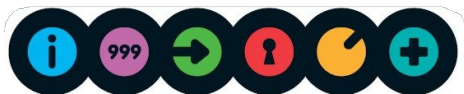




Dyfed Powys Community Risk Register



PREPARING FOR EMERGENCIES
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW





Overview

This document is the Dyfed Powys Local Resilience Forum Community Risk Register and provides information on potential emergencies that could have a major impact on communities.

What is the purpose of this document?

To help inform people about the risks that could occur where they live so that they can be better prepared in their homes, communities and businesses.

What is the Dyfed Powys Community Risk Register?

A list of risks that may cause an emergency in the Dyfed Powys region.

Inclusion of a risk in this Community Risk Register, doesn't mean it will happen. It means it is recognised as a possibility and organisations have made arrangements to reduce its impact.

What is the Dyfed Powys Local Resilience Forum?

Local authorities, emergency services and other responders are required by law to form Local Resilience Forums (based on police force areas) to jointly plan for, respond to, and recover from emergencies.

Context

The Dyfed Powys risk assessments are reviewed annually or when required. The process takes into account national guidance and advice, combined with local knowledge and expertise across our area. This information is then given to the Local Resilience Forum professional partners to assess, discuss and act upon to improve our capability to respond to any form of disruptive challenge. Examples of this work include training multi-agency responders and up- dating plans.

The risks described are not deliberate acts of third parties or terrorism. These are covered separately by the emergency services and government. More information on such terrorist related threats can be viewed on the National Risk Register.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-risk-register- of-civil-emergencies](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-risk-register-of-civil-emergencies)

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Dyfed Powys Profile

The Dyfed Powys region covers over half the landmass of Wales and is home to around 500,000 residents.

The geography of the area ranges from agricultural lowland to sparsely populated mountainous land. The area includes the Brecon Beacons and Pembrokeshire National Parks, Blue Flag bathing beaches and areas of outstanding natural beauty.

The economic profile of the area ranges across

agricultural farming, forestry, busy tourist towns, industrial sites and ports.

The area hosts some key national assets such as:

- the Elan Valley aqueduct and mid-Wales reservoirs which supply water to a significant part of the population of Wales and England
- the Milford Haven waterway through which over 25% of the UK's gas and petroleum products are imported
- Tourism destinations and cultural heritage sites

CATCH IT

Germs spread easily. Always carry tissues and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.



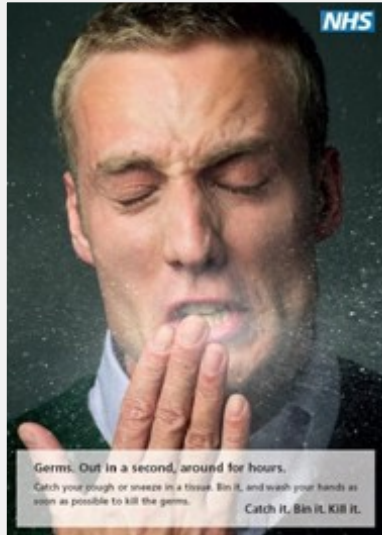
BIN IT

Germs can live for several hours on tissues. Dispose of your tissue as soon as possible.



KILL IT

Hands can transfer germs to every surface you touch. Clean your hands as soon as you can.



Pandemic Flu

A pandemic occurs when a new influenza virus emerges, most people don't have immunity, and the virus spreads across various countries of the world.

Large numbers of the public may become infected by a new virus over a relatively short period of time.

Unlike a normal flu virus, which has a 'season', a flu pandemic can occur at any time. Based on what has

happened during previous events, a pandemic is likely to occur in one or more waves possibly weeks or months apart.

The emergence of 'Swine Flu' (2009) demonstrated the unpredictability of the impact of pandemics. Most people affected during this outbreak experienced relatively mild illness.

