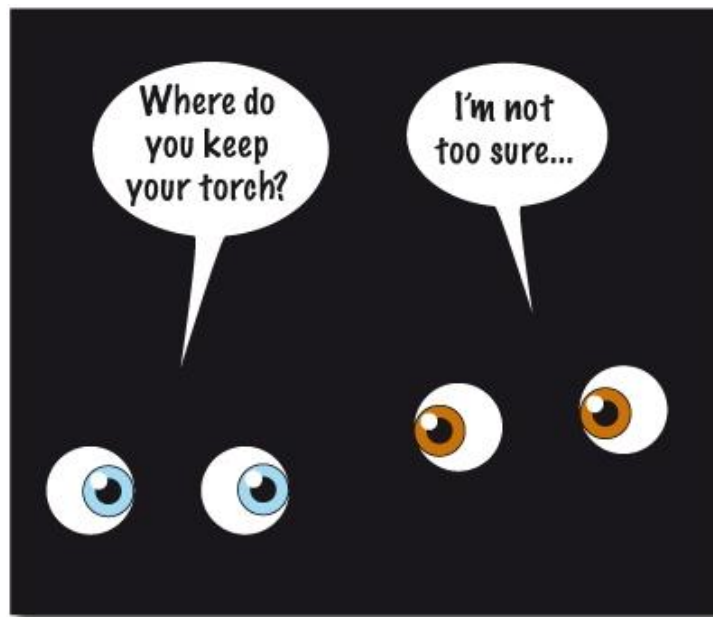


Exercise Sycamore

Desktop Based Blackout Exercise to help develop a **Community Emergency Plan** or use as a short validation exercise.



It is 14:30 on Friday 18th January.

Cumbria has been experiencing prolonged spells of poor weather for several weeks and, in the last few days, very high winds.

Within your local area the power has been lost, this has lasted a couple of hours but concern has been raised about the situation going into the next few days. The power outage is wide spread and Electricity North West are working on the faults but due to the on-going high winds work is being disrupted.

BBC Local Radio has been advising communities to be prepared, take all necessary precautions and to continue to tune to local radio for further updates.

Allow around 20 minutes for the considerations below:

Considerations

Think about the consequences of loss of power, wider impact that you first thought?

Consider the effect on vulnerable people?

Additional challenges on elements of your plan when the power has been lost?

Community Emergency Plan Planning

Facilitators Sheet



Exercise Sycamore

Desktop Based Blackout Exercise

For Communities Looking to Develop a Community Plan:

How to Prepare a Community Emergency Plan, Key Considerations

- Effective local leadership and wide community involvement
- Encouraging individuals to think and plan for their own resilience
- Mapping local capabilities
- Working closely with the emergency services/agencies
- Thinking in advance about local communications (paggers, radios)

Work through the 10 step plan or guidance sheet using the scenario given.

For communities validating their plan

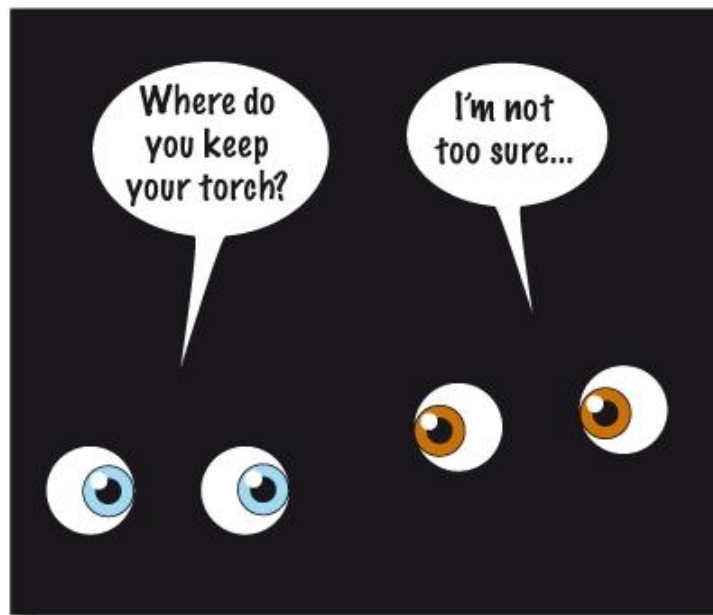
Prompt Questions for Facilitator or Director – If Required:

- a) What key actions should be taken at this point?
- b) Who is responsible for activating the Community Emergency Plan?
- c) Who needs to be informed at this stage:
 - a. Within the local community?
 - b. Within the wider community?
- d) What priority, if any is given to the order in which people are called?
- e) How will these people be informed?
- f) What records need to be kept?
- g) How will the local response be coordinated at this point and by whom?

Exercise Sycamore

Desktop Based Blackout Exercise to use as a short validation exercise.

It is 21:30 on Friday 18th January.



North West are continuing to work on the faults but due to the on-going high winds work is being disrupted. It is becoming clear that the power will be off overnight.

Allow around 20 minutes for the considerations below:

Considerations

Think about the consequences of loss of power overnight in cold weather?

Consider the effect on vulnerable people, what help is available?

Consider the welfare of responders, both community and agency, what welfare facilities can be offered?

For communities validating their plan

Prompt Questions for Facilitator or Director – If Required:

- a) What key actions should be taken at this point?
- b) Who needs to be informed at this stage:
 - a. Within the local community?
 - b. Within the wider community?
- c) What records need to be kept?
- d) How will the local response be coordinated at this point and by whom.
- e) What sort of support is going to be needed when the power is restored?

Community Emergency Plan Planning

Facilitators Sheet



Exercise Sycamore

Desktop Based Blackout Exercise to use as a short validation exercise

Feedback

Please feedback on the table to feedback on the following points?

- What were the 2 least successful aspects of the communities planned response?
- What were the 2 most successful aspects of the communities planned response?
- What are the 2 most significant things I have learned?
- How can my community use this learning / experience to improve our future planned response?