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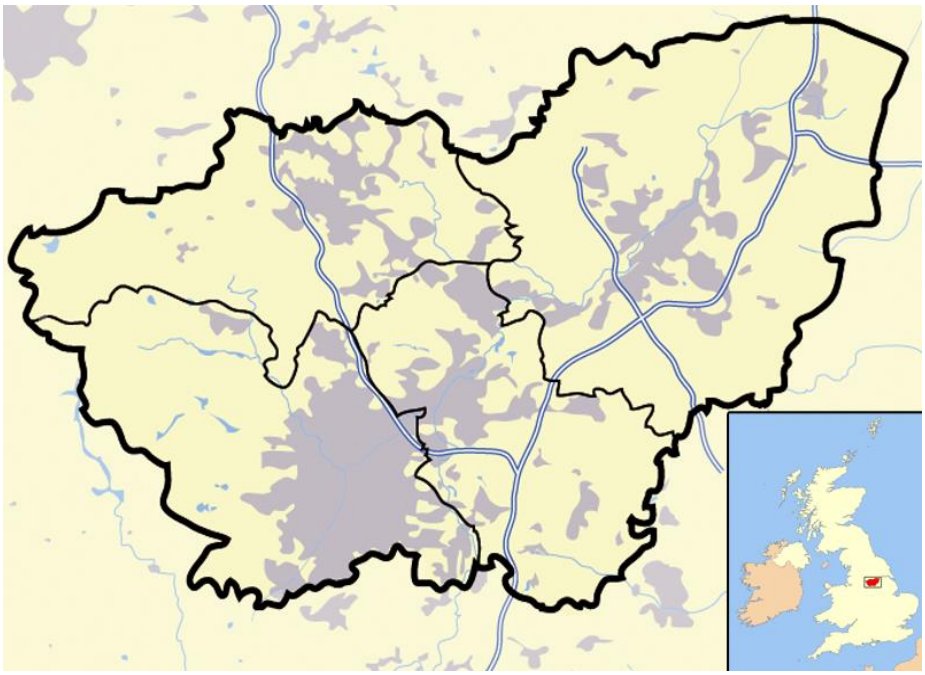
South Yorkshire
Local Resilience Forum

South Yorkshire Community Risk Register



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WHO WE ARE

South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum (LRF) is a multiagency partnership comprising representatives from all the local organisations needed to plan and prepare for local emergencies.

We work together to assess local risks and produce multiagency emergency response plans to respond to risks which could lead to incidents in South Yorkshire.

With around 1.34 million residents, South Yorkshire is a metropolitan county in the Yorkshire and Humber region of England covering an area of 1,552 square kilometres (or 599 square miles). Major roads which run through the county include the M1, the M18 and the A1(M), plus a number of main railway lines.

South Yorkshire has a mixture of urban and rural communities, with the cities of Sheffield and Doncaster, major towns of Rotherham and Barnsley, and many smaller towns, villages and rural communities.

Whilst South Yorkshire LRF is not a responder itself, the partnership comes together during an emergency to coordinate the multiagency response. Any of our partners can activate the LRF response structure if the response to an emergency exceeds their own internal resources.

Emergencies that may require an LRF's coordinating function include severe weather, flooding, acts of terrorism, or other situations which seriously threaten people's welfare, the environment, or our security.

There is more information available on the role of LRFs in the national document The role of LRFs: a reference document.

The main agencies who respond to local incidents and emergencies are known as **Category 1 Responders**, as defined by the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (CCA).

In South Yorkshire, these include:

- The emergency services: South Yorkshire Police, South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue, Yorkshire Ambulance Service, and British Transport Police.
- The four Local Authorities in South Yorkshire: Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, City of Doncaster Council, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council and Sheffield City Council.
- Health organisations including local NHS Trusts, the NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board, NHS England, and the UK Health Security Agency.
- The Environment Agency.

LRFs also work very closely with partners known as **Category 2 Responders**, who have a responsibility to cooperate with Category 1 Responders and to share relevant information with the LRF. In South Yorkshire these include:

- Transport infrastructure organisations such as National Highways, Network Rail, and Train Operating Companies.
- Utility infrastructure operators such as Northern Powergrid for electricity, Yorkshire Water and Severn Trent Water for water, and Cadent and Northern Gas Networks for gas.
- The Met Office.
- The Mining Remediation Authority.

