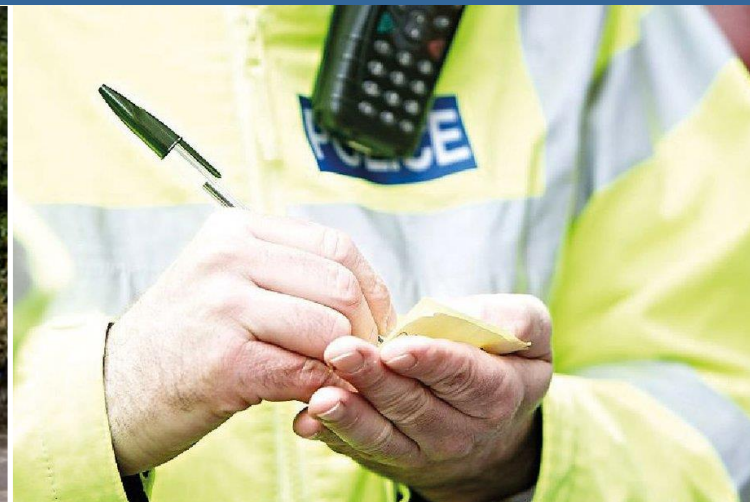


South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum Annual Report 2017/2018



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Foreword by the Chair of South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum

Welcome to the 2017/18 Annual Report of the South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum (LRF).

Local Resilience Forums are multi-agency partnerships, aligned to Policing areas, which bring together representatives from all the local organisations needed to plan and prepare for major emergencies in the county.

The main agencies involved in the South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum are those classified as Category 1 Responders: South Yorkshire Police, South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue, Yorkshire Ambulance Service, the four Local Authorities in South Yorkshire, the NHS, and the Environment Agency. The most senior leaders from each of these organisations attend regular South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum meetings.



Other partners such as transport companies, utility companies and voluntary agencies are classified as Category 2 Responders. All of these organisations may also be involved in responding to and recovery from local emergencies and so have a seat at the South Yorkshire LRF, as do local military representatives.

This report outlines the range of activities undertaken by Local Resilience Forum which ensure that South Yorkshire is better prepared to respond to and recover from emergencies.

In the last year, LRF partners have worked together to refresh our plans for responding to major incidents such as reservoir emergencies and Pandemic Influenza outbreaks. We have also responded together as multi-agency partners to two rises in the international terrorism threat from severe to critical, and to the terrorism arrests in Sheffield in the lead up to Christmas 2017.

We have continued to jointly exercise our plans to ensure that we are ready to respond together in an emergency – this year focussing on counter terrorism and flooding. We have also reviewed and published our Community Risk Register.

Please visit our website at www.southyorkshireemergencies.co.uk to find out more about the South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum, our work protecting the communities of South Yorkshire, and for advice on preparing your homes, businesses and communities for emergencies.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Courtney'.

James Courtney
Chief Fire Officer, South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue
Chair of the South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum

Our Membership

The following organisations are members of the South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum strategic meeting:

- South Yorkshire Police
- South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue
- The four Local Authorities in South Yorkshire:
 - Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
 - Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council
 - Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
 - Sheffield City Council
- Yorkshire Ambulance Service
- NHS England – also representing NHS Trusts and Clinical Commissioning Groups
- Public Health England
- Environment Agency
- Met Office
- British Transport Police
- Military
- British Red Cross
- Northern Powergrid
- Yorkshire Water
- Ministry for Housing, Communities & Local Government

Alongside the above organisational membership, additional partners attend a range of South Yorkshire LRF Sub Group meetings including:

- NHS Trusts
- Clinical Commissioning Groups
- Sheffield University
- Sheffield Hallam University
- BT
- Voluntary organisations such as Victim Support and Street Pastors
- Doncaster Sheffield Airport
- North East Counter Terrorism Unit

