

BRANTHAM VILLAGE

Community Emergency Plan

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The main aim of this Emergency Plan is to set out how the community of Brantham can assist both the local authorities and emergency services to effectively and efficiently respond to an emergency, and thereby limit the threat to both life and property within the village. There may be situations where we are required to act in the absence of the emergency services.

The plan is to ensure that events or situations that threaten serious injury to the people of Brantham or damage to our environment are identified and, where possible, controlled or mitigated against.

The main objectives are to:

1. Provide a co-ordinated response to any emergency or threat of an emergency in an appropriate manner and in line with the severity of that emergency or threat;
2. Identify possible hazards in the community and consider appropriate responses;
3. Indicate and identify contacts, appropriate resource, and requirements that can assist the local authority and emergency services or, in extreme cases, deal with the emergency unilaterally until emergency services are able to assist;
4. Identify vulnerable groups and individuals that may need assistance;
5. Provide ways of keeping residents within the parish informed of the situation, when to take action and when to stand down.

INSURANCE

Community Resilience Group volunteers will be covered by Brantham Parish Council / Babergh District Council insurance under the following circumstances:

1. They are a member of, and acting on behalf of, an authorised Community Resilience Group;
2. They have been authorised to act on behalf of the local authority and are under the direction of a local authority member of staff, possibly remotely;
3. They only carry out the action / activities that they have been authorised to do or agreed by the local authority;
4. The use of motor vehicles is not covered by the local authority's insurance and it is therefore the responsibility of the individual to ensure that they have adequate and appropriate cover.

Community Resilience volunteers are only covered by the authority's insurance whilst they are carrying out duties authorised by Brantham Parish Council / Babergh District Council.

If activities are undertaken that are not authorised by the local authority then it would need to be determined whether the Parish Council's insurance policy would cover these activities.

RISK ASSESSMENT

There are four levels of risk rating:

VERY HIGH RISK

HIGH RISK

MEDIUM RISK

LOW RISK

1. VERY HIGH RISK

These are risks that require immediate attention in view of their consequences. Risk reduction and mitigation should be developed. Multi-agency strategies should be developed. Exercises and training should be planned.

2. HIGH RISK

These are serious risks that require planning, exercises and monitoring.

3. MEDIUM RISK

These are less significant but may cause inconvenience in the short term. Planning required under normal arrangements with monitoring.

4. LOW RISK

These risks should be managed under normal planning with minimal monitoring and control.

RISKS – DETAILS

This section briefly explains the risks affecting our area, the impact on the community and what the Community Emergency Group (CEG) can do to prepare.

FLOODING FROM THE RIVER STOUR

This is regarded as a High Risk in that it requires risk reduction multi-agency contingency plans, exercise and training. The impact would involve flooding of local streets, blocked access to the A137 at the White Bridge / Cattawade Barrage and damage to property. There is also the potential of biological pollution from overloaded drains. The CEG can help to encourage residents to improve home flood defences, work with emergency services with flood warnings and assist with any evacuation and rest centre establishment. The CEG will also find out what flood defences exist or are planned and seek to promote Planning Policies that reduce / remove development on risk areas. The CEG will develop plans for known flood areas and share and publicise these.

TIDAL STORM SURGE

This is regarded as a Very High Risk in that it implies a serious impact on the local community with a clear and present danger to people and property. This includes structural damage and blocking of the road network. The CEG will assist the emergency services with flood warnings and establishing evacuation and rest centres. It will also find out what flood defences exist and are planned, and encourage residents to make provision for home protection and evacuation plans. In addition we will monitor Met Office and Environment Agency sites for flood warnings. It is important we maintain a list of vulnerable residents and help them to prepare. Liaison with emergency services will be important.

EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS

These are regarded as High Risk in that they may involve damage to property, injuries and loss of services and communications across the village.

1. High Wind

Monitoring of Met office information needed and the Emergency Management Team (EMT) put on notice. Reserve list of volunteers needs to be set up and emergency numbers prepared. Vulnerable residents would need to be contacted.

2. Build up of Snow

There is an addition to those mentioned above – a risk of slips and falls. Gritting bins should be filled prior to bad weather. The reserve list of volunteers with suitable skills and equipment should be accessed.

3. Long Term Extreme Cold

There are similar risks to Snow Build Up with particular emphasis on the elderly and vulnerable. There is also a risk of water services being disrupted.

4. Long Term Extreme High Temperatures

The list of vulnerable people will be important as will the role of the Good Neighbour Scheme.