We also work with **other local partners** such as the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (who lead on transport integration and economic regeneration), Armed Forces partners through the Joint Regional Liaison Officer (JRLO), and the Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector who provide significant support during local incident responses.

HOW WE ASSESS RISK

The government produces a publicly available National Risk Register, an assessment of the most serious risks facing the United Kingdom.

Risks may be:

- Non-malicious: Accidents such as a rail crash, or natural hazards such as flooding or a heatwave.
- Malicious: Threats from those who seek to do harm such as terrorism or cyber threats.

Using the National Risk Register and a wealth of local intelligence from partners, South Yorkshire LRF assesses local risks and produces the South Yorkshire Community Risk Register. This register is then used as the basis for our work within the LRF partnership – supporting local responders to plan and prepare to respond to an emergency.

The risks outlined in our Community Risk Register represent those considered most likely to affect our daily lives, should they occur. Their inclusion doesn't mean they will definitely happen – it means there is a chance that they could, so it is important to be prepared.

The organisations that make up South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum have a responsibility to plan and prepare for these risks.

We also encourage individuals, communities, and businesses to think about how they might prepare and respond.

SOUTH YORKSHIRE RISKS

South Yorkshire has faced a number of significant emergencies and disruptions in recent years. These include the widespread flooding of 2007 and 2019, the impacts of Storm Babet in 2023, periods of extreme heat and severe winter weather, the Covid-19 pandemic, major utility outages, and incidents affecting key transport routes.

These events remind us that emergencies can happen at any time and highlight the importance of being prepared.

The main risks we have identified in South Yorkshire (in no particular order) are:

- **Severe weather** such as heatwaves, storms, ice and snow.
- **Flooding** – whether this is from rivers, from surface water, or from reservoirs.
- **Utility disruption** such as power cuts, gas outages, water supply interruptions, and phone and broadband outages.
- **Industrial accidents and major fires** – including environmental hazards and transport incidents.
- **Health-related risks** such as infectious diseases and pandemics.
- **Crowded places and public events** – incidents in public open spaces or in high capacity venues such as stadiums.
- **Cyber incidents** affecting critical infrastructure or services.

A summary of each of these risks is provided below.

SEVERE WEATHER	
Storms	**What is the risk?** • Storms can bring strong winds, heavy rain, and falling debris. • Exposed areas of high ground and major transport corridors such as the M1, M18, and A1(M) are particularly affected. **What could happen?** • Damage to properties, fences, vehicles, and trees. • Power cuts. • Road closures and travel disruption. **What can you do?** • Check the Met Office website for weather warnings and sign up to Met Office email alerts. • Secure outdoor items. • Stay away from fallen trees and power lines. • Check travel updates and follow travel advice. • Check on vulnerable neighbours and relatives.
Snow and ice	**What is the risk?** • Snow and ice can disrupt travel, utilities, and essential services. • Higher ground in Sheffield, areas close to the Peak District, and areas of rural Barnsley such as Penistone can be particularly impacted by snow. **What could happen?** • Road closures and public transport delays. • Pavements and cycle paths may become impassible or very slippery • Power cuts. • Water supply interruptions due to frozen pipes. • Increased risk of slips, trips, and falls. • Worsening of long term conditions such as cardiovascular or respiratory disease. • Schools, public buildings, and workplaces may close. • Farmers may struggle to reach animals in rural areas of high ground. • Rapid snow melt can sometimes lead to surface water flooding or river flooding. **What can you do?** • Check the Met Office website for weather warnings and sign up to Met Office email alerts. • Check travel updates and follow travel advice. Allow extra time for journeys. • Dress warmly for the weather. Carry warm clothing and supplies in your vehicle. • Use public grit bins to grit steep roads near to your home. • Check on vulnerable neighbours and relatives.

	• Check the NHS website for seasonal health advice.