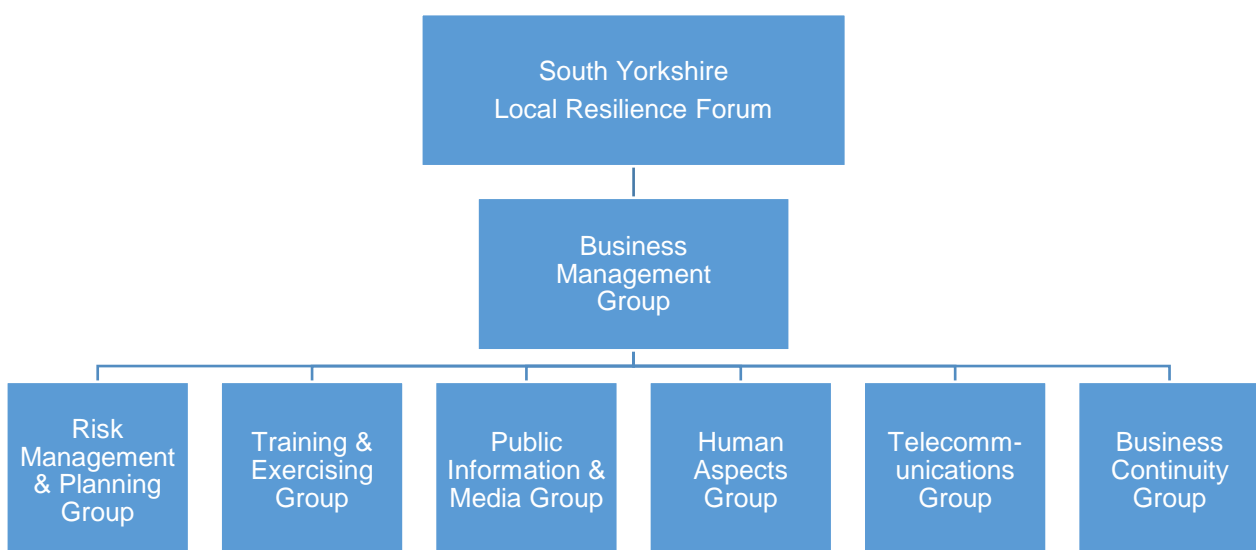
Our Objectives

The objectives of the South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum are:

1. To identify and understand the risks faced by South Yorkshire.
2. To further improve capabilities to be able to respond to the risks faced by South Yorkshire.
3. To further develop the governance process to enable the South Yorkshire LRF to fulfil its responsibilities under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004.
4. To develop an effective Communication Strategy with all stakeholders.
5. To engage in an ongoing programme of multi-agency training and exercising to ensure that plans and capabilities are fit for purpose.
6. To develop the resilience of communities, enabling their preparedness for foreseeable emergencies.
7. To develop the integration of the voluntary sector into all the work of the South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum.

Our Structure

Overseen by the South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum (LRF) strategic meeting, we have developed an underpinning Sub Group meeting structure which supports the LRF in delivering these objectives. Sub Groups have reviewed and refreshed their terms of reference in-year, and they review progress against the objectives for which they are responsible at every meeting.



Local Resilience Forum Strategic Meeting Chaired by Chief Fire Officer James Courtney, South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue

The Local Resilience Forum (LRF) strategic meeting is attended by Chief Executives and Strategic Leaders from each of the partner organisations within the South Yorkshire LRF.

The meeting's role is to ensure effective multiagency working in order to deliver the objectives of the Local Resilience Forum.

The South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum meets quarterly, and key topics this year have included:

- A multiagency development session on the Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles (JESIP).
- A discussion on multiagency measures which could be put in place to enhance protection of crowded places and open spaces across South Yorkshire following the December 2017 terrorism arrests in Sheffield and Chesterfield.
- National updates from the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government.
- Feedback from the national LRF Chairs' Conference.
- Outcomes and learning from local exercises.
- Approval of refreshed multiagency emergency plans.
- Oversight of our refreshed Community Risk Register.
- Consideration of our Strategic Assurance Framework.
- Assessments against key resilience standards.