Risk Impacts

- Many millions of people around the world could become infected causing global disruption and a potential humanitarian crisis
- Up to half the UK population may become infected and between 50,000 and 750,000 additional deaths may occur by the end of a pandemic
- Normal life is likely to face wide disruption, particularly due to staff shortages affecting the provision of essential services, including production and transport of goods

What are we doing in Dyfed Powys?

- The NHS has in place arrangements with multi-agency partners to vaccinate those at risk, to manage increased demand on health care services and distribute medicines in the event of a pandemic
- Plans and procedures are routinely tested and reviewed and improvements identified in the response to Swine Flu in 2009 have been implemented

What do you need to do?

Look out for and observe advice and guidance from the NHS

- Keep healthy – a healthy lifestyle will be a great defence against flu and other illnesses
- Identify a flu friend – somebody who would collect your medication, food and other supplies if you get flu
- Check with the NHS or your GP if you need a flu vaccination
- Keep your seasonal flu vaccination up to date



Flooding

There are three main sources of flooding: coastal, river and surface water.

There are currently 19,000 residential and commercial properties at risk of flooding in Dyfed Powys.

As the floods of June 2012 in Ceredigion showed, at its most serious, water damage can affect many different aspects of our daily lives and the work of recovering from wide scale flooding lasts long

after water levels have subsided. Flooding typically occurs due to:

- Storm surges raising the high tide levels
- Heavy or prolonged rainfall causing rivers and surface water drains to overflow

Natural Resources Wales works with the Met Office to provide timely warnings to those at risk of flooding. The Met Office projects that heavy summer rains may become more frequent.

Risk Impacts

- Danger to life (people and animals)
- Damage to property, businesses, agricultural land, roads, services and infrastructure
- Pollution and contamination of local environments
- Potential damage to tourism, businesses and agriculture

What are we doing in Dyfed Powys?

- Continually developing methods of alerting the public as early as possible when there is a significant flood risk
- Continuing to invest in maintaining and improving flood defences in our high-risk areas
- Developing multi-agency flood plans and protocols for areas at risk of flooding and increasing flood awareness

What do you need to do?

- Find out if your property is within a flood risk area by visiting the Natural Resources Wales website or calling Floodline on 0845 988 1188
- Ensure that you are signed up to Flood Warning Direct if you live in a flood risk area
- Prepare a Flood Plan – you can download a personal plan from www.naturalresourceswales.gov.uk, search what to do in a flood
- Identify neighbours who may need assistance or who could provide help, in case of flooding



Severe Weather

As experience has shown, severe weather can take a variety of forms and at times can cause significant problems and disruption to normal life.

The main types of severe weather that we need to plan for include storms, gales, low temperatures, heavy snow, heat waves and drought.

2012 started with a potential for drought affecting large

parts of Wales, which in turn gave way to storms, gales and floods.

In January 2013, there was widespread snowfall disruption in Dyfed Powys followed by hot dry weather in June and July.

The global climate is changing and will continue to change over the coming century. Evidence suggests that severe weather events are likely to increase in the future as a result.

Risk Impacts

- Danger to life, damage to property, environment, and communication networks
- Energy and transport disruption affecting people, schools, hospitals and businesses
- Food production and distribution

What are we doing in Dyfed Powys?

- Continually reviewing severe weather response arrangements and providing public advice
- Maintaining staff training and resources to respond e.g. vehicles and salt stock
- Working together to continue delivering critical services and respond to severe disruption on the ground

What do you need to do?

- Listen to weather forecasts and act upon any warnings. Check with the Met office, local radio and local authorities for updates and advice including school closures.
- Follow advice given for travelling. If you have to travel in severe weather make sure you have adequate clothing and emergency supplies in your vehicle
- Speak to your employer about severe weather disruption plans
- Check on neighbours and relatives who are elderly or unwell to see if they need anything
- See the preparedness at home section on page 22



Loss of Infrastructure

Infrastructure includes all of the different essential services which we rely on as part of modern society and the economy.

