Cumbria Community Risk Register

The Community Risk Register provides information on the biggest emergencies that could happen in Cumbria.

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- The Cumbria Local Resilience Forum is a partnership, made up of all the organisations needed to prepare for and respond to any major emergency in the Local Resilience Forum area.

- The Forum covers the county of Cumbria and includes a wide range of agency partners including the emergency services, local authorities and health agencies along with voluntary and private agencies.

- Under the Civil Contingencies Act (2004) every part of the United Kingdom is required to establish a resilience forum.

Our purpose is to plan for, resource and respond to events and emergencies in Cumbria and facilitate recovery where necessary

Assess

Prepare

Respond

Recover

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What is the Community Risk Register?

The Cumbria Local Resilience Forum partners produce an assessment of the likelihood and impact of a range of risks. Cumbria's Community Risk Register, to ensure risk is assessed and support the identification of emerging issues and situations where a risk may be increasing or decreasing in Cumbria.

Common Consequences

It is reasonable to say that many of the emergencies that could result from the risks and threats could cause similar problems. There may be risks whereby the proximity of the risk is well understood and, in these cases, it would be reasonable to plan for specific consequences.

Looking at the consequences from each risk and threat which could occur in Cumbria we can build up a picture of the most important areas of work to plan in detail for.

Common consequences give a clear priority for generic work that will benefit many risks, copes with combinations of "lesser" risks and their simultaneous impacts and makes best use of the resources available. The Common Consequences were established using the following process:

o   Identify with each risk the challenge, loss or issues which may arise.

o   Group those challenge, loss or issues into common consequences and identify those with potential high likelihood or linked to the very high risks.

o   Identify the existing plans and any further planning which would address these.

o   Prioritise those that occur with increasing frequency or can be mitigated through planning locally.

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Frequent Common Consequences

Food Supply Interruption

Disruption to Health Services

Financial Services Disruption

Loss of Communication

Impact on the Emergency Services

Effect on the Environment

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Food Supply Interruption

Food supply can be impacted by a wide range of risks, including overseas risks such as drought or conflict. However, often these impacts are short term and impact our choices opposed to supply of essential foods.

The British Retail Consortium suggest having some non-perishable food at home as a safeguard in case access to the supermarket is impacts but travel disruption, power outage or other events leading to short term access issues.

Disruption to Health Services

The nature of such disruptive challenges can vary considerably across the county (and beyond) where at any given moment, for example, local terrain and transport infrastructure can influence the provision of local healthcare through community services or affecting attendance at local acute hospitals.

During Covid 19 there were severe prolonged impacts on the health services. Disruption is not only directly lead to the incident being health related, loss of power, disruption to communications or cyber incidents can all cause disruption for services delivered.

Financial Services Disruption

Incidents that impacts retail banking will lead to customers being unable to view balances, process payments, use online banking or withdraw cash. However wider impacts will be seen with processing of financial transactions so purchases wouldn't be able to be made and personal income transactions (such as wages) won't be made.

There are limited alternatives and with financial systems requiring key concurrent services, such as power and communications, considering daily essential purchases is key.

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Loss of Communications

Communication providers are required by law to make sure their networks and services are resilient. However, you could still lose access to communication services due to a power cut or a problem affecting your service provider. Depending on the event, the services of all or some providers could be impacted so people might be affected in different ways.

In the most serious circumstances, your mobile phone, landline and broadband connection could all be down, meaning you would not be able to use the phone or access the internet. This means you may not be able to contact emergency services on 999 during this time.

Impact on Emergency Services

Major Incidents can cause significant to Emergency Services. Business Continuity Plans are developed to ensure critical services can still be delivered. Although Business Continuity is a key element of preparation and risk management, during a Major Incident often only critical activities can be undertaken. Disruption is not only directly lead to the incident being an emergency service lead incident, loss of power, disruption to communications or cyber incidents can all cause disruption for services delivered.

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Effect on the Environment

Cumbria has a sensitive land and costal environment, and many hazards require response techniques or involve materials which cause damage to the environment, as well as environmental hazard risks, such as coastal pollution. An example is flooding events, which can lead to the presence of significant amounts of unwanted and potential hazardous. This is likely to require an immediate clean-up operation lasting days, weeks or months. The damage itself may be long-lasting with the potential to affect localised areas or agricultural land for many years.

