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

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.

Common Consequences

Disruption to Food Supplies

Disruption to Health Services

Disruption to Banking Services

Disruption to utilities

Disruption to Emergency Services

Environmental Damage

Incident site requiring search and rescue, and clearance

No notice residential evacuation

Alternative residential accommodation required

Disruption to petrol, diesel and heating oil.

Disruption to learning

Fatalities and Casualties

Disruption to transport services

Disruption to satellite systems such as GPS (Global Positioning System)

Disruption to childcare services

Disruption Safeguarding of adult and children

Contaminated Casualties

Cyber incident disruption to online services

Disruption to Food Supply

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.

Consider having some non-perishable food such as dehydrated or tinned food in case you can't access the shops.

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.

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Disruption to Banking Services

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.

A small amount of cash for emergencies can help if you can't access online payment methods.

Disruption to Utilities

Utility providers are required by law to make sure their networks and services are resilient. However, you could still lose access to water, power or telecommunications in the event of an incident. Depending on the event, multiple services could be impacted, and areas might be affected in different ways.

In the most serious circumstances, your power, phone landline and broadband connection could all be down, meaning you would not be able to cook, use central heating, use the phone or access the internet.

Consider having a backup power supply to charge your mobile/landline/router, some bottled water and some non-perishable food which can be eaten cold. You may also want to fit a water butt (water for toilet flushing).

Disruption to 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.

Remember to use 999 in a life-threatening emergencies so resources can be prioritised.

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Environmental Damage

Cumbria has a sensitive land and coastal 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.

Reporting environmental damage is important to identifying the scale of the impact, be familiar with your local area, so you can report any worrying changes or issues as they happen Report an environmental problem - GOV.UK
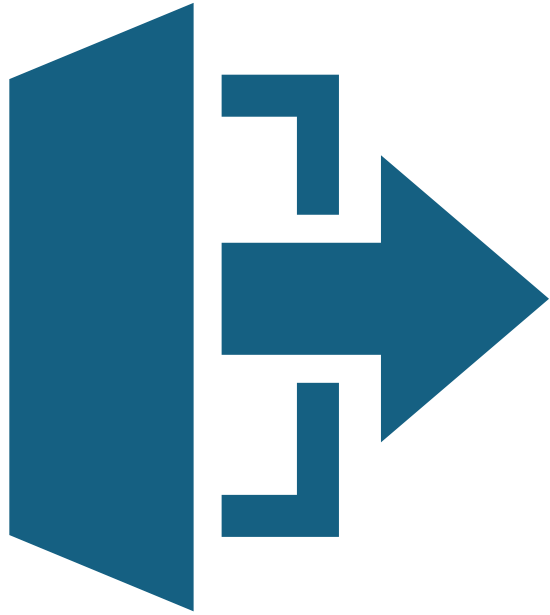
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Incident site requiring search and rescue, and clearance

Some incidents involve search and rescue, such as flooding or a build explosion, as well as leaving debris and damage needing to be cleared. Search and rescue is a specialist skill and in Cumbria we are supported by our Fire and Rescue Services and a range of voluntary agencies. Responders within these agencies receive specialist training and regularly participate in exercises. Often it can take time to clear rubble and debris, this is because of insurance requirements or to ensure decisions can be made, such as if original material needs to be retained.

Remember to check your insurance to ensure you know what you need to retain in the event of flooding or other damage.

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No notice residential evacuation

To protect residents and visitors of Cumbria, responders sometimes must ask households to evacuate to a place of safety (either a friends/relative's house or a reception centre).

If asked to leave your home (if it's safe to do so) switch off services, lock up doors and windows and take any keys you need with you. Remember to take important documents you might need and your mobile phone, charger and cable. If relevant remember prescription items: medications, glasses and contact lenses, baby food and any personal care items. You can bring pets to reception centres run by local authorities. Make sure you bring their essentials with you. If you can, bring a carrier to keep them in.

Alternative residential accommodation required

To protect residents and visitors of Cumbria, responders sometimes must ask households to evacuate to a place of safety but due to the nature of the incident these residents and visitors need alternative accommodation.

Communities impacted by displacement are often left without essential items such as clothes and children's toys but to enable individuals to purchase their own items for themselves and their families an emergency fund is often established.

Have a look to the support Cumbria Community Foundation can offer community groups Cumbria Community Foundation - Connecting People Who Care With Causes That Matter

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Disruption to petrol, diesel and heating oil

A rural county like Cumbria is reliant on road fuel and heating oil. Disruption to supplies can be caused by a variety of factors such as flooding of retail sites, widespread power loss and international supply issues.

Supplies of road fuel at retail sites are based on the storage available, all road fuel users can help manage the supply by ensuring they have their tank ¼ full and are considerate with the amount they fill up with, remembering to help maximise the access to a small amount of fuel to all users.

Cumbria has many properties, without mains gas, who use heating oil. Again, consumers can support the distribution and supply by always keeping a month of fuel in their tank but being considerate when filling up and thinking of others.

