

Volunteer preparedness for emergency response



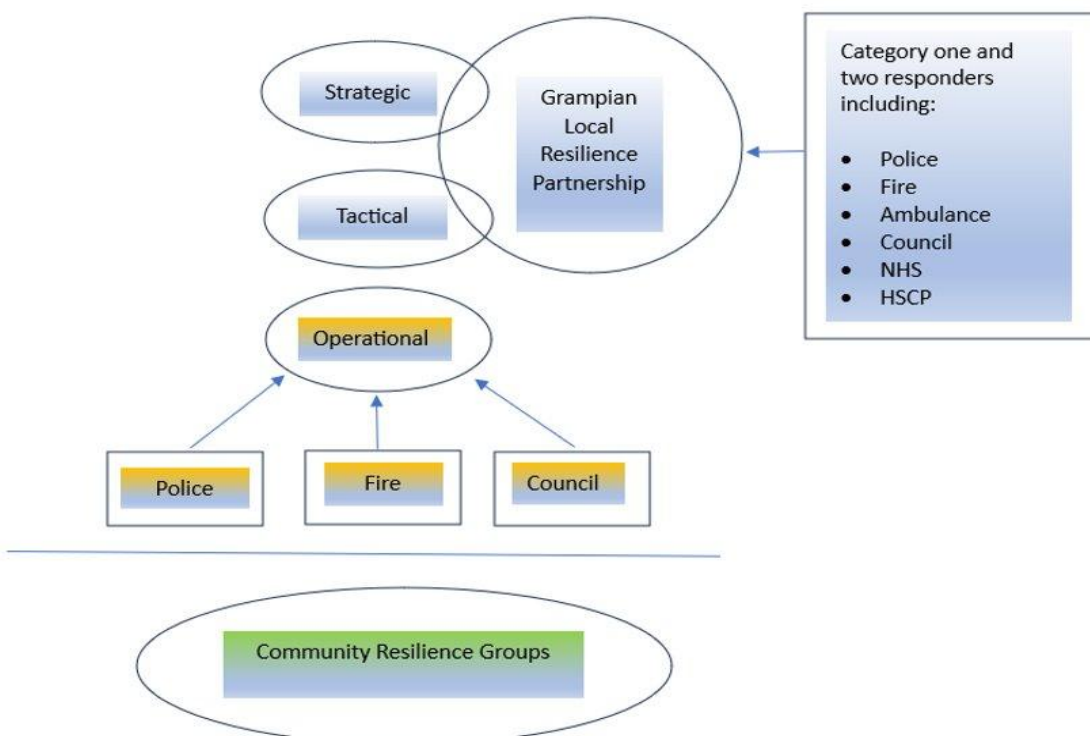
Volunteer preparedness for emergency response

Whilst Aberdeenshire Council does not offer specific Training on Volunteer roles in an Emergency Response, there are training/online resources that can be utilised to help prepare volunteers for their roles if they wish.

It is recognised that every community is different and their preparation for an emergency will be linked to the risks that community faces. Equally volunteers may wish to undertake training to prepare for an emergency and others will prefer not to.

Structure of Emergency Responders

It should be noted that volunteers will never be expected to undertake the work of trained professionals in an emergency. Community resilience groups should complement the emergency services not be the emergency response.



Training Resources

Ready Scotland

The Scottish Government has developed three free short modules [Learn | Ready Scotland](#)

- The foundations of Emergency Management in Scotland
- Partnership working in Emergency Management
- The role of Community Groups in Emergency Management

And includes links to other learning resources which may be useful.

Snow wardens

Aberdeenshire Council offers training Snow warden training, advice and equipment

[Volunteer snow wardens - Aberdeenshire Council](#)

Mental wellbeing

[Lifelines Scotland](#) provide advice on health and wellbeing for volunteers. You can also find advice on [coping with trauma](#) on Ready Scotland.

There are local organisations which may be able to assist with Mental Health/Psychological First Aid Training such as Mental health Aberdeen [Mental Health Aberdeen | Home](#)

Met Office

The MET office provides free of charge training courses for community groups and volunteer responders. The 2024 prospectus is available here [met-office-2024-online-community-resillience-training-prospectus.pdf \(metoffice.gov.uk\)](#)

First Aid Training

The British Red Cross can provide free (unaccredited) First Aid Training for individuals or groups of between 5 and 15 people [Free first aid workshop for adults | British Red Cross](#)

Other ways to prepare Volunteers

Ensuring that volunteers understand their roles in terms of your Community Resilience Groups plan is important preparation for an emergency situation.

Exercising the plan means volunteers are familiar with what they might need to do and this will save time in an emergency situation and make volunteers feel more confident.

Volunteers with specific skills

There may be people in your community who already have specific skills who would volunteer in an emergency situation. Undertaking a Community Asset Register will help establish if there are people who have training, access and insurance for specific pieces of equipment.

There may also be local people or organisations who can assist with First Aid, catering, transport, communications etc.