Top Non Malicious Risks

Combination of Hazards

Flooding from Rivers and Water Courses

Pandemic

Outbreak of a New Disease

Large Scale Loss of Electricity

Storms

Combination of Incidents

A combination of small incidents can create a large high impact incident. Cumbria Local Resilience Forum prepares plans to address key risks identified from the Cumbria Community Risk Register, but we don't have a plan for every risk.

To deal with risks which don't have a specific plan or are completely unforeseen, such as a combination of small incidents, there is the Cumbria General Emergency Response Plan.

This plan sets out response to all incidents, such as how we coordinate and share public information, and to common consequences, such as disruption to power.

Flooding from Rivers and Watercourses

As the previous events have shown, flooding can take different forms and, at its most serious, can affect many different aspects of our daily lives.

Over the coming years rising temperatures and sea levels, and an increase in the frequency and severity of extreme weather events are likely to raise the risk of flooding in the UK.

Check your flood risk at
https://www.gov.uk/check-long-term-flood-risk

Although here we are looking at flooding from Rivers and Watercourses this can be combined with other flooding types; coastal flooding, surface water flooding and flash flooding..
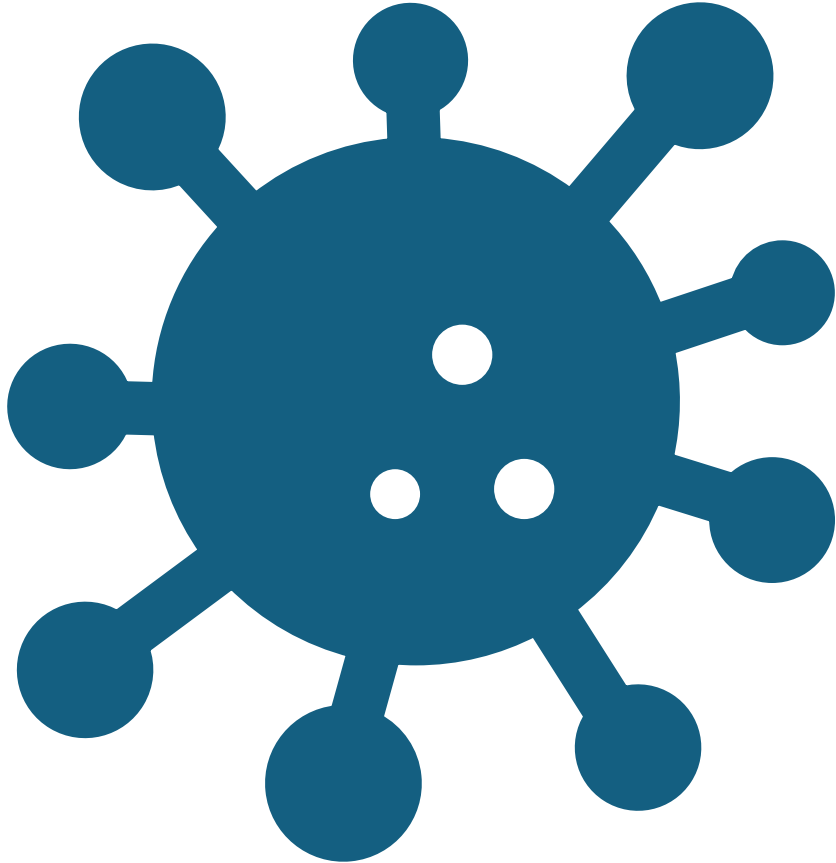
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Pandemic

A pandemic is a worldwide event in which many people are infected with a new disease in a short time.

The world health organisation considers an outbreak to be a pandemic when:

• The infectious agent hasn't been seen before and there is no natural immunity to it.

• The agent infects humans.

• It spreads easily and survives in humans.

Based on what has happened during previous pandemics, a pandemic is likely to occur in one or more waves, possibly weeks or months apart.

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Outbreak of a New Disease

Disease emergence results from interactions between microbes and humans. Microbes continually adapt to the environment in which they live. The changes that result may enable them to evade the human immune system or provide them with a new ability to invade human or animal cells. They can also develop resistance to drug treatments, such as antibiotics, or undergo changes that result in vaccines being less effective.

The UK Health Security Agency horizon scans to identify and assess outbreaks and incidents of new and emerging infectious diseases globally.