Heatwaves	**What is the risk?**
	• Extreme heat is becoming more common. It can affect health, transport, and energy supplies.
	What could happen?
	• Heat related illness. Older people, young children and those with existing health conditions may be particularly affected.
	• Pressure on health services.
	• Spikes in demand for drinking water resulting in low water pressure.
	• Power cuts.
	• Disruption to rail and road networks.
	What can you do?
	• Check the Met Office website for weather warnings and sign up to Met Office email alerts.
	• Follow national "Beat the Heat" advice:
	  ○ Drink plenty of water.
	  ○ Keep out of the sun as much as possible between 11am and 3pm when UV levels are highest.
	  ○ Schedule physical activities (e.g. exercise, walking the dog) for cooler times of the day.
	  ○ Wear lightweight loose-fitting light-coloured clothes, and if you go outside, seek shade, apply suncream, and cover up with appropriate clothing (e.g. sunglasses and a wide-brimmed hat).
	  ○ Keep your home cooler by closing windows, blinds, and curtains in rooms that face the sun, and opening windows when the air feels cooler.
	• Check travel updates and follow travel advice. Allow extra time for journeys.
	• Check on vulnerable neighbours and relatives.
	• Check the NHS website for seasonal health advice.

Wildfires	**What is the risk?** • Prolonged periods of hot, dry weather can increase the risk of grass, woodland, and moorland fires. • South Yorkshire contains areas of moorland, woodland and open countryside which can become vulnerable during dry spells. • Wildfires can be sparked by BBQs in the open, carelessly discarded cigarettes, the sun reflecting off rubbish such as glass bottles, and also by deliberate acts. **What could happen?** • Damage to habitats and wildlife. • Smoke affecting nearby communities. • Wildfires in the open moving to affect neighbouring properties. • Road closures and transport disruption.

	• Pressure on emergency services. **What can you do?** • Never discard cigarettes or disposable barbecues in the countryside. Take your rubbish home with you. Do not have garden fires or use disposable barbecues during periods of drought. • Report fires immediately by calling 999. • Follow guidance from emergency services and land managers.
Further information	For more information about this risk and how to prepare, visit: • Met Office • GOV.UK Storms • GOV.UK cold weather, snow and ice • GOV.UK hot weather and heatwave • GOV.UK Wildfires • GOV.UK Droughts

FLOODING	
River flooding	**What is the risk?** • South Yorkshire has experienced significant flooding in 2007, 2019, and during Storm Babet in 2023 – affecting homes, businesses, transport networks, and essential infrastructure. • Flooding can happen at any time of year. • River flooding occurs when water flows in the river channel following intense and/or sustained rainfall, exceeds the capacity of the river channel, and so water overflows onto surrounding land. • South Yorkshire contains several major rivers – including the Don, the Rother, and the Dearne. Tributaries include the River Loxley, Rivelin, Sheaf, a number of Brooks such as Porter, Blackburn, and Whiston, and the Ea Beck. • Many reservoirs are located in upland catchments that drain rapidly into urban areas. **What could happen?** • Flooding of homes, businesses, and public buildings. • Disruption to roads, rail lines, and tram services. • Damage to utilities (e.g. electricity, water) and essential infrastructure. • Evacuation of communities. • Schools, public buildings and workplaces may close. • Reservoir incidents could require rapid evacuation of communities downstream. • Long term recovery impacts on health, wellbeing, and the local economy. **What can you do?** • Check your flood risk on GOV.UK. • Sign up for free flood warnings. • Check the Met Office website for weather warnings and sign up to Met Office email alerts. • Prepare a household emergency plan – including a grab bag containing medicines and insurance documents, moving things upstairs or to safety, and moving family, pets and cars to safety. • Avoid walking or driving through floodwater. • Follow instructions from emergency services.
Surface water flooding	**What is the risk?** • Heavy rainfall can overwhelm drains and gullies, causing rapid flooding in built up areas. Sheffield, Rotherham, Doncaster, and Barnsley all have locations vulnerable to intense rainfall. • Surface water flooding can also occur from burst water mains – which can occur more frequently during very hot and very cold weather.

	What could happen? • Localised flooding of roads and underpasses. • Disruption to public transport. • Flooding of basements and ground floor properties. **What can you do?** • Report blocked drains to your local council. • Keep gutters and drainage channels on your property clear. • Avoid driving through deep standing water. • Check the Met Office website for weather warnings and sign up to Met Office email alerts.
Further information	For more information about this risk and how to prepare, visit: • Environment Agency – Check for Flooding • GOV.UK Flooding

