

Community Safety Neighbourhood 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 Neighbourhood 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 eight mandatory tasks to complete to gain the award. At the end of the booklet there are optional additional activities.

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 – Produce a complete household grab bag. Consider what you would need in different scenarios, i.e. there are different items you would need dependant on whether it is a flood, heatwave or heavy snow fall.

2. Radio stations and important phone numbers – Put together a list of local radio stations and their frequencies. Think of whose phone numbers you might need in an emergency and complete a list of them.

3. Emergency plan – Write a generic household/meeting place emergency plan. Think of escape routes, consider hazards and think how to overcome them. You may even want to draw a map. Think of any specific needs your family members would have. Don't forget to include plans for any pets that you may have.

4. Vulnerable people – Think if you know of any vulnerable people living in your neighbourhood. How could you assist them if there happens to be a long-term power cut, flooding, freezing temperatures or any other incident?

5. Disease – What steps can you take to minimise the spread of a disease, both human and animal disease?

6. Stay or evacuate? – Explain what is meant by "Go in, stay in and tune in" and "Get out, stay out and dial 999". Give examples of when those need to be followed.

7. Flood warnings – What types of flooding are there? Can you find out if your neighbourhood/meeting place is at risk of flooding? How could you receive flood alerts?

Find out if your house/meeting place is at risk of flooding using

Check for flooding in England - GOV.UK

Flood alerts can be signed up for here: **Sign up for flood warnings - GOV.UK**

8. Community Risk Register – Using the County Durham and Darlington Community Risk Register name five of the top risks in your area.

CDDLRF_Community_Risk_Register_2024-2026.pdf

Leaders guide

Task 1: A household grab bag

Produce a complete household grab bag. Consider what you would need in different scenarios, ie there are different items you'd need dependant on whether it's a flooding, heatwave or heavy snow fall.

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.

This task is also popular when its run as a hands-on activity by letting young people choose amongst a variety of physical items (or even just pictures of the items) on display and then explain their choices.

Task 2: Radio stations and important phone numbers

Radio stations and important phone numbers – Put together a list of local radio stations and their frequencies. Think of who's phone numbers you might need in an emergency and complete a list of those.

A list of local radio stations include:

- BBC Radio Newcastle (95 – 96FM, 103.5–104.5FM)
- BBC Radio Tees (95FM)
- Metro (102–103FM, 97.1FM)
- Capital North East (105–106FM)
- Bishop FM (105.9FM)
- Sun FM (103.4FM)

Consider also checking updates on social media by Durham Constabulary, Durham County Council, Environment Agency, Met Office, BBC News.

Check additional emergency safety advice on Durham County Council's website

Emergency safety advice – Durham County Council

Important phone numbers should include emergency services; NHS Direct; GP; insurance company; gas, electricity and water emergencies; local authority; vet; work; school; nursery; relatives; neighbours. See also

YourHouseholdEmergencyPlan.pdf

Task 3: Emergency plan

Write a generic household/meeting place emergency plan. Think of escape routes, consider hazards and think how to overcome them. You may even want to draw a map. Think of any specific needs your family members would have. Don't forget to include plans for any pets that you may have.

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:

- Where will we meet if we can't get home and can't contact each other?
- Which is the safest route there?
- Who will we contact to say we are safe and where we are?
- Who can we stay with if we are evacuated?
- Where and how do we turn off water, electricity, gas?
- Will any neighbours need our help?
- Include useful contact numbers

Task 4: Vulnerable people

Think if you know of any vulnerable people living in your neighbourhood. How could you assist them if there happens to be a long-term power cut, flooding, freezing temperatures or any other incident?

Examples of vulnerable people may include:

- Elderly
- People with babies and young family
- Pregnant ladies
- Vulnerable adults and children
- Disabled people
- People who have recently had a surgery or broken a limb
- New residents to the neighbourhood with a different native language and limited English skills

You could possibly:

- If it is safe to do so, ensure that they are ok and check if they need any assistance
- Help them to notify family members that they are safe and ok
- Offer to do shopping or share your own resources with someone who may not be able to look after themselves
- If you are worried about someone Contact Social Care Direct

scd@durham.gov.uk

Phone: 03000 267 979

Mobile (text only): 0753 745 3102

Task 5: Disease

What 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: Stay or evacuate?

Explain what is meant by “Go in, stay in and tune in” and “Get out, stay out and dial 999”. Give examples of when those need to be followed.

- **Go in:** go indoors.
- **Stay in:** stay indoors. If you have been advised to stay in due to toxic fumes or airborne pollution, make sure all windows are closed and there are no draughts or open vents. Follow advice from emergency services with regards to turning off your utilities. If you are advised to stay in due to threats of terror or violent disturbance do not open your door to strangers.
- **Tune In:** tune in to local radio stations or news channels for advice on what to do now. Keep phone lines clear.

Get out, stay out and dial 999 – this applies when the immediate danger is inside your home/meeting place, ie fire, threat to life, gas leak.

Task 7: Flood warning

What types of flooding are there? Can you find out if your neighbourhood/meeting place is at risk of flooding? How could you receive flood alerts?

