



# **Your Local Community Network**

**Crewkerne and  
Ilminster LCN**

# Agenda

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1. To receive any apologies for absence
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Approve the minutes of the last meeting.
4. Public Questions (not covered on the agenda)
5. Presentation from the Civil Contingency Team
6. Update from Highways and Traffic Working Group
7. Table Discussion on Highways and Traffic
8. Update from Active Travel Working Group
9. Action and next Steps
10. Dates and themes of future meetings

# Public Questions

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Anything not on the agenda.....



Don't be  
scared,  
be well  
prepared!

# Are We Prepared?



Paul Stevens, Somerset Council Civil Contingencies Unit  
Bel Deering, Somerset River's Authority Community Engagement



# Emergency Preparedness

- What is an emergency?
- Risks and hazards
- Somerset Council emergency planning responsibilities
- What can you do in your community & LCN?
- Resources, support and advice.
- Questions for you.



## What is an emergency?

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An event or situation which threatens serious damage to **human welfare** in a place in the UK.

- An event or situation which threatens serious damage to the **environment** in a place in the UK.
- **War or Terrorism** which threatens serious damage to the security of the UK.

*Source: Civil Contingencies Act 2004*

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## Highest Risks In Somerset







CRISIS ATTRACTS HIGH PROFILE VISITORS - DETAILS INSIDE



# Bridgwater Mercury

Tuesday, February 21, 2014 [bridgwatermercury.co.uk](http://bridgwatermercury.co.uk)

Your normal Mercury is inside



# DISASTER AREA



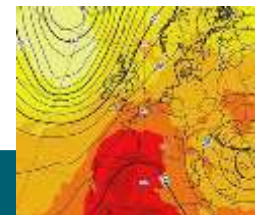
- Agony as villages are evacuated
- Royal Marines called in
- Bridgwater on the brink
- Appeal to help flood victims



EIGHT PAGES OF PHOTOS AND REPORTS

## Other risks

- Industrial accidents
- Transport accidents
- Severe weather:  
heat/cold/rain/snow/drought
- Utility failure
- Fires
- Computer viruses and hacking
- Malicious acts...Terrorism





By 2030, the UK will have stronger frameworks, systems and capabilities which underpin our resilience to all civil contingencies risks.

- We will have a **shared understanding of the risks** we face.
- We will have a greater emphasis on **preparing for and preventing** emergencies.
- The whole of society will play their part in helping our **communities be resilient**.

# Multi-agency planning and response

## Category 1 Responders

- Somerset Council
- South Gloucestershire Council
- Bristol City Council
- North Somerset Bristol Council
- Bath and North East Council
- Avon and Somerset Constabulary
- Environment Agency
- UK Health Security Agency
- Somerset Integrated Care Board
- Other Integrated Care Boards
- Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service
- Avon Fire and Rescue Service
- South Western Ambulance Service NHS Trust
- British Transport Police
- Maritime Coastguard Agency

## Category 2 Responders

- Utilities (Water, Gas, Electricity, Telephone service providers)
- National Highways
- Network Rail
- Train Operating Companies
- Bristol Airport
- Met Office

## Others

MOD  
Voluntary  
Organisations  
etc



Example of Strategic Coordination Group meeting:

Somerset Levels & Moors flooding  
February 2014

# Category One Responder Statutory Responsibilities (eg Somerset Council)

- Assess risks;
- Write contingency plans;
- Write Business Continuity plans;
- Test and Exercise plans
- Warn, inform & advise the public;
- Share information;
- Co-operate with other responders;
- Provide advice & assistance to businesses & voluntary organisations re business continuity (Local Authorities only).

*Source: **Civil Contingencies Act 2004***

## Other legislation

Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations 2019 (REPPIR)

Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations 2015 (COMAH)

Pipelines Safety Regulations 1996

Human Rights Act 1998

- **District, Council and Unitary Councils** have statutory duties under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 to plan and prepare for emergencies.

Link to LGA document: A councillor's guide to civil emergencies

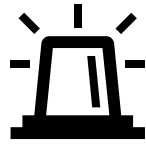
[A councillor's guide to civil emergencies | Local Government Association](#)

- **Town and Parish Councils:** there is no statutory responsibility for town councils to plan for an emergency response; but the Government encourages communities to consider risks and to make simple “self help” contingency plans.

Link to 2022 UK Government Resilience Framework

[The UK Government Resilience Framework - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

**What can you  
do in your  
Community  
&  
LCN?**



Raise awareness of local risks & hazards.



Identify local resources & capabilities.



Develop a community emergency plan.



Sign up to council's "Places of Safety Scheme"



Sign up to council's Somerset Emergency Community Contacts scheme.



Sign up for Somerset Prepared quarterly newsletter.





# Community Emergency Planning

- Is asset based –focuses on the knowledge, skills and resources within each community
- Will be different in each community – one size does not fit all
- Improves communication between residents
- Supports residents and businesses during an emergency
- Supports effective sharing of information and relevant resources
- Provides a voice for the community in discussions around risks they may face.





Martock Flood Group



# Williton Flood Group 2015



## Resources, support & advice from SRA and Somerset Prepared

Community-level resilience



# Somerset Prepared

[www.somersetprepared.org.uk](http://www.somersetprepared.org.uk)



# Somerset Prepared

- Small Grants Scheme
- Rotary Flood Packs
- Events 2024
  - Conference
  - Roadshows
  - Schools programme
- Website

[www.somersetprepared.org.uk](http://www.somersetprepared.org.uk)





# LCN workshops

- Community Emergency plans
- Riparian responsibilities
- Property Flood Resilience

 For further tips and advice on creating a Community Emergency Plan visit:

Community Name:

### Community Emergency Plan

Activation **First Steps Action Card available on the reverse**

Ownership

Address

Post Code	<input type="text"/>	Borough / District	<input type="text"/>
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Issue Date  Update Due  Version

Contents  Contact Details

3



## Property Flood Resilience (PFR) Booklet





# Community “Place of Safety”



- Safe space for your community during an emergency
- Shelter and comfort at short notice
- Opened and run by local people
- Location details held by Somerset Council



# What do I need?

Your Place of Safety venue will ideally have:

- Disabled Access
- Toilets
- Heating
- Light refreshments



# Who opens and runs it?

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- Local Community run venue
- Supported by Somerset Council and Voluntary Agencies
- No contractual obligation to open
- Short term only



# Somerset Emergency Community Contacts: SECC

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- First point of contact during emergencies
- Liaison point between parish / town council and the emergency responders
- Identify and share information about vulnerable residents
- Gather, receive and share information from and to the community



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## Questions for you

- What do your residents & communities worry about?
- How resilient are your communities?
- Are you interested in next steps to build community resilience?

## Contact details:

Paul Stevens (CCU) [paul.stevens@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:paul.stevens@somerset.gov.uk)

Bel Deering (SRA) [bel.deering@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:bel.deering@somerset.gov.uk)

Somerset Council Civil Contingencies Unit (CCU)

# Update From Highways and Traffic Working Group

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Next Meeting on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March  
10am till 12pm at  
Crewkerne Council Chamber

# Discussion

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Highways and Traffic





# Update from Active Travel Working Group

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The next Active Travel Working Group Meeting is on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 12-1pm

# Actions and Next Steps

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# Dates for future Meetings

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**Next LCN meeting is on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2024 (Venue to be arranged )**

**All dates are provisional, subject to venue availability, and will be confirmed by publication of the agenda.**

Any suggestions for accessible, low-cost public venues with Wi-Fi capability that could host our future LCN meetings are always welcome