The UK's infrastructure is made up of electricity, water, gas, oil, fuel, transport, telecommunications, food, health and financial services.

In January 2013, snow brought down power and telecommunications cables

affecting over 6,000 properties. Loss of power to pumping stations and burst pipes affected water supplies.

In 2000 and 2008, industrial action and protests resulted in disruption to road fuel supplies across the UK, affecting the delivery of essential services.

Risk Impacts

- Homes without heating, water or electricity. Limited ability to either heat food and water or keep food cold / frozen
- Provision of health and care services affected
- Limited telecommunications (including mobile phones)
- Fuel shortages with potential widespread disruption to travel, food production and distribution
- Disruption to business and their services

What are we doing in Dyfed Powys?

- Working with the utilities companies to manage and mitigate supply interruptions
- Identifying vulnerable people who may need special attention

What do you need to do?

- Contact the utilities companies if affected and advise them of any issues. Know where the cut off points are for your gas, electricity and water & turn off appliances
- Conserve fuel and avoid any non-essential journeys
- Keep an emergency kit and check preparedness actions on page 22
- Outages may come with forewarning. If this is the case, consider how you can be prepared e.g. fill the bath with water for washing and flushing toilets and keep a supply of bottled water for drinking and cooking
- Check on neighbours and relatives who are elderly or unwell to see if they need anything



Pollution

Coastal, river, air and land pollution incidents can have public health, environmental and socio-economic impacts.

Busy shipping lanes pass close to the West Wales coastline with tankers and cargo vessels travelling through the Irish Sea and the Bristol Channel. Substances can be accidentally released in the sea and pollute the shoreline and bathing waters with long and wide ranging impacts, such as in the Sea Empress in 1996.

Other pollution incidents which have occurred in Dyfed Powys include but are not limited to:

- Land pollution following spill or loss of product from commercial and industrial premises
- Air pollution following large fire incidents at premises
- River pollution from sewage plants, agricultural premises or road collisions

Risk Impacts

- Pollution of land, sea, shoreline, bathing waters, rivers and groundwater
- Damage to wildlife and the environment including protected sites such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Potential impacts on public health, food and drinking water
- Adverse effects on businesses, fishing and tourism

What are we doing in Dyfed Powys?

- Developing multi agency plans to respond and mitigate the impacts of pollution
- Training officers in the deployment of monitoring, clean up and protective equipment
- Holding large scale multi-agency coastal pollution exercises for hundreds of responders across the region
- Working with European partners sharing best practice to produce procedures that effectively manage incidents

What do you need to do?

- Report any suspected spills or pollution at sea to the Maritime and Coastguard Agency and on land to Natural Resources Wales
- Report any hazardous cargo washed up on shore to the emergency services and Natural Resources Wales
- Notify the RSPCA of any affected wildlife
- Listen to and act upon advice from responders to keep safe



Animal Disease

Animal diseases that are highly contagious may cause high fatality rates amongst livestock and have the possibility of infecting humans.

There have been a number of significant animal disease cases in Wales over the past decade.

These include:

- Foot & Mouth (2001)
- Avian Flu (2007)

- Bluetongue (2008)
- Schmallenberg virus (2012)

The Foot and Mouth outbreak of 2001 had wide ranging repercussions on recreational, tourism, transport and retail businesses as well as health implications.

The Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratory Agency (AHVLA) are the lead agency responsible for animal disease. For more information:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/ahvla-en/>

Risk Impacts

- Damage to local agricultural, supporting industries, food economy and rural tourism
- Mass cull / disposal of animal carcasses
- Loss of livelihoods for farmers and farm workers
- Health risks to the general population

What are we doing in Dyfed Powys?

- Local authorities and veterinary services are continuously screening and monitoring animal health and movement of livestock
- Producing and testing multi-agency plans for managing and mitigating animal disease outbreaks
- Raising disease awareness amongst farmers and farm workers

What do you need to do?

