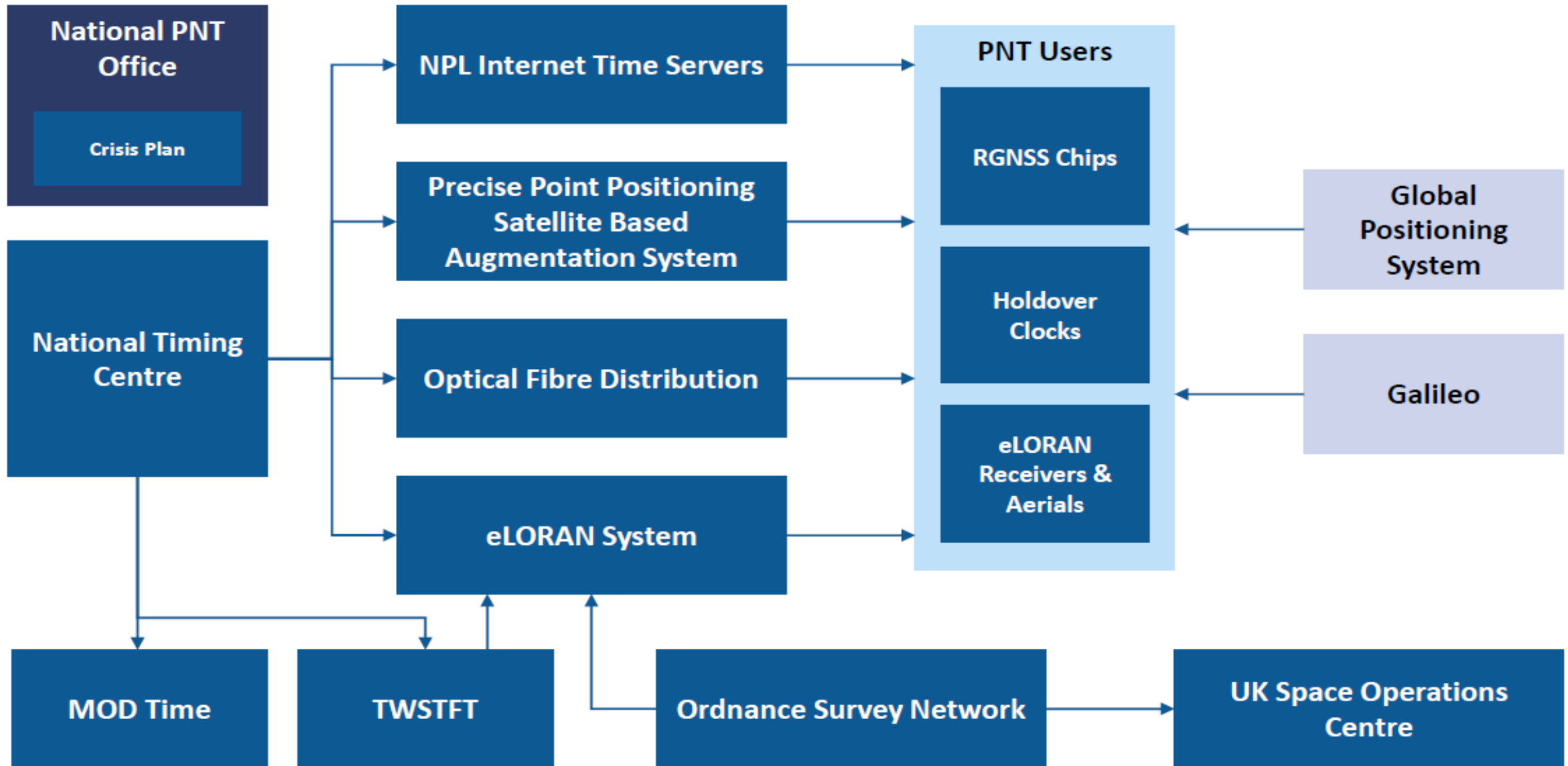
Enhanced Long Range Navigation (eLORAN)

