

# Resilient Communities



Thank you for the opportunity to deliver this presentation tonight. I will try to keep it short but informative as there is a lot to be covered in your agenda tonight.

I will not be reading out the slides word by word, more giving an additional narrative.

# Building Community Resilience

## Scottish Government

defines Community Resilience as

“Communities and individuals harnessing resources and expertise to help themselves **prepare** for, **respond** to, and **recover** from emergencies in a way that **complements** the work of the emergency responders”

I have a couple of examples of what Community resilience is defined as:

The highlighted words are the important ones on this first slide.

Prepare – Respond – Recover, and Complements.

# **Building Community Resilience**

## **Evaluating Scotland**

People in community resilience groups describe it simply as

- How a community responds to an emergency.
- Using local knowledge and strengths.
- Working together to help each other out.
- Community Spirit

This is a very similar message just using different words

# About Community Resilience

## Why do communities need to be resilient?

During an emergency responders will prioritise helping the most vulnerable;  
In the meantime there is a lot communities can do to help themselves.

It goes beyond keeping people safe;  
It helps build stronger social connections, self worth and bonds  
communities together.

So why do we all need to be resilient?

Well Covid has been a very high profile example of why communities need to bond together and look out for each other.

Emergency responders could never respond to every member of every communities needs. But local communities have done, and are still doing so!

# **About Community Resilience**

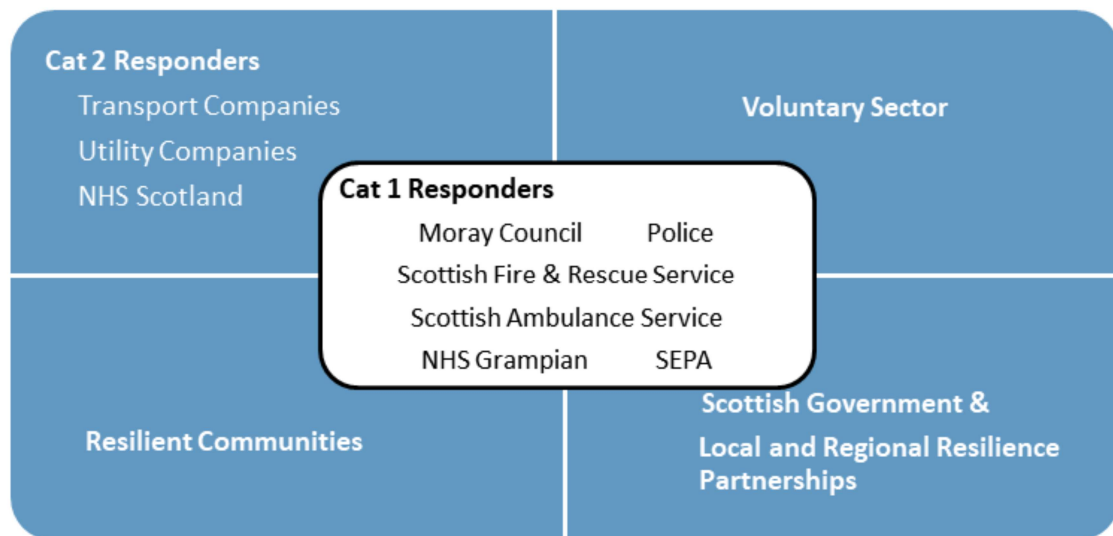
## **Why do communities need to be resilient?**

Ready Scotland Website

“This isn’t about doing the job of the emergency services.  
It’s about supporting your community and those in it by making  
sensible preparations and using the skills and knowledge the  
community has.”

And this sums up what those communities have done before and during the last seven months in particular, and will continue to do so for however long it is required.

# Integrated Emergency Management



We have tried here to simplify what Integrated Emergency Management is and who fits in where: **Especially** the Resilient Communities.

**CLICK** - Cat 1 the front line services who go out to the incident and/or provide direct first hand support.

**CLICK** - Cat 2 those organisations immediately behind and supporting Cat 1 organisations. Then two sectors that are very closely linked **CLICK** – Voluntary, and **CLICK** - Resilient Communities. Resilient communities are voluntary, and volunteers are part of resilient communities. BUT both are crucial to giving an integrated and early response. And finally **CLICK** – the Government and its resilient partnerships providing umbrella support.

These organisations and groups all work together and a missing element can have a large knock on effect to a community.

# Integrated Emergency Management

## Preparedness

- Circulate Weather warnings to group and Resilience Groups.
- Establish Incident Management Team with the Council.
- Identify command structure (Gold, Silver, Bronze).
- Open command centre (Bunker).
- Establish communication links (internal & external).
- Identify roles & responsibilities.

This slide is to give a taste of some of the actions that the Integrated Emergency Management team will take to ensure things flow as smoothly as possible across all of those groups and organisations in the previous slide.

# IEM in action

## Emergency Coordination Centre



And a wee picture to break up the words a bit.

It's a generic picture, but it's a typical of a coordination centre – Emergency Services = Police, Ambulance, Fire etc. - care for people team = NHS, Social Services, etc. - technical team = Council Services, Sepa, etc.



# Resilient Communities



But back to the Resilient communities, and what you can get involved in and provide a support to your communities. Again generic pictures

# Roles & Responsibilities

## Coordinator

- Designated coordinator and deputies are key to the success of the group.
- Identify the knowledge and skills within your own community.
- Create and maintain a register of volunteers.
- Create a call tree for call outs.
- Contribute to the Local Plan.
- Establish a base/RVP.

Lets look at some Roles and Responsibilities of the two key groups of people

First of all each group will require a Coordinator, and some Deputies to ensure the success of the group through their leadership.

# Roles & Responsibilities

## Volunteer – helping the community

- Being proactive checking drains/culverts or salt bins in advance.
- Clearing paths of snow, gritting paths.
- Helping out at rest centres.
- Collecting prescriptions.
- Checking on 'vulnerable' members of the community.
- Supplying hot meals.
- Supplying or placing sandbags / flood protection.
- Clearing up after an emergency.

Secondly the Volunteers, as a wider group.

Without the volunteers there can be no delivery of benefits to the community

# **Benefits to the community**

- Resilience Plan and Risk Assessment.
- Shared information from Emergency Responders/early warning of severe weather.
- Reduced impact and level of damage incurred.
- Insurance cover for the group.
- Training and exercising.
- Storage sheds & equipment.

So what are those benefits that you can deliver?

What is the point of being a resilient community?

The first two enable the team to deliver the third as efficiently as possible.



BUT you will need to tailor your equipment to your needs as identified in the risk assessment and plan for your specific area. This is not a one size fits all exercise.

# Questions



Thank you for listening and reading – do you have any questions?