

Guidance for Community Emergency Volunteers series

Communities are better prepared to cope during and after an emergency when everyone works together. The purpose of this series of guides for community volunteers and accompanying training is to help you to act safely while providing the best level of support to your community during an emergency, such as flooding.

Who is the guidance series for?

- Community volunteers
- Community group co-ordinators
- Town and Parish Councils
- Other sports and social clubs
- Anyone living or working in an area at risk of flooding

Should we have a community plan?

Yes. The guidance series has been developed to work alongside your community plan. To get the most out of the guidance sessions it is assumed you already have, or are in the latter stages of developing, a community flood or emergency plan. Some community groups have found the training useful as a mechanism to endorse a new or review an existing emergency plan.

Your community plan sets out how you will respond to a flood or other emergency. This guidance series provides you with additional information to help you act safely while carrying out the actions described within your plan, however, it may not mirror the specific activities that your community group has chosen to carry out.

How long are the guidance sessions?

The guidance sessions vary in length depending upon the modules you are undertaking. Typically, each module lasts between 30 and 90 minutes. Each session lasts about 3 hours depending upon the number of modules included (and the number of breaks).

Will I receive a certificate?

Yes, you will receive a certificate of attendance for completing **both** the **Role profile** and **Flood risk awareness** sessions.

The Guidance for Community Emergency Volunteers series has been developed with funding from:



The Guidance for Community Emergency Volunteers series is part of the Community Resilience Toolkit developed by the Cornwall Community Flood Forum in collaboration with others:



Modules available in the series:



Role profile

Outlines simple ways in which you, as a community volunteer, can support your community and the Emergency Services before, during and after a flood



Flood risk awareness

Aims to help you carry out your role as a community volunteer in a safe and responsible way

- Assessing risk
- The dangers of flood water
- Personal safety
- Flooding and road safety
- Managing sensitive information and data protection



Understanding flood risk

An introduction to the processes and terminology associated with flooding

- Factors that can influence flooding
- Flood risk and flood frequency
- Limitations of flood warnings
- Managing flood risks: who is responsible?
- Private land owners and riparian law



The use of sandbags

- 5 myths about sandbags!
- Their advantages and limitations
- How to handle, store and dispose of sandbags
- Alternative ways to prepare property for flooding



Personal protective equipment (PPE)

Highlights the importance of the correct use, maintenance and storage of personal protective equipment (PPE) such as: high visibility clothing, safety whistles etc.



An introduction to emergency response for community volunteers

An introduction to the processes and terminology associated with emergency response

- Phases of a major incident
- Things to consider when reporting an incident
- Emergency responders: What they do and don't do
- Cordons, evacuations and the media

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