- If an outbreak is declared then follow any guidance from the government to protect your animals and comply with movement orders
- Follow instructions for temporary countryside access restrictions
- Register any livestock you own with Welsh Government / DEFRA
- Vaccinate livestock where possible



Industrial Incidents

Industries processing and storing hazardous substances and materials have the potential to cause serious injuries to people or environmental damage.

The Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) regulations aim to prevent major accidents involving dangerous substances and limit the consequences to people and the environment.

There are currently six industrial sites falling under

the COMAH regulations in Dyfed Powys, ranging from oil refineries and gas sites to steel works. The energy sites around Milford Haven waterway together account for over 25% of the UK's energy supplies.

There are other industries, not falling within the COMAH regulations, which may impact on the surrounding environment should an incident occur on site such as waste transfer stations and chemical manufacturers.

Risk Impacts

- Danger to life
- Health issues for public in the vicinity
- Damage to property and the local area
- Pollution of the local environment and water courses
- Impacts upon the local and wider economies and tourism

What are we doing in Dyfed Powys?

- Working directly with site operators and multi-agency partners to develop response plans
- Facilitating regular exercises to rehearse on site and off site response arrangements
- Assisting sites in providing specific information to neighbouring communities on what to do in the event of an incident
- Identifying sites which may pose a risk and developing multi agency response procedures

What do you need to do?

- Take note of any communications you may receive from a neighbouring industrial site, follow those instructions and wait for further advice
- If you are notified of an emergency incident, go indoors, close all your doors and windows and tune into local radio for advice
- Co-operate with the emergency services fully. They are there to help



Transport Incidents

Transport emergencies can be the result of accidents, severe weather disruption or infrastructure failure.

Trunk road agencies, local authorities, emergency services, rail and ferry companies work together to provide information on transport incidents and put in place diversions or alternative transport arrangements to mitigate impacts.

Dyfed Powys transport network includes:

- 13,800 miles of road from highways to country lanes
- Railway network
- Ferry terminals at Fishguard & Pembroke ports
- Cruise vessels coming into Milford Haven Port
- Key points such as Loughor and Cleddau Bridges

Risk Impacts

- Disruption to normal travel capabilities
- Risk to life
- Environmental impacts if hazardous products are released into the local environment
- Possible damage to buildings or infrastructure
- Impact on business delivery

What are we doing in Dyfed Powys?

- The various Local Authority highways departments work alongside the relevant highways agencies to keep all major roads accessible during times of disruption
- Working with railways, ports and ferry companies to plan for incidents affecting passengers and provide care where necessary

What do you need to do?

- Before travelling, make yourself aware of any disruption or emergency procedures issued by transport operators
- Have an emergency kit in your car to include items such as torch, jump leads, first aid kit, warning signs, blanket, warm clothes, snow shovels, food and water
- Ensure your vehicle is kept in a roadworthy and safe condition
- Avoid non-essential journeys during times of severe weather
- Plan your journey in advance and listen to the local radio

What can you do to be



better prepared in your home?

Before an emergency occurs, there are steps you can take to prepare yourself and your family. You should take time to find out:

- Whether your home is at risk of flooding
- Where and how to turn off water, gas and electricity supplies
- The emergency procedures for your children at school
- The emergency procedures at your workplace
- How your family will stay in contact in the event of an emergency. Ensure you have access to a non powered telephone connected directly to the phone socket at home
- If any elderly or vulnerable neighbours might need your help
- How to tune in to your local radio

Prepare an emergency kit containing following:

- A battery or wind-up radio, with spare batteries
- A battery or wind-up torch with spare batteries
- A first aid kit
- Bottled water and ready to eat food (eg. tinned food) in case you have to remain in your home for several days
- A list of useful numbers such as doctors and close relatives

What to do in an emergency?



In most major emergencies, the simple advice is to Go in, Stay in and Tune into local radio.