Infrastructure Resilience



HM Government

18 October 2023



## National PNT Office

- 12 Staff including secondees from MoD and NPL
- Ministerial support for ongoing actions

## PNT Crisis Plan

- National PNT interference monitoring linked to UK Space Operations Centre

## National Timing Centre:

- Funding raised from £30M to £62.7M
- R&D phase until March 2025. Full Business Case developed for Spending Review
- IOC January 2027 (depends on SR outcome)

## ‘MoD Time’

- Ongoing activities

## eLORAN

- Business Case for Spending Review almost complete, support from GLAs
- IOC January 2027 (depends on SR outcome)
- MoD call for tender for mobile eLoran systems

## Infrastructure Resilience

- Resilient PNT Best Practices Guidelines – developed with the Royal Institute of Navigation
- New RIN Resilient PNT website, and soon on gov.uk website
- Two Way Satellite Time & Frequency Transfer (TWSTFT) tender. Operational by Dec 2025.
- Hold-over clocks and assured components

## UK SBAS

- Proposal for a UK Precise Point Positioning Satellite-Based Augmentation System - ongoing

## PNT Skills

- Explore options for Centres for Doctoral Training in PNT - ongoing

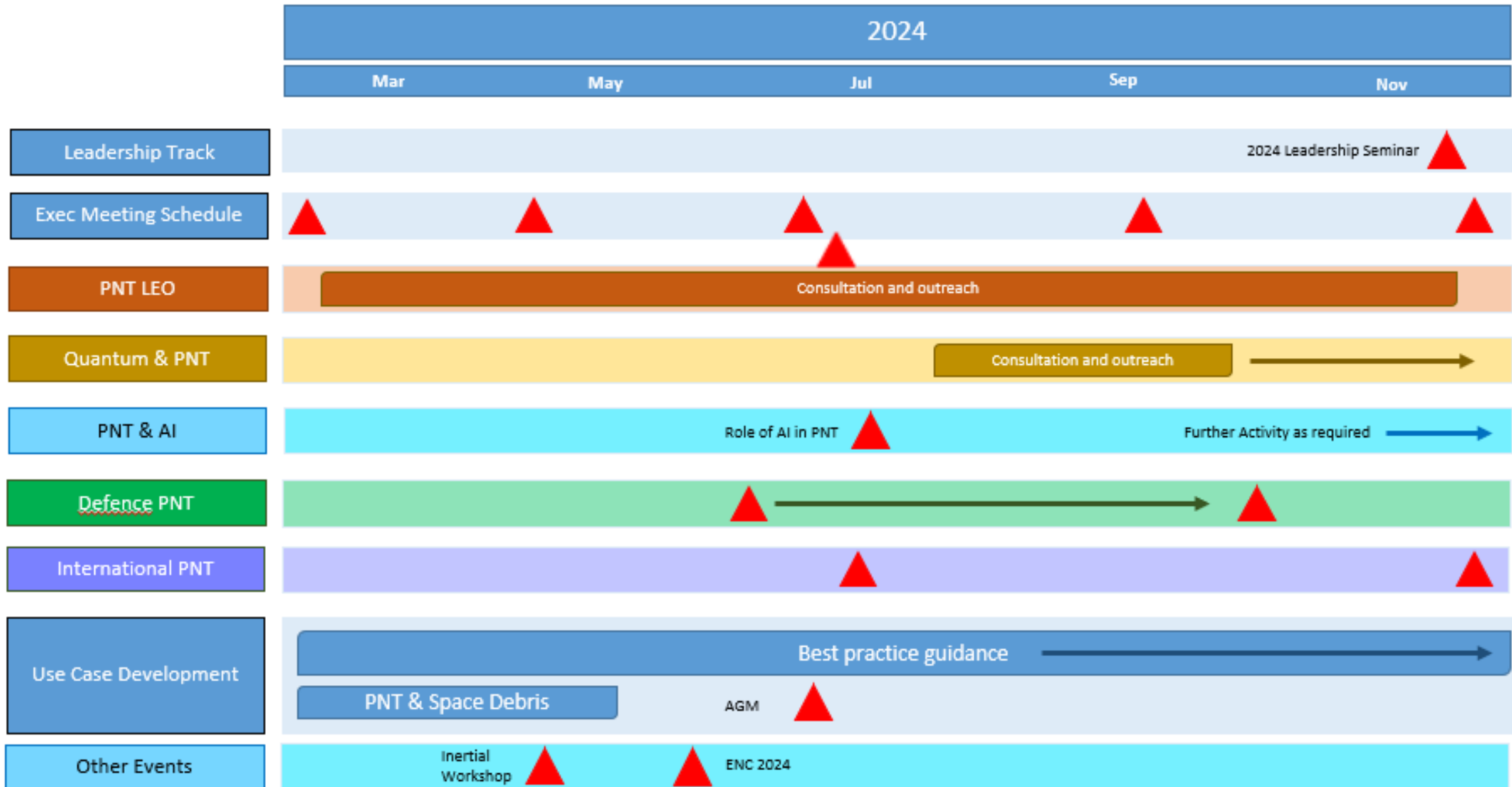
## Growth Policy

- Call for Evidence in the New Year

## Next Generation PNT

- Quantum Enabled PNT Hub (University of Glasgow)

# RIN UK PNT Advisory Group Summary of 2024



March 2024

Phase 1

Resilient PNT Principles

November 2024

Phase 2

Resilient PNT Best Practices Guidance

March 2025

Phase 3

Sector Specific Guidance

CNI #1

CNI #2

...