There are also zoonotic diseases, which are infectious diseases that can spread from animals to humans, either directly or indirectly.

Large Scale Loss of Power

Power loss can occur at a local level, across an entire region, or at a national level. The impacts of electricity failure events will vary with scale. Recent winter storms has left areas with power loss as an impact, however large-scale loss of power is also a risk. Any significant loss of power across the country would have a protracted recovery timescale going well beyond reinstatement of the power. Power cuts can be reported on 105 or to your Electricity Network Operator's Website
https://www.powercut105.com/en/

Another mitigation could be manged by rota power and more information can be found
https://www.nationalgrid.co.uk/rota-load-disconnections

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Storms

Storms can lead to disruption to power, internet and phone networks, fallen trees and travel disruption. Named storms are based on wind speed but are often accompanied by rain or snow, leading to a combination of hazards.

Cumbria sees several named storms each year, however there are a variety of variables such as wind direction or time of year (trees in full leaf).

Check the weather forecasts or download the Met Office Weather Forecast app where you can create alerts for your area. Pay particular attention to any National Severe Weather Warnings covering your area, and act on any advice issued - https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/warnings-and-advice/

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Malicious Risks

The nature of terrorism is changing. It is becoming more diverse, more complex and increasingly dispersed and volatile - both domestically and overseas.

The UK is still confronted by enduring threats from Islamist terrorism and Northern Ireland dissidents, as well as emerging right-wing, left-wing, anarchist and single-issue terrorist threats

The National Risk Assessment is focused on preparing for emergencies and mitigating the impact of terrorist attacks (the Prepare workstream of CONTEST) but has links with all of the CONTEST workstreams outlined below:

• Pursue: stopping terrorist attacks

• Prevent: stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism

• Protect: strengthening our protection against a terrorist attack

• Prepare: where an attack cannot be stopped, mitigating its impact.

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Preparedness
Knowing what to do in an emergency is an important part of being prepared and may make all the difference when the seconds count.

What can you do to be better prepared in your home?

Please see our website www.cumbriaprepared.org.uk

Are you ready?

- In the case of most major emergencies, the simple advice is to go inside, stay inside, and tune into local radio.

- We often have reliance on power for communication, consider back up power in the form of a power bank.

In certain situations, you may be asked to leave your home by the emergency services.

- If this happens, please leave as quickly and calmly as possible, remembering your grab bag (see page 22).

- Returning home after an emergency remember to listen to advice from emergency services or local authorities about any specific actions which you must follow.

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Household Emergency Plan

Prepare a Grab Bag

Don't' forget medication and key items for children and pets.

Don't forget mobile charging cable

Key Risks

Sign up to weather alerts.

Check your flood risk on gov.uk.

List of Key Contacts

Written list household (insurance, school, key family and friends)

Key emergency numbers such as 101 and 105

Evacuation Check List

Turn off utilities and secure property and Install flood protection

Take key documentation

Check neighbours

Suggested grab bag contents

- House Emergency Plan and important documents.
- Torch and radio (with batteries).
- Medicines, prescription slips, toiletries and feminine hygiene supplies.
- Spare clothes.
- Important keys.
- Mobile phone (with power bank & charger cable).
- Wallet, purse, bank cards.
- Notebook and pencil.
- Bottled water & snacks.

Don't forget specific household items such as Pet Supplies (carrier, lead, food etc.) and/or Childcare supplies (nappies, food, toys, clothes etc).

How can your Local Community be More Prepared?

Cumbria Local Resilience Forum Partners have produced several resources to help communities plan how they could assist in the response to local emergencies.

Early action on the ground can help reduce the initial impact of an emergency and help communities prepare for the longer-term recovery. These resources enable communities to produce their own plans.

For further information see our website www.cumbriaprepared.org.uk

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Want to Know More?

The Community Risk Register is produced by the Cumbria Local Resilience Forum

Contact us: For any enquiries regarding the individual risk assessments or any aspect of the work of Cumbria Local Resilience Forum please contact us at emergency.planning@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk

or write to us at:

Cumbria Local Resilience Forum, Joint Emergency Management and Resilience Team, South Lakeland House, Lowther Street, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 4DQ

All enquiries will be dealt with within 28 days. Specific risk enquiries will be forwarded to the lead agency for that risk or area of work. If you wish to find out more www.cumbriaprepared.org.uk