5. Drought

The loss or reduction of water supplies will need the monitoring of the impact on wildlife. Met Office reports would be monitored.

6. Lightning Strike

There is a possible risk to lives and property. Co-ordination will be needed with the power supply company if supply to village or part of the village is disrupted.

TRANSPORT RISKS

A road accident involving goods could include the escape of dangerous chemicals and road blockage. The Community Emergency Co-ordinator will liaise with Traffic Police and Babergh District Council. The team will communicate with residents in the event that any evacuation is required. In that the accident involves public transport, there may be an increased number of individuals involved. This may mean the activation of the Village Hall as a centre.

In the event that the accident involves goods travelling by rail, the co-ordination will be with Network Rail, British Transport Police and Babergh District Council. With the involvement of passengers the use of the Village Hall, or the Brantham Bull, may be required. The final section refers to the risk of aircraft crashes in the village. This implies loss of life and will require liaison with Suffolk County Council emergency team, Babergh and emergency services. There will be a requirement for locations for medical and logistical reasons. Local knowledge and support via the EMT will be provided.

HEALTH

Local outbreaks of flu, for example, pose a risk particularly to the elderly, young and vulnerable. Therefore the local input from the CET can assist health care workers and, where relevant, Environmental Health.

SERVICES

A loss of mains power, both widespread, and over extended periods, represents a risk to health, security and general wellbeing of the effected community. The CET liaises with the utility supplier to ensure communications are effective. By using their local information the CET provides up-to-date information on vulnerable individuals. There may be further information on alternative power generating facilities. This also applies to the loss of gas services. With regard to the loss of water supply there is the further requirement to assist in distributing information concerning the provision of bottled water.

SPECIFIC EVENTS

The existing industrial sites on Factory Lane may represent a potential evacuation risk to the local community and, if so, the rest centre procedures will be followed.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TEAM

In the event of the plan being triggered the following members of the Parish Council / Community Emergency Group have agreed to form part of the emergency team (EMT) who will help to reduce the effect on the community in the event of an incident.

ROLE	NAME
Community Emergency Co-ordinator	Chris Elliott
Parish Clerk	Sarah Keys
Parish Council Chairman	Liz Dunnett
Parish Councillor	Jackie Heywood
Emergency Zone Co-ordinators	
Brantham Bull Zone	Gemma Chenery
East End Zone	
Cattawade Zone	
Palfrey Heights Zone	
Temple Pattle Zone	
New Village Zone	Mark and Sam Chatfield
Bergholt Road Zone	
Factory Lane Zone	Myrtle Munro

Names, contact details and availability of the EMT will be in the contact directory.

The role of the Emergency Team is to co-ordinate the activities of the community during an emergency by assess the situation, mobilising the appropriate local resources to support the community and maintaining links with the emergency services, the local authority and other responding organisations.

The contact numbers will eventually be held by Suffolk's Joint Emergency Planning Unit on a secure part of the Suffolk Resilience Forum website, to which the emergency services and local authorities have access.

INCIDENT ROOM (IR) AND EMERGENCY SHELTERS (ES)

If an EMT is brought together it has been agreed that they will meet in one of the following locations. Where indicated the following locations will also act as Emergency Shelters. The Community Emergency Co-ordinator will nominate the locations as appropriate and as directed by the emergency services.

With regard to Emergency Shelters (ES) the Co-ordinators will satisfy themselves that communications and volunteers at the ES are appropriate for the task. In the unlikely event that none of the nominated premises are available the Co-ordinator or nominee will contact neighbouring villages in consultation with the emergency services.

The CET is to ensure the premises have sufficient supplies to make tea, coffee etc., and seating and other equipment are to be considered.

LOCATION	KEY HOLDERS	CONTACT	AVAILABILITY
Brantham Village Hall Brantham CO11 1RF	Sarah Keys Jackie Heywood	07702 490212 07990 888325	At all times during New Village an incident. IR and ES
St. Michaels Pre-School Rectory Lane Brantham CO11 1PZ	Rev. Stephne Van der Toorn	01206 392646	At all times during an incident. IR and ES
Brooklands School Palfrey Heights Brantham CO11 1RX	Christine Davy	01206 392291	Generally out of school hours unless agreed between the CET and the Head IR and ES
Scout Hut Factory Lane Brantham CO11 1QU	Roger Dann	01206 395285	At all times during an incident. ES
Brantham Bull The Street Brantham CO11 1PN	Paul and Gemma Chenery	01473 328248 ES	At all times during an incident