UTILITY DISRUPTION	
Electricity	**What is the risk?** • Electricity supplies can be disrupted by storms, flooding, infrastructure failures, accidents, or equipment damage. • South Yorkshire relies on electricity to support homes, communications, transport systems, healthcare services, and businesses. • Most other utilities depend upon electricity to operate. **What could happen?** • Loss of lighting, heating, refrigeration and cooking facilities. • Traffic signal failures causing congestion on the roads. • Mobile phone networks and internet services may be disrupted. • People who rely on electrically powered medical equipment may be particularly affected. • Cash machines and card payment systems may stop working. • Water supplies may be affected as pumping stations lose power. **What can you do?** • Keep a torch, battery-powered radio and spare batteries (or wind-up torch/radio) available. • Charge mobile phones and battery packs when severe weather is forecast. • Keep a small supply of food and drinking water at home. • Call 105 or visit Powercut105.com for information and advice. • People who are elderly, disabled, have young children, or have medical needs may be eligible for free support through the Priority Services Register.
Gas	**What is the risk?** • Gas supply interruptions can occur because of network failures, accidental damage to pipelines, severe weather, or safety incidents. • South Yorkshire is served by both Cadent and Northern Gas Networks. **What could happen?** • Loss of heating and hot water. • Difficulty cooking food. • Increased risk to vulnerable people during cold weather. • Temporary closures of buildings reliant on gas heating. **What can you do?** • Know how to turn off your gas supply, if advised to do so. • Report gas emergencies immediately via 0800 111 999. • Keep alternative warm clothing and blankets available. • Maintain carbon monoxide alarms.

	• People who are elderly, disabled, have young children, or have medical needs may be eligible for free support through the Priority Services Register.
Water	**What is the risk?** • Water supplies can be disrupted by burst mains, treatment works failures, contamination incidents, drought, flooding, or power outages. • South Yorkshire receives water from a network of reservoirs, treatment works, and distribution infrastructure. **What could happen?** • Loss of drinking water. • Reduced water pressure. • Temporary restrictions on water use. • School, healthcare, and business disruption. • Increased public health concerns if contamination occurs. **What can you do?** • Keep at least 3 days of bottled drinking water at home. • Follow advice from Yorkshire Water or Severn Trent Water. • Avoid drinking water if advised not to do so. • Check on vulnerable relatives and neighbours. • Store emergency contact details for your water supplier. • People who are elderly, disabled, have young children, or have medical needs may be eligible for free support through the Priority Services Register.
Telecoms	**What is the risk?** • Telecommunications networks can be disrupted by power failures, flooding, severe weather, cyber incidents, or infrastructure damage. • Telecommunications include mobile phone networks, landlines, internet services, and digital communications systems. **What could happen?** • Loss of internet connectivity. • Reduced access to information. • Difficulty contacting family, employers, or emergency services. • Disruption to online banking, shopping, and business operations. **What can you do?** • Keep mobile phones charged. • Maintain alternative contact methods where possible. • Have a battery-powered or wind-up radio available. • Know where to obtain trusted emergency information. • Consider backup communication arrangements for vulnerable family members.

Further information	For more information about this risk and how to prepare, visit: • Powercut105 and Ofgem power cut planning guidance • Water UK and Find Your Supplier • Priority Services Registers • GOV.UK Power cuts • GOV.UK Water supply interruptions or outages • GOV.UK Phone and broadband outages

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS AND MAJOR FIRES	
Industrial Accidents	**What is the risk?** • South Yorkshire has industrial estates, manufacturing facilities, logistics centres, warehouses and former industrial land. • Although rare, accidents involving hazardous substances, fires or explosions can occur. **What could happen?** • Injuries or fatalities. • Smoke affecting nearby communities. • Evacuations or shelter arrangements. • Transport disruption. • Environmental contamination. **What can you do?** • Follow emergency service instructions. • Stay indoors and close windows and doors if advised. • Avoid the affected area. • Monitor official information sources.
Major Fire	**What is the risk?** • Large fires can occur in industrial premises, commercial buildings, residential buildings, storage facilities, or open land. • Hot, dry weather can increase the likelihood of moorland and grass fires. **What could happen?** • Injuries and fatalities. • Significant smoke affecting communities. • Evacuations. • Damage to property and infrastructure. • Road closures. **What can you do?** • Fit a smoke alarm to each level of your home and test it once a week. • Fit a carbon monoxide alarm. • Prepare a bedtime routine to check for fire hazards (e.g. checking that all candles and cigarettes are safely extinguished, and that appliances are switched off). • Plan an escape route with your family, and pick a safe place in case your route is blocked – make sure that everyone in the house knows where door and window keys are kept. • Follow emergency service advice. • Avoid affected areas. • Keep windows and doors closed if smoke is present.