Local radio is used to broadcast emergency warnings and information as it is one of the most accessible means of communication. Radio is also very reliable as it can still broadcast and be received during a power cut.

With most incidents, the safest place to be is indoors, and with correct preparation you should be able to stay there safely for some time.

Emergency response organisations work together with media organisations to make sure that they give out accurate and up-to-date information to keep people fully informed on what to do during any emergency.

Responders and organisations will also aim to broadcast information via television, social media, websites and set up helplines where ever possible.

Special arrangements are in place around the major industrial sites, these are known as “Public Information Zones”. You should read and retain the information sent to you by the sites if you live or work close by.

GENERAL ADVICE

If you find yourself in the middle of an incident, it is important to:

- Make sure 999 has been called if people are injured or if there is a threat to life
- Not put yourself or others in danger
- Follow the advice of the emergency services and keep calm

If you are not involved in the incident but are close by or believe you may be in danger, in most cases the advice is:

- Go inside a safe building
- Stay inside until you are advised to do otherwise
- Tune in to local radio or TV for more info
- Keep away from the scene to ensure responders can carry out their duties with minimum disruption
- Do not collect children from school until you are advised it is safe to do so

AT HOME IN AN EMERGENCY

If you are at home and an emergency happens, follow the advice above and try to gather together:

- Your home emergency kit
- Your house and car keys. Your mobile phone and charger. Cash and credit cards
- Toiletries, sanitary supplies and any regularly prescribed medication
- Spare clothes and blankets

LEAVING YOUR HOME IN AN EMERGENCY

In certain situations, you may be asked to leave your home by the emergency services. If this happens, leave as quickly and calmly as possible.

If you have time:

- Turn off electricity, gas and water supplies,
- Unplug appliances and lock all doors and windows
- If you leave by car, take bottled water and blankets
- Take your pets (with suitable carriers or leads)
- Tune in to local radio for emergency advice and instructions
- Inform emergency services of where you have gone and how you can be contacted using the phone number 101 or helpline if provided



RETURNING HOME AFTER AN EMERGENCY

Listen to advice from emergency services or local authorities about any specific actions which you must follow when it is safe to return home.



Community Preparedness

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Wide-scale emergencies can and do happen. The lessons learned from recent emergencies show that those communities which were prepared for emergency events were better equipped to deal with the impacts.

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLAN?

Where developed, a community emergency plan provides advice and guidance to a local community both in advance of and during any significant emergency.

WHY HAVE A COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLAN?

The purpose of community resilience is to encourage people to plan and be prepared to put in place a self-help response within a community which is affected by an emergency.

Experience has shown that sometimes due to the scale and / or nature of the emergency, the normal response provided by the emergency services and the local authorities can be delayed. On these occasions anything which the local community can do to support each other will help them to deal with the emergency more effectively.

For more information, visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/resilience-in-society-infrastructure-communities-and-businesses#community-resilience>

HOW TO GET STARTED

Community resilience measures can be as little as just having a designated point of contact within the community who can receive warnings and messages from emergency services, Natural Resources Wales and Local Authorities.

The plan can grow over time to include areas such as:

- community or village emergency team
- community buildings which can be used as emergency evacuation facilities
- knowledge of skills and expertise within the community
- knowledge of special equipment /vehicles in the community
- identification of vulnerable premises and people in the local area
- specific actions based on specific risks

SOME LOCAL EXAMPLES

The Ceredigion Floods, June 2012, brought communities together and action groups still continue to ensure support, resilience and the sharing of information between individuals affected.

Community emergency flood plans have been developed and successfully triggered following flood alerts/warnings.

WHERE TO GET MORE INFORMATION?

Please contact your community council, local voluntary agency and local authority emergency planning section to get more information and get involved. You can also ask about the good neighbour schemes operating in your area and/or how you can volunteer to help the communities e.g. meals on wheels.

Business Preparedness

If you own or are responsible for a business or organisation, have you considered the impacts from external emergencies?