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Disruption to Learning

The response to Covid-19 in 2020 saw the closure of schools to most pupils. However, schools may have to close for a variety of reasons including loss of heating, power and due to severe weather.

Online learning is widely available and has been adopted by many educational establishments, but what if the school and your home was without power, and what about the impact of you being unable to go to work?

Fatalities and Casualties

Unfortunately, by their nature Major Incidents often have associated Fatalities and Casualties. Agencies work together and as part of regional and national networks to ensure that local agencies have the support that they need.

Our voluntary partners are key to this, offering not only additional resource but specialist services in supporting those impacted. It is not only events in Cumbria that can have impacts on our communities,and support can be sought by those impacted by events elsewhere in the country or overseas. An example of this support is the Support for Victims of Terrorism by HM Government - https://victimsofterrorism.campaign.gov.uk

Disruption to Transport Services

Road and Rail networks are vital to our communities to make sure services are delivered and our communities can connect. Any disruption can have wide ranging implications, including resourcing our essential services and emergency response.

Modern technology allows the fast sharing of disruption allowing for almost real time assessments to be made; however, this technology can also provide alternatives without any understanding of situational awareness. For example, if a road across the Pennines is closed because of snow, the alternative back roads will be impassible, and you could be putting yourself and others at risk.

Always ask yourself is the journey necessary? If you need to travel, remember to tune in to local radio, follow signage and advice, and make sure you are prepared. The Met Office has advice on a winter kit for your car - Prepare a winter kit for your car - Met Office

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Disruption to satellite systems such as GPS (Global Positioning System)

Many of the system we use daily require a satellite to operate properly, how many of us still carry a paper atlas in our car?

Although this can seem initially like a navigation issue, consider the impact on emergency service response times and the efficiencies this technology has created, and then consider the wider impact on industries reliant on satellite communications such as shipping and the military.

These impacts might not have immediate impact but in a short amount of time daily life will be disrupted and agencies impacted, reverting to business continuity arrangements.

For more information, please see a Ted Ed talk What if every satellite suddenly disappeared?

Disruption to Childcare Services

The response to Covid-19 in 2020 saw the closure of many Childcare Services to most children. However, Childcare services may have to close for a variety of reasons including loss of heating, power and due to severe weather.

Consider what about the impact of you being unable to go to work and having to stay at home to look after your dependents?
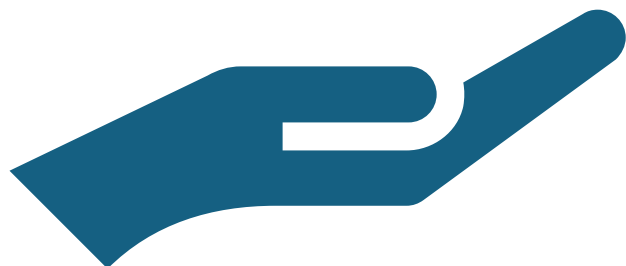
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Disruption Safeguarding of adult and children

Cumbria Safeguarding Children Partnership (CSCP) and Cumbria Safeguarding Adult Board (CSAB) are made up of statutory safeguarding partners in Cumbria, and these are all key partners in Emergency Response to incidents, and these incidents can impact safeguarding processes.
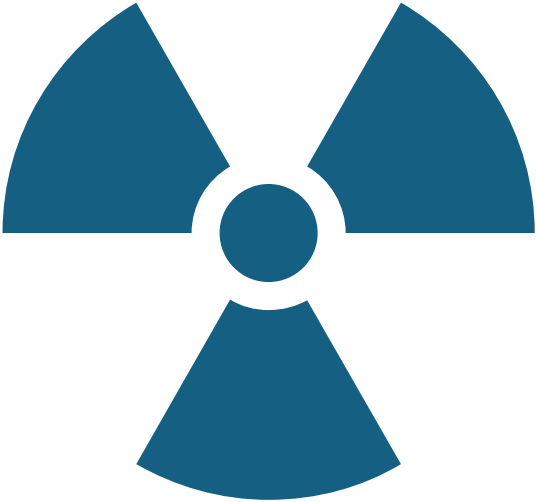
Following the Covid-19 response the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel Executive Summary stated that 'Agencies working in child safeguarding faced major challenges during the pandemic and needed to adapt practice quickly to maintain support and protection for vulnerable children and families. Safeguarding partners have had to respond to changing patterns of need whilst ensuring COVID-19 safe practice'. This adaption and continuation of processes is extraordinary circumstances is key to continue delivering critical services.

The reporting processes remain the same during major incident, but everyone can help by proactively reporting concerns.
How to report abuse of adults in Cumbria | Cumbria Safeguarding Adults Board
Cumbria Safeguarding Children Partnership | Cumbria Safeguarding Children Partnership

Contaminated Casualties

Contaminated casualties are those individuals that come into either direct, or indirect (other personnel, equipment and infrastructure), contact with a contaminant which is harmful to health.