	• Report fires immediately by calling 999.
Environmental Hazards	**What is the risk?** • Air pollution incidents, smoke plumes, contamination of watercourses, or hazardous material releases can affect local communities. **What could happen?** • Health impacts. • Road closures. • Temporary evacuations or shelter requirements. **What can you do?** • Follow advice from emergency services. • Stay indoors if advised, and keep windows and doors shut. Turn off any air conditioning systems that draw in air from outside. • Monitor official updates.
Transport Incidents	**What is the risk?** • South Yorkshire contains major road, rail, and tram networks including the M1, M18, A1(M), Supertram, and the railway East Coast Main Line. • Accidents involving passenger or freight transport can occur. **What could happen?** • Casualties. • Major traffic disruption. • Long diversions. • Disruption to supply chains and public transport. **What can you do?** • Check travel information before travelling. • Follow official diversion routes. • Avoid affected areas where possible.
Further information	For more information about this risk and how to prepare, visit: • South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue • GOV.UK Fires in the home • GOV.UK Hazardous substance and radiation exposure • GOV.UK Poor air quality and pollution

HEALTH RELATED RISKS	
Infectious Disease and Pandemic	**What is the risk?** • Infectious diseases like the flu or sexually transmitted infections have the potential to make you ill and to significantly impact public health. • Infectious diseases can be spread through a range of different transmission routes such as a respiratory route (from coughs and sneezes) or contact with infected bodily fluids. • We regularly see outbreaks of diseases such as measles and seasonal influenza. • Some diseases may spread rapidly, especially new ones where most people do not have immunity – such as when Covid-19 emerged. If the disease spreads widely, it may become an epidemic. • An epidemic can become a pandemic if it spreads to multiple countries. • Experts consider a respiratory virus to be the most likely cause of a future pandemic affecting the UK. **What could happen?** • Health and social care services could become overwhelmed. • The most vulnerable in our communities may be worse affected by the infection. • Businesses may be disrupted by staff shortages, supply chain issues, and the closure of non-essential businesses. • Social events may get cancelled. **What can you do?** • Follow NHS advice and guidance, particularly about reducing the spread of illness – such as Catch it, Bin it, Kill it. • Identify an individual who can collect medication, food, and other supplies, allowing you to stay at home when ill. • Keep small personal stocks of “over the counter” painkillers, cold and flu medicines to help relieve your symptoms. • Keep up to date with routine and booster vaccinations. • Know the arrangements for your child’s school.
Animal Disease	**What is the risk?** • Diseases such as Avian Influenza and Foot and Mouth Disease can affect farm animals and birds. • South Yorkshire has significant agricultural and rural communities. **What could happen?** • Restrictions on livestock movement. • Public access restrictions in some areas. • Economic impacts on farming. • Supply chain disruption.

	What can you do? • Follow government restrictions. • Avoid contact with sick animals. • Report concerns to relevant authorities. • Follow biosecurity advice.
Further information	For more information about this risk and how to prepare, visit: • GOV.UK infectious disease outbreaks • NHS • UK Health Security Agency • GOV.UK animal and plant health

CROWDED PLACES AND PUBLIC EVENTS	
Large public events	**What is the risk?** • South Yorkshire hosts sporting events, concerts, festivals, and major public events at a range of venues including football stadiums, Doncaster Racecourse, concert venues, and shopping centres. • Large numbers of people gathering in one place can increase the risk of accidents, crowd congestion, medical emergencies, or other incidents requiring an emergency response. **What could happen?** • Overcrowding in busy areas. • Injuries caused by slips, trips, falls, or crowd movement. • Temporary closure of roads, transport hubs, or public spaces. • Delays or disruption to transport networks around venues. • Delays in entering or leaving an event. • Temporary evacuation of a venue or surrounding area. • Spread of infections. **What can you do?** • Familiarise yourself with event information before attending. • Plan your journey in advance and allow extra time for travel. • Arrange in advance how you will contact friends or family members if you become separated. • Check weather forecasts and prepare for the conditions. • Follow any safety advice provided by organisers. • Report anything suspicious or concerning to event staff or police. • Use good hygiene measures to reduce the spread of infections.
Terrorism	**What is the risk?** • Terrorist attacks are rare, but they can happen anywhere and without warning – including public spaces, transport hubs, shopping centres, and event venues. • Terrorists may seek to cause harm to people, disrupt services, or create fear within communities. **What could happen?** • Injuries or fatalities. • Evacuation or lockdown of an area. • Significant disruption to transport and public services. • Long-term impacts on communities and businesses. **What can you do?** • Remain aware of your surroundings, particularly when attending crowded places. • Report any suspicious behaviour, unattended items, or concerns to venue security or police.

