

Community Safety Community Award

Leaders' information pack



**County Durham
and Darlington**
Local Resilience Forum

This information pack provides guidance on how to assist with working towards the Community Safety Community Award. The activities can be undertaken either at home or in the meeting place (school, scout hall, youth club) and they can be either self-led or completed as a group activity. Elements of this award can also be counted towards several Scout's activity badges, i.e. Survival Skills (put together a personal survival kit), Global Issues (investigate a recent natural disaster) and Local Knowledge (locate destinations on a map and give directions). If you have any questions, comments or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact County Durham and Darlington Local Resilience Forum by emailing LocalResilienceForum@ddfire.gov.uk

How it works

There are six mandatory tasks to complete to gain the award. Once the workbooks have been completed, contact County Durham and Darlington Local Resilience Forum LocalResilienceForum@ddfire.gov.uk for your certificate to be issued.

Tasks for gaining the Community Safety Neighbourhood Award:

- 1. A household grab bag** – Complete a ten minute presentation on what should be included within a household grab bag with an explanation of why.
- 2. Household emergency plan** – Understand and explain why a house and its occupants should have an emergency plan, where it should be kept and what should be in it.
- 3. What to do in an emergency?** – Produce a leaflet/handout on what to do in an emergency (i.e. snow, flood, heatwave or disease).
- 4. International agency** – Find out about an international agency based in the UK that is involved in disaster relief and have a discussion within your group about the work they do.

5. Human and animal disease – What control measures would you implement to minimise the spread of diseases?

6. Community emergency plan – What is a community emergency plan and why are they important?

Leaders guide

Task 1 – A household grab bag

Complete a ten minute presentation on what should be included within a household grab bag with an explanation of why.

Please do highlight that it is not necessary to keep a grab bag ready and packed to go, but they should know where to find the items in a hurry and have a sturdy bag which is large enough to carry the items.

Items to include:

- Any medication your family members may need
- Paper copy of useful telephone numbers
- Mobile phone and charger
- Important documents
- Toiletries
- Nappies for babies
- Warm clothes (jacket, jumper) and a set of clothes to change into
- First aid kit
- Antibacterial hand gel
- Bottles of water
- High energy snacks
- Wind up or battery radio including spare batteries
- Wind up torch or torch with spare batteries
- Notebook and pen / pencil
- Essential keys (house, car)
- Special items (glasses / contact lenses, hearing aids, etc.)
- Cash/bank cards
- Other items you may need (playing cards, teddy, puzzle etc.)

For pets you might need to take:

- Water, food and bowls
- Leash / muzzle / harness
- Medication, health records, license and microchip numbers
- Blanket, pet carrier or cage
- Photo of your pet in case it gets lost
- Plastic bag for waste

If you are leaving your home in a car, consider what do you need to have for different scenarios:

- Snow – Warm clothing, flask of hot drink, bottle of water, full tank of fuel
- Flood – Warm and waterproof clothing, towel, hand sanitiser, flask of hot drink, bottle of water
- Heatwave – Loose fitting breathable clothing, hat, suncream, bottle of water

Please note that this list is not exhaustive and other items can be considered. There is no right or wrong answer as such, as long as the person can reasonably explain why their chosen item is necessary. The aim of this task is to encourage a healthy discussion and aid decision making.

Task 2: Household emergency plan

Understand and explain why a house and its occupants should have an emergency plan, where it should be kept and what should be in it.

A template of a household emergency plan can be found at [**YourHouseholdEmergencyPlan.pdf**](#) although it can be written in any preferred format.

Consider topics like:

- The potential risk in your home and the surrounding area
- How and when to call the emergency services
- Escape routes – how to get out the house and/or surrounding area
- An alternative meeting place further away from your home (identify a nearby landmark or a friend's house)

- Emergency contacts – someone to call and say you are safe
- A safe secure place for important documents
- An emergency grab bag – useful items to take with you
- A box of essentials to last three days if you cannot leave your home
- How to make a home secure – locking doors and windows, where and how to turn off water, electricity and gas?
- Consider if any of your neighbours would need help in an emergency

Task 3: What to do in an emergency?

Produce a leaflet/handout on what to do in an emergency (i.e. snow, flood, heatwave or disease)

The young people can choose any emergency to focus on and highlight the key messages in their leaflet. They can also include the household emergency plan or reference the community emergency plan if their community has one.

Task 4: International agency

Find out about an international agency based in the UK that is involved in disaster relief, have a discussion within your group about the work they do.

There are many Disaster Relief groups based in the UK, examples include: Red Cross, Samaritans Purse, Doctors Without Borders, Disasters Emergency Committee etc. Young people are encouraged to conduct internet based research to find out about the work of the organisation unless a visit from an identified agency can be arranged.

Task 5: Human and animal disease

What control measures would you implement to minimise the spread of diseases? Steps can you take to minimise the spread of a disease, both human and animal disease?

Flu and viruses:

- Catch it, bin it, kill it
- Washing hands regularly with water and soap for at least 20 seconds
- Using hand sanitiser
- Good personal hygiene

Animal disease:

- Stay away from the farms and areas affected
- Disinfect footwear and vehicles if entering and leaving the affected area

Task 6: Community emergency plan

What is a community emergency plan and why are they important? Does your local community already have their local emergency response plan?

A community emergency plan could be described as “A community-based response plan that should be activated by the community in an emergency situation”.

A response plan for a community will identify the information required for a community to help themselves, to support each other and to safeguard the most vulnerable members.

If your community has its own emergency plan, where is it stored? What information does the plan include?

If no, you could use the 6 step guide which has been prepared by the Durham County Council’s Civil Contingencies Unit to help local communities plan for emergency situations:

Be Prepared – 6 steps to complete your Community Emergency Plan

Optional activities to consider:

- **Visit an industry or organisation that has their own emergency plan**

Visit an industry or organisation that has their own emergency plan, to talk about what considerations they had to take into account to formulate their plan i.e., Police, Local Authority, Fire Service, Ambulance Service, Environment Agency, Highways England, event organisers, harbours / ports or any other place agreed by your group.

- **Disaster simulation game: "72 hours"**

The aim of this task is to teach emergency preparedness and decision-making under pressure.

- **Setup:** Teams are given a disaster scenario (e.g., flood, power outage, cyberattack).

Scenario to be chosen by the leaders or the players themselves. Consider how the scenario could develop during the game, ie flooding leading to power outages and evacuation etc.

- **Task:** Plan how to survive and support others for 72 hours using limited resources.

Assign the players roles, ie first aiders, communications, logistics etc. Let the players identify safe emergency exit routes, plan the distribution of emergency supplies and let them consider the needs of the affected.

- **Twist:** Random "event cards" introduce new challenges (e.g., someone gets injured, communication fails).

- **Outcome:** Teams present their survival strategy and reflect on what worked.

Discuss after the play what went well and what didn't go so well, what were the hardest challenges, what lessons were learnt.



Visit our website for more information:

<https://www.ddfire.gov.uk/county-durham-and-darlington-local-resilience-forum>