CNI #13

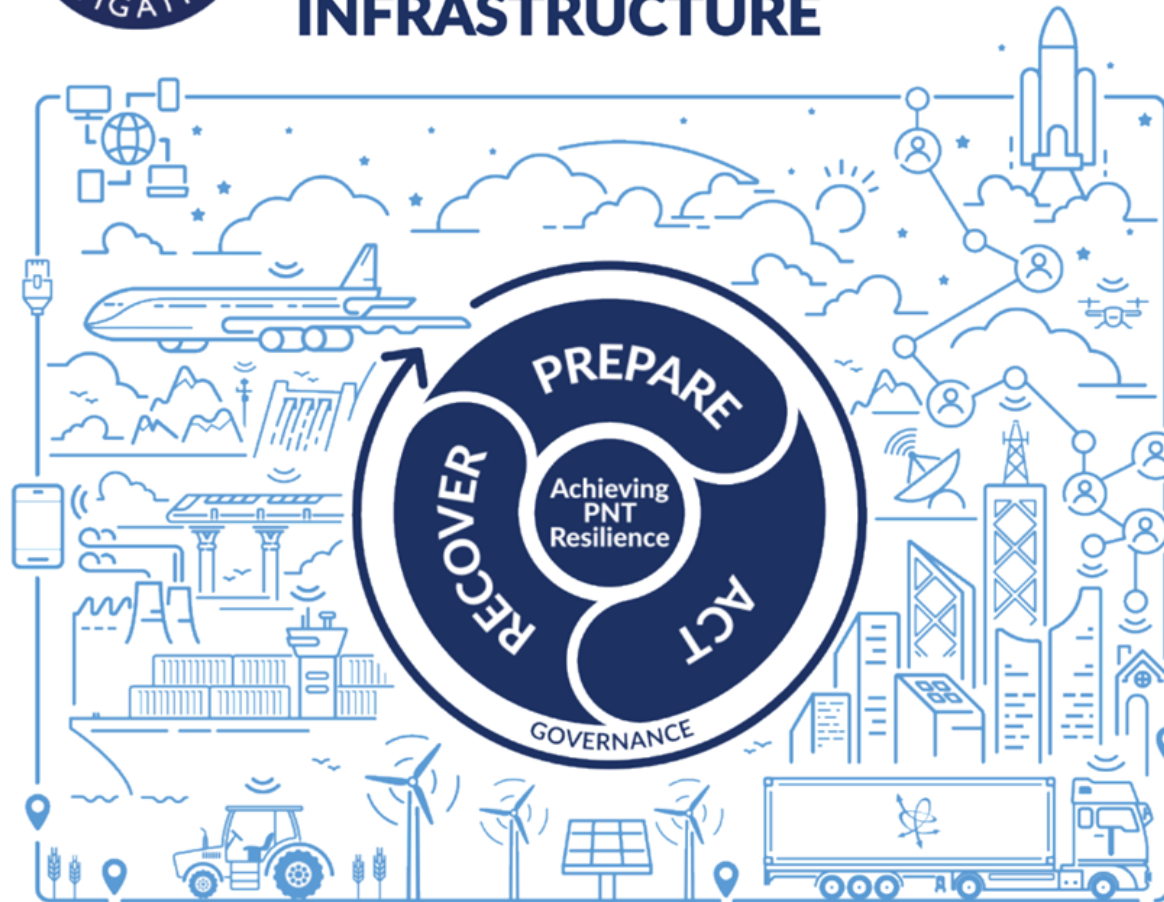
Cross-domain Audience

Sector Specific  
Systems Integrators  
Technical Audience

October 2025



### THREE STAGES FOR ACHIEVING PNT RESILIENCE IN CRITICAL NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE



All CNI sectors rely on Position, Navigation, and Timing (PNT) services from satellite systems and other sources. Organisations should develop, implement, and embed a Prepare-Act-Recover PNT resilience framework to ensure systems that rely on PNT services can recover effectively from disruption caused by technological failures, naturally occurring events, or malicious activity.

#### PREPARE FOR PNT DISRUPTIONS

- 1 Include PNT resilience in existing governance, cyber-risk, and business continuity frameworks.
- 2 Test system responses to understand effects of PNT disruptions on system behaviour.
- 3 Build a mitigation strategy to improve resilience and preserve safety, security and economic performance.

#### ACT WHEN PNT DISRUPTIONS OCCUR

- 1 Detect disruption events as soon as possible after they occur.
- 2 Take planned steps to preserve essential levels of safety, security, and economic wellbeing.
- 3 Monitor, measure, and record the impact of disruptions on system performance.

#### RECOVER FROM PNT DISRUPTIONS

- 1 Return to standard operations when safe and secure to do so.
- 2 Assess mitigation effectiveness and update response plans and continuity frameworks.
- 3 Share lessons learned when reporting incidents and their associated impacts.



#### GET THE PNT RESILIENCE CHECKLIST

Loss of PNT services is now a critical risk on the UK's National Risk Register.

Checklist and resources: [www.rin.org.uk/resilient\\_pnt](http://www.rin.org.uk/resilient_pnt)