	• In an emergency, always dial 999. • Follow instructions from security personnel, venue staff, and emergency services.
Further information	For more information about this risk and how to prepare, visit: • GOV.UK Terrorism • ProtectUK • ACT Awareness e-learning

CYBER INCIDENTS	
Cyber Crime and Online Fraud	**What is the risk?** • Criminals use technology to steal money, personal information and online accounts. • This can include phishing emails, fake text messages, fraudulent websites, identity theft, and social media scams. • As more of our daily lives move online, cyber crime has become an increasingly common form of crime affecting both individuals and businesses. **What could happen?** • Theft of personal information. • Unauthorised access to online accounts. • Financial loss. • Emotional distress. • Loss of confidence in online services. **What can you do?** • Use strong, unique passwords for important accounts. • Enable multi-factor authentication where available. • Be cautious of unexpected emails, messages, or phone calls. • Never share passwords or banking security information. • Install software and security updates promptly. • Report fraud to Action Fraud, and to your bank if affected.
Ransomware and Business Disruption	**What is the risk?** • Ransomware is malicious software that prevents access to systems or data until a payment is made. • Criminals may target businesses, schools, charities, healthcare providers, and other public sector organisations. • Small organisations can be just as vulnerable as large organisations. **What could happen?** • Loss of access to important information and systems. • Disruption to businesses, schools, and organisations. • Temporary interruption to public services. • Financial losses and recovery costs. **What can you do?** • Regularly back up important files and photographs. • Keep devices, software, and apps up to date. • Be cautious when opening email attachments or clicking links. • Use anti-virus and security software. • Ensure important information is stored securely.
Cyber Attacks on	**What is the risk?**

Essential Services	• Cyber attacks may target organisations that provide essential services such as healthcare, utilities, transport, telecommunications, and local government services. • Essential services increasingly depend on digital systems to provide day-to-day services. • A successful cyber attack can sometimes have consequences beyond the organisation being targeted. • While organisations work hard to protect critical systems, disruption to digital services can sometimes affect the public's ability to access services online. **What could happen?** • Temporary disruption to public services. • Difficulties accessing healthcare, transport, or council services. • Disruption to communications networks or utility services. • Wider impacts on communities, businesses and supply chains. **What can you do?** • Keep contact details for important services. • Ensure important documents are available offline if possible. • Maintain a battery-powered or wind-up radio as part of your emergency kit. • Be prepared for short periods of service disruption. • Follow advice issued by service providers, local authorities and emergency responders.
Further information	For more information about this risk and how to prepare, visit: • GOV.UK Cyber • Visit the National Cyber Security Centre for guidance for individuals, families and businesses. • Report cyber crime and fraud via https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/ • Businesses can access additional guidance through the NCSC Small Business Guide.

BE READY

Plan in advance

You can save yourself valuable time, and possibly prevent injury and save life, if you have a plan for what you and your family would do in the event of an emergency.

In the sudden event of an emergency occurring, you may not have time to spend vital minutes hunting for things you need. So you may wish to prepare an emergency grab bag in advance as part of your preparations, and fill it with the sort of things you may need.

The things that you will need will be personal to you and depend on your own circumstances.

The following is a checklist of items you may want to keep in your home kit – either in a small, easy-to-carry bag, or in a checklist of the things you will grab in a hurry.

Once prepared, keep this kit at home, and ensure everyone in the family knows where it is stored.

Home grab bag:
- A list of emergency contact numbers.
- A battery operated torch and spare batteries (or a wind-up torch).
- A battery operated radio and spare batteries (or a wind-up radio).
- Any essential medication, some toiletries, and a first aid kit.
- Three days' supply of bottled water.
- Three days' supply of ready-to-eat food that won't spoil (remember a tin opener if your kit contains tins of food).
- Copies of important documents such as insurance policies, birth certificates, passports, and bank account details.
- Spare keys to your home and car.
- Spare glasses or contact lenses.
- If needed, baby and pet supplies.