How would your organisation cope with

- A sudden and significant reduction in staff?
- Denial of access to a site or geographical area?
- Unexpected loss of mains electricity?
- A temporary disruption to gas supplies?
- A disruption to the supply of mains water and sewerage?
- Significant disruption to transport?
- Disruption to the availability of oil and fuel?
- A loss of telecommunications?
- A loss of, or disruption to your computer systems?
- A disruption which affects your key supplier or partners?

Does your organisation have adequate business continuity measures in place?

Business Continuity Management is the process through which organisations aim to continue the delivery of their key products and services during and following a disruption to normal activity. Effective business continuity is the first line of defence for any organisation to ensure they are able to maintain the delivery of their core services and, in the long-run, to ensure their survival.

Organisations should consider a wide range of potentially disruptive challenges, both internal e.g. disruption to computer systems, and external e.g. severe weather.

5 STEPS TO EFFECTIVE BUSINESS CONTINUITY

1. Understand your business

- What parts of the business are critical
- What priority would you allocate to restoring functions if they fail?

2. Risk assessment

- What risks does your business face (internal and external)?
- Consider these risks within your business risk assessment
- What can you put in place to reduce the likelihood of the risks and/or the impact of them?
 - People
 - Premises
 - Equipment
 - Communication
 - Information
 - External Suppliers/contractors

3. Consider the resource needs of each of your business functions

4. Document information in a user-friendly format about your critical functions and the resources required including alternatives / backups for each

- This will assist you during and after an emergency

5. Train and test your staff in activating the continuity plan and the roles and procedures within it

For More information, contact your local authority or go to the Business Continuity Management Toolkit available on the HM Government website: www.gov.uk

Further Information & Contacts

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Dyfed Powys Police

☎ 101 ✉ ContactCentre@dyfed-powys.pnn.police.uk
Web: www.dyfed-powys.police.uk

Mid and West Wales Fire & Rescue Service

☎ 0370 6060699 ✉ mail@mawwfire.gov.uk
Web: www.mawwfire.gov.uk

Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust

☎ 01792 562900
Web: www.was-tr.wales.nhs.uk

Maritime & Coastguard Agency

☎ 01646 690909 ✉ SAR.Response@mcga.gov.uk
Web: www.dft.gov.uk/mca

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Carmarthenshire County Council

☎ 01267 234567 ✉ direct@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
Web: www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Ceredigion County Council

☎ 01545 570881 ✉ reception@ceredigion.gov.uk
Web: www.ceredigion.gov.uk

Pembrokeshire County Council

☎ 01437 764551 ✉ enquiries@pembrokeshire.gov.uk
Web: www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk

Powys County Council

☎ 0845 602 7030

✉ customer@powys.gov.uk

Web: www.powys.gov.uk

OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Natural Resources Wales

☎ 0800 807060 Incident hotline - 0845 9881188 Floodline

✉ enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

Web: www.naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

Public Health Wales

☎ 029 20227744 Web: www.publichealthwales.wales.nhs.uk

Hywel Dda Health Board

☎ 01267 235151 Web: www.hywelddahb.wales.nhs.uk

Powys Teaching Health Board

☎ 01874 711661 Web: www.powysthb.wales.nhs.uk

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

The following lists some of the voluntary agencies whom responders frequently work with. Please contact them to obtain information about volunteering and how you can help during emergency:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pembrokeshire Association of Voluntary Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Ceredigion Association of Voluntary Organisation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carmarthenshire Association of Voluntary Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Powys Association of Voluntary Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Red Cross | <input type="checkbox"/> Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Royal Voluntary Services | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> St Johns Ambulance | |

Government Websites

Welsh Government:

www.gov.wales

Wales Resilience:

<https://gov.wales/wales-resilience-forum>

**For further information
on the Community Risk Register**

Please contact the Emergency Planning Departments in your Local Authority, Emergency services, Governmental or Health agencies.



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