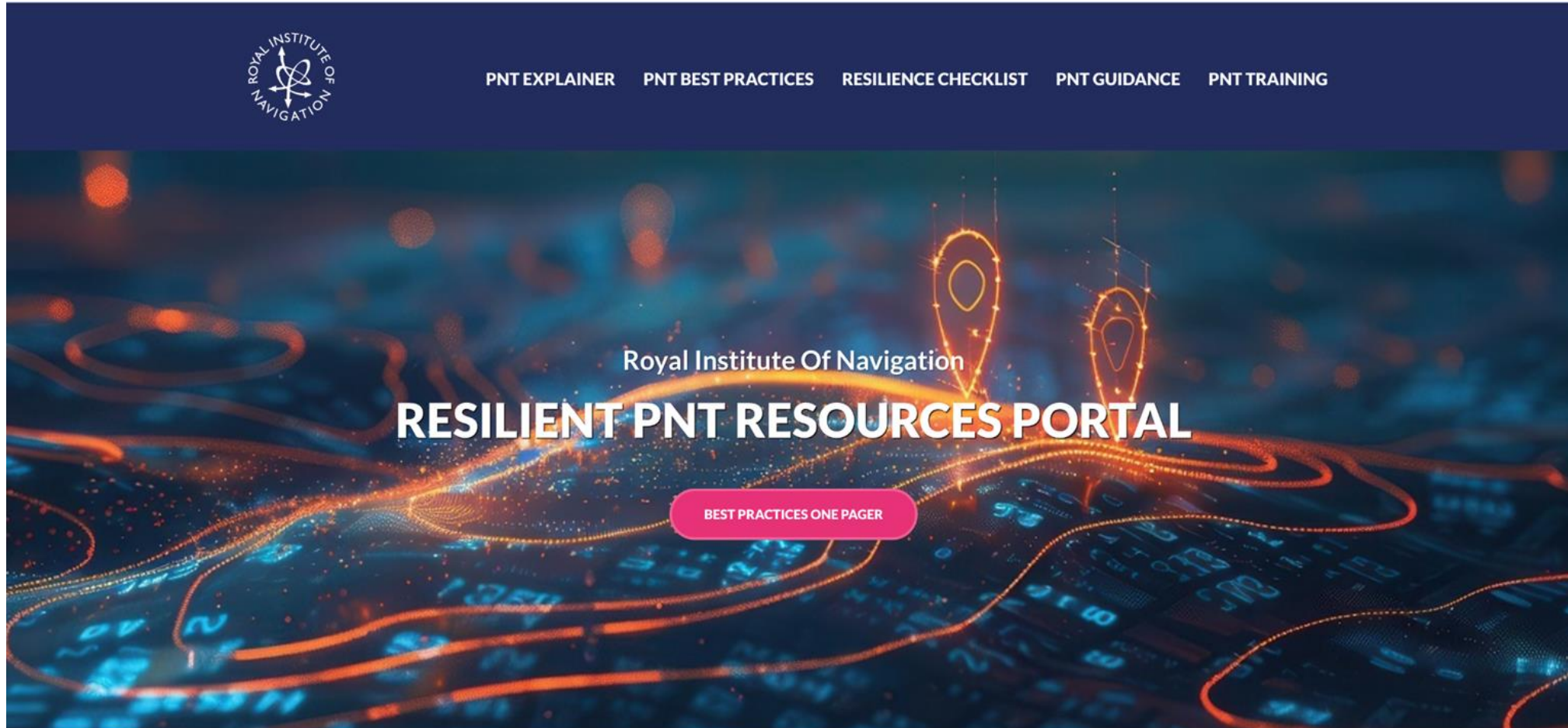
### 10 Questions to Gauge Your Organisation's Preparedness

All CNI organisations should assess their preparedness for PNT disruptions. The checklist below will help you to gauge your level of resilience and start to identify gaps to address:

1	Does your organisation maintain a list of all systems (including suppliers) that are connected to, or rely upon, PNT information?	Yes / No
2	Does your organisation maintain a record of why each connected/reliant system needs a source of PNT and what effect the degradation or loss of PNT would have on it?	Yes / No
3	Is the degradation or loss of PNT services (e.g. GNSS) captured on your risk register?	Yes / No
4	Is there a designated person or team within your organisation who is responsible for ensuring the availability and quality of PNT information to all of the systems that require it?	Yes / No
5	Do your critical systems all use multiple independent sources of PNT to remove the risks of single points of failure?	Yes / No

6	Do you have a detailed and documented understanding of how your systems respond to the degradation or loss of PNT information for extended periods of time? <i>e.g. for 1 minute, 1 hour, 1 day, 1 week, 1 month</i>	Yes / No
7	Do you have mitigation plans in place for what to do if these systems lose access to PNT for extended periods of time? <i>e.g. for 1 minute, 1 hour, 1 day, 1 week, 1 month</i>	Yes / No
8	Do you conduct regular testing on your systems to validate the PNT risks that you have identified and assess the effectiveness of the mitigations you have put in place?	Yes / No
9	Do you have internal roadmaps in place that address improving your resilience to PNT outages as new threats evolve?	Yes / No
10	Does your organisation monitor PNT technology trends and assess when to upgrade its systems as more resilient technologies become available?	Yes / No

**More information:** [www.rin.org.uk/resilient\\_pnt](http://www.rin.org.uk/resilient_pnt)



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