These contaminates can be chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear in nature and usually because of an incident such as a fire at an industrial site.

Decontamination of casualties required will depend on the nature of the contaminate, however our Emergency Services and health colleagues have access to guidance, it is important to follow published guidance and try to minimise the spread of contaminates.

Cyber incident disruption to online services

Over recent years there have been several cyber attacks which have demonstrated how interconnected digital systems are, and how much reliance we have on them for day to day lives; from food distribution to supermarkets to our council services. A single breach, whether it's a ransomware attack or data leak, leads to multiple consequences for businesses, governments, and individuals.

Top tips to reduce your vulnerability to cyber threats:

- Use an internet security suite.
- Create strong passwords.
- Keep software up-to-date
- Remember to Think before you click.

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.

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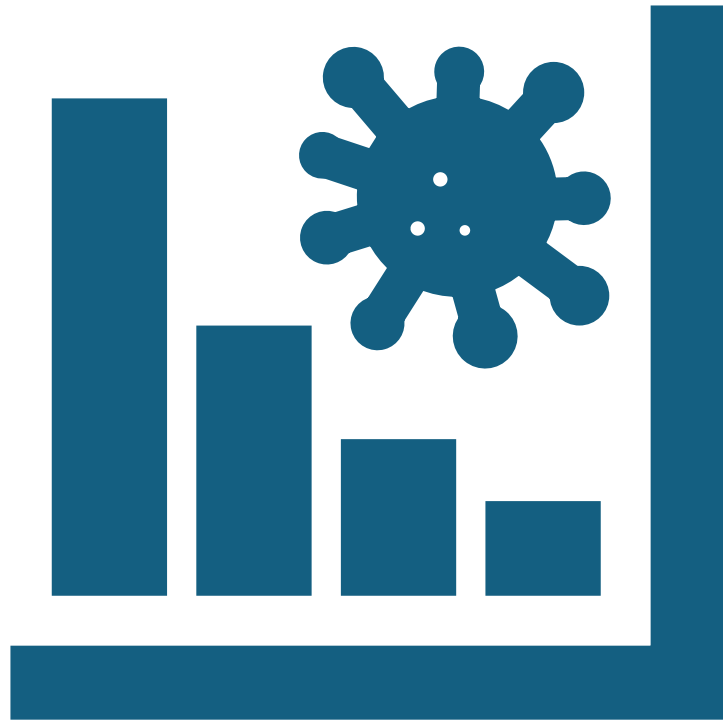# Flooding from Rivers and Watercourses

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.
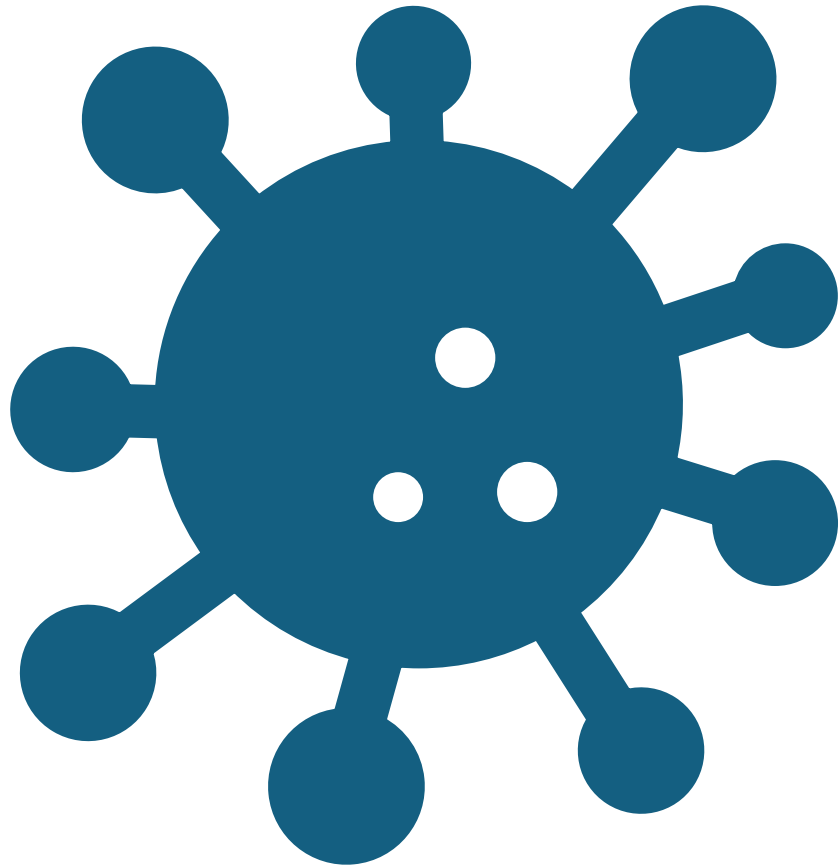
Pandemic

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.

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/

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.

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