Three main types of flooding are:

- Fluvial (rivers, streams)
- Pluvial or flash flooding (ie surface water flooding after heavy rainfall)
- Coastal flooding

Find out if your house/meeting place is at risk of flooding using

[Check for flooding in England - GOV.UK](#)

Flood alerts can be signed up for here: **[Sign up for flood warnings - GOV.UK](#)**

Environment Agency's Citizen Space providing advice on flood related issues is

accessible here: **[Be Flood Prepared: Respond and Recover Quicker - Environment Agency - Citizen Space](#)**

You can also sign up for Met Office weather warnings here

[UK weather warnings - Met Office](#)

Task 8: Community Risk Register

Using the County Durham and Darlington Community Risk Register name five of the top risks in your area.

[CDDLRF_Community_Risk_Register_2024-2026.pdf](#)

- Flooding – fluvial (rivers, streams), surface water and coastal flooding
- Adverse weather – storms, gales, low temperatures, heavy snow, ice, heatwaves, and drought
- Human disease
- Wildfire
- Animal disease – foot and mouth disease, avian influenza, African horse sickness, African swine fever, swine fever
- Failure of essential services – loss of utilities: electricity, gas, water

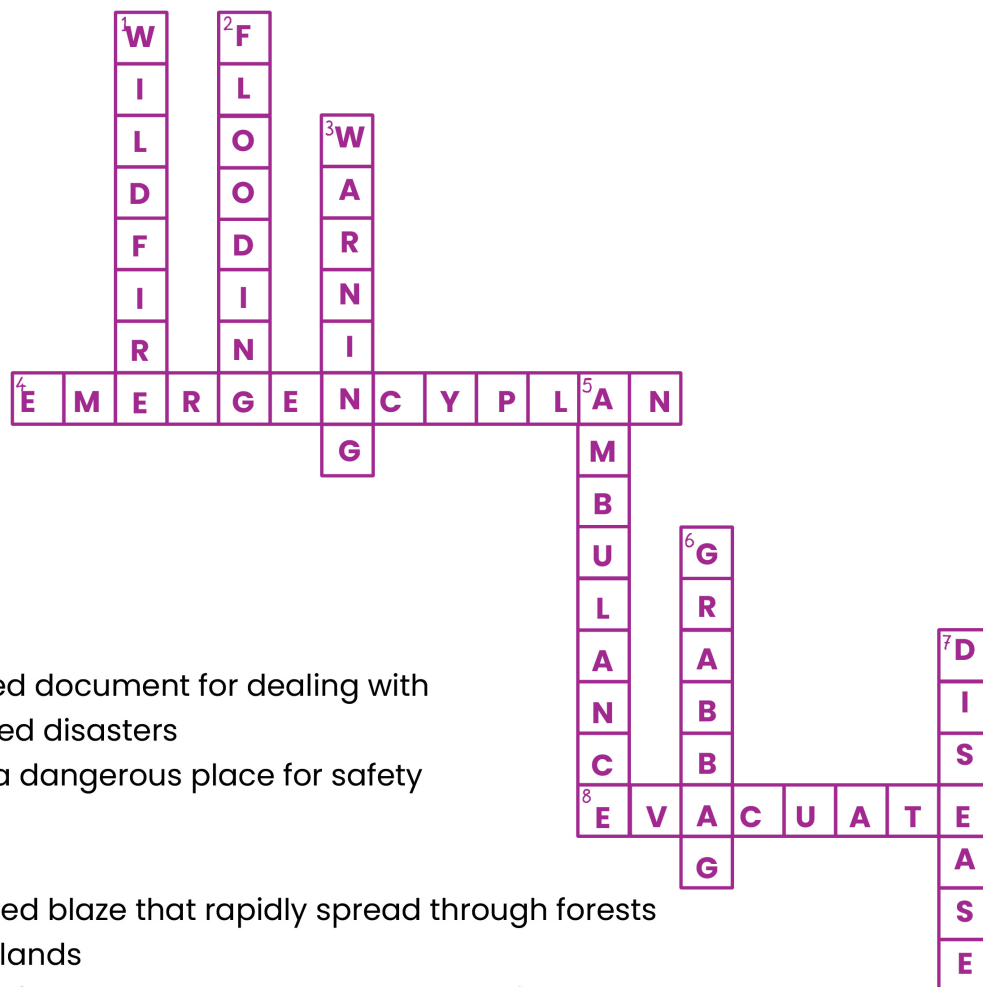
- Cyber-attack and online fraud – loss of personal or corporate information; damage to business, the economy and reputation; loss of, or interruption to the supply of essential goods and services and communication networks.
- Terrorism and malicious attacks

Additional activities:

Decoded message:

“Community resilience is about standing together and helping each other.”

Crossword solution:



Across

- A prepared document for dealing with unexpected disasters
- To leave a dangerous place for safety

Down

- Uncontrolled blaze that rapidly spread through forests and grasslands
- Overflow of water that submerges land that is usually dry
- Advance notice of potential danger
- Emergency vehicle that rushes to a medical emergency
- Pre-packed kit with essentials for sudden evacuation
- Illness or condition that disrupts normal body function



Visit our website for more information:

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