It may also be worth making a duplicate (or partial duplicate) kit and keeping that in the car or at work.

On the move, you may want to consider having:
- Suitable clothes for the weather, such as winter boots with grips, warm clothing, or waterproofs.
- Ready-to-eat food, a warm drink in a flask, and bottled water.
- Mobile phone and charger.
- Any essential medication.
- Spare glasses or contact lenses.
- Cash and credit cards.

- List of emergency contact numbers.
- If needed, baby and pet supplies.

In the car, in addition to the above you may want to consider having a kit for when you are going on long journeys:

- Battery operated torch and spare batteries (or a wind-up torch).
- Map for unplanned diversions.
- Warm clothes and blankets (for you and all your passengers).
- First aid kit.
- Ice-scraper and de-icer.
- Snow shovel.
- Jump leads.

The government has published a range of additional information on its Be Ready webpage.

Stay informed

During an emergency, information can change quickly. Following trusted sources can help you make informed decisions and avoid misinformation.

Trusted sources include:

- Emergency services
- Local councils
- Met Office
- Environment Agency
- NHS
- Local radio stations

Create an evacuation plan

Have a plan for where your family will meet in the event of an emergency. That could be at home, or in a place very close to home. Identify somewhere outside your immediate neighbourhood as a back-up plan should that become required. Make sure everyone in your family knows about these plans, and carries that information with them, perhaps in a wallet or purse.

If you have a car and are able, try to get into the habit of keeping sufficient fuel in it to suddenly evacuate. You do not want to be caught up in a long queue at the petrol station, or, worse, break down. The routes you may normally take when leaving home by car may become congested or even blocked, so familiarise yourself with some alternative routes out of the area.

If you do not have a car, plan how you will leave in the event that you have to.

Plan how you will care for your pets in an emergency involving the need for evacuation.

Think about fire safety

Fires in the home, workplace and community are among the biggest risks to the safety of family, friends, colleagues, and neighbours. Simple steps can keep you safe and ensure that if a fire happens, you're well prepared.

- Fit a smoke alarm to each level of your home and test it once a week.
- Fit a carbon monoxide alarm.
- Prepare a bed time routine to check for fire hazards (e.g. checking that all candles and cigarettes are safely extinguished, and that appliances are switched off).
- Plan an escape route with your family, and pick a safe place in case your route is blocked – make sure that everyone in the house knows where door and window keys are kept.
- Visit the South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue website for more safety advice and precautions.

Learn how to turn off utilities

You may need to do this in the event of having to evacuate. Even in less extreme circumstances, such as a burst pipe or gas leak, it is useful to know how to do this.

- Find the electricity, gas, and water shut-off valves.
- Keep necessary tools near gas and water shut-off valves.
- Teach members of your family how to turn off these utilities.

The Priority Services Register (PSR) is a free service provided by utility suppliers and network operators to customers in need. You can receive the services available if you:

- are of pensionable age
- are disabled or chronically sick
- have a long-term medical condition
- have a hearing or visual impairment or additional communication needs
- are in a vulnerable situation.

Each energy supplier and network operator maintains its own register. To be added to the Priority Services Register, you simply need to contact your supplier. You can find their contact details on your bill or via the Priority Services Register website. If you have a different supplier for your gas and electricity, you need to contact them both. If you switch supplier, you'll need to register for the service again with them.

Schools / day care

If you are a parent, or look after an elderly or disabled adult, check that any schools and day-care providers have emergency response plans to inform you if an incident has taken place and what action, if any, you may be required to take.

Find out in advance how they will communicate with you / your family during a crisis.

Ask if they store adequate food and other basic supplies (NB: schools don't normally store drinking water).

Find out if they are prepared to 'stay put' if need be, and where they plan to go if they have to evacuate.

Plan to work as a community

A community working together during an emergency makes sense and can make a significant difference to everyone involved.

We suggest that, as part of your preparations, you may wish to:

- Talk to your neighbours about how you can work together during an emergency.
- Find out if anyone has specialised equipment like a power generator, or expertise such as medical knowledge, that might help in a crisis.
- If you are in a Flood Warning area. find out if you have a Local Flood Warden via the Environment Agency's website or enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk.
- Decide who will check on elderly or disabled neighbours.
- Make back-up plans for children in case you can't get home in an emergency.
- Share plans in advance.

