

Community Emergency Plan Planning

Handouts

Exercise Oak

Desktop Based Severe Weather Exercise



**CUMBRIA
RESILIENCE**



It is 10:30 on Friday 18th December.

There has been a week of high pressure over the UK resulting in freezing temperatures day and night. Minimum temperatures have been as low as minus 12 degrees C. The ground is frozen to a depth of 25 mm over much of the County and some open expanses of water have been frozen for the last 4 days.

Today started much the same until about 09.30 hours when a band of heavy snow combined with strong winds swept into Cumbria resulting in blizzard conditions. This has continued and Highways Agency and Cumbria County Council are now reporting that they are struggling to keep some roads open. Widespread drifting has occurred with severe drifting up to 3 metres high on exposed sites.

Considerations

Think about the further consequences of the weather.

Consider the potential effect on vulnerable people, and on-going concerns?

Additional challenges on elements of your plan when mobility around the area has been compromised?

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INJECT ONE

At the end of the midday news on BBC Radio Cumbria, the following statement is read out:-
“There is concern over the anticipated volumes of snowfall expected over the next 12-24 hours over parts of Central Cumbria. Large accumulations have already been observed and there is significant transport disruption with many roads closed”.

Considerations

- Activation of the plan, and continuing to inform the community of the situation.
- Vulnerable members of the community.
- Forward planning for the next 24 hours.

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INJECT TWO

The weather is now starting to clear and the snow fall has started to ease, it is after 6pm and dark. Several properties in the local area have been cut off and there is concern from some residents about water and boilers freezing. Using the decisions made it is time to think about recovery and returning to 'normal'.

Considerations

- How to stand down the response and who is going to lead on recovery.
- Forward planning over the weekend, should the weather deteriorate again.

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Debrief

Please ask the table each for two points for the following two questions:

- 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?