Businesses

Businesses play an important role in community resilience. Consider developing a business continuity plan to help your organisation continue operating during disruptions such as flooding, utility failure, severe weather, cyber incidents or staff shortages.

When the emergency happens

In the event of a major incident or emergency, the best advice is to go inside a safe building, to stay inside until you are advised to do otherwise, and to monitor local radio or TV and websites for the emergency services and your local council for further information.

There may be occasions when it may not be safe to seek refuge inside a building – for example if it is on fire or obviously structurally unsound. In such circumstances, find an alternative building in which to take cover.

Having found a place of safety:

- Make sure 999 has been called if people are injured or if there is a threat to life.
- Do not put yourself or others in danger.
- Follow the advice of the emergency services or other responders (e.g. your local authority).

- Try to remain calm, think before acting, and try to reassure others.
- Check for injuries - remember to help yourself before attempting to help others.
- Stay tuned to local radio.
- Monitor local radio, TV stations and the Intranet if possible for news and information from the emergency services.

If you need to evacuate – take your emergency supply kit (see above) with you and lock the door behind you when you leave. Take your pets with you – including any leads or carriers.

Turn off utilities – you may need to do this in the event of having to evacuate. Find the electricity, gas and water shut-off valves. Turning water and electricity supplies back on should not present any difficulties or risks to you; however, you may need to seek professional advice before attempting to reconnect gas supplies.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

SEVERE WEATHER	**Met Office:** Access Met Office Weather Warnings or contact the Met Office for further information.
FLOODING	**Immediate danger to life or property:** Call 999.
	Main Rivers and Reservoirs: Call the Environment Agency Incident Hotline on 0800 80 70 60 (available 24 hours a day).
	Small rivers, brooks, streams, or surface water: Contact your local council.
	Flooded public roads or blocked street drains (gullies): Contact your local council for road flooding or a blocked drain.
	Major roads and motorways: Contact National Highways via their 24-hour customer contact centre on 0300 123 5000.
	Blocked public sewers or burst water mains: Contact your local water company such as Yorkshire Water or Severn Trent Water via the details on your water bill or Find Your Supplier | Water UK
	Private drains: Maintenance and clearing are the responsibility of the property owner.
UTILITY DISRUPTION	**Power cut:** Call 105 (free in England, Scotland, and Wales). This connects you directly to your local electricity distribution network operator. To find your specific regional operator and report online using PowerCut 105.
	Gas outage: If you smell gas, suspect a leak, or hit a gas pipe, call the 24/7 National Gas Emergency Service immediately on 0800 111 999.

	For a sudden loss of supply without a leak, contact your specific gas supplier. You can find your supplier on your gas bill, by searching for your postcode on Find My Supplier, or calling 0870 608 1524 (calls to this number are chargeable, plus your phone company's access charge). For broken individual appliances like a boiler, contact a Gas Safe Registered engineer.
	Water supply disruption: Contact your local water company such as Yorkshire Water or Severn Trent Water via the details on your water bill or Find Your Supplier | Water UK
	Telecoms outage: Contact your specific telecom or broadband provider directly (such as BT, Virgin Media, Sky, TalkTalk, or EE).
INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS AND MAJOR FIRES	**Immediate danger to life or property:** Call 999. If you have concerns about industrial safety, major fire risks, or workplace accidents in your area, you should contact South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue or the Health and Safety Executive (HSE).
HEALTH RELATED RISKS	**Infectious Disease and Pandemic:** Visit the UK Health Security Agency website or the NHS website. You can also check the pollution forecast for the next 5 days.
	Animal Disease: If you suspect a notifiable disease in your animals you must report it immediately by calling the Defra Rural Services Helpline on 03000 200 301. This number can also be used to report urgent concerns about the welfare of a farm animal.
CROWDED PLACES AND PUBLIC EVENTS	**Immediate danger to life or property:** Call 999. **Report possible terrorist activity:** Report via Action Counters Terrorism. **Threat levels:** Visit the Threat Levels website of MI5 - The Security Service.
CYBER INCIDENTS	If concerned about a live, ongoing cyber-attack or cyber crime, you should contact Action Fraud immediately at 0300 123 2040. or call your local police on 101. Visit Where to Report a Cyber Incident - GOV.UK.

SOUTH YORKSHIRE LRF CONTACT

You can contact the South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum via SYLRF@southyorkshire.police.uk

For any media enquiries, please contact the media team at South Yorkshire Police.