Strategic leaders across the LRF footprint are looking forward to our Gold Symposium in May 2018 where they will come together to participate in Joint Organisational Learning. The Symposium also provides an opportunity to network with colleagues with whom they will be working closely in multiagency Strategic Coordinating Groups (SCGs), both in response to and recovery from local emergencies.

Business Management Group

Chaired by Superintendent Simon Wanless, South Yorkshire Police

The Business Management Group is a quarterly tactical level meeting, the membership of which comprises partners from the resilience community across South Yorkshire.

The Business Management Group is responsible for the delivery of various workstreams in support of the Local Resilience Forum's strategic objectives and, in turn, is supported by six Sub Groups, each having specific aims and objectives. The Chairs of the Sub Groups have each prepared their individual reports, which follow.

The Business Management Group has received updates from a representative from the Ministry for Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) at each meeting, focussing on each of the main national topics including animal disease, severe weather, human health, and national policy updates.

The Business Management Group has led a positive self-assessment exercise against the MHCLG Checklist for Local Resilience Forums, and from this developed an action plan for further enhancing our planned response to emergencies. We have also participated in benchmarking with other local LRFs. We look forward to the publication of new national standards for Local Resilience Forums by MHCLG, and will re-assess our performance against these new standards during 2018/19.

Other key pieces of work initiated by the Business Management Group include:

- Developing a draft South Yorkshire Utilities Failure Plan.
- Working with our partner Local Resilience Forum in the Humber area to jointly plan our response to East Coast Tidal Flooding.
- Participation in a Tidal Trent Flooding Exercise across 9 local LRFs.

Over the past year, the LRF has coordinated the planning and response to a number of events and incidents. These incidents have seen effective response and recovery arrangements implemented where the emergency services and partners have worked collaboratively, adopting the Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles (JESIP) to ensure a coordinated incident management process.

Following a large-scale exercise testing our tactical response to a terrorism scenario at Meadowhall in early 2017, we followed this up with a strategic review exercise to test our collaborative strategic decision making capabilities.

The Business Management Group has responsibility for embedding learning, both from South Yorkshire emergency plan exercises, and learning from incidents and exercises elsewhere in the country, into the LRF. In the past year, we have been utilising the new national Joint Organisational Learning portal to identify and embed good practice within our core business.

Risk Management & Planning Group Chaired by Karen Chaplin, NHS England



The role of the Risk Management and Planning Group is to produce a Community Risk Register on behalf of the South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum in order to inform contingency planning arrangements.

The Community Risk Register is based on national guidance and local knowledge. It identifies potential hazards – the circumstances, situations or events with the potential to lead to civil emergencies in South Yorkshire.

Individual risk assessments are produced by nominated ‘Risk Leads’ and are based on the nature of the hazard, and the identification of existing and additionally required preventative and mitigation measures / controls / capabilities and contingency plans. The risk rating (the impact of the hazard combined with the likelihood of it happening) is plotted on a profile of severity.

In November 2017 the Group submitted a revised Community Risk Register to the Local Resilience Forum. This highlighted that the highest risks in South Yorkshire are:

- Pandemic Influenza
- National electricity failure
- Flooding – coastal flooding (from the East Coast tidal inundation), fluvial flooding (river flooding), and pluvial flooding (surface water flooding from rainfall).

The South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum prioritised further work on all of these three areas of risk, and we now have a new Yorkshire & Humber wide Pandemic Influenza Framework to which local plans align, a draft South Yorkshire Utility Failure Plan, and we have been exercising our existing comprehensive plans for flooding.

In looking at all of these areas of risk, there are some “common consequences” which are common to them all – such as the need for warning & informing, managing casualties, arranging evacuation and shelter, and providing humanitarian assistance. We have reviewed our plans to ensure that we are planning effectively for these common consequences – an example being the work of our Human Aspects Group on planning effective humanitarian assistance during emergencies.

The Group has also explored the cyber risk to Local Resilience Forum organisations, following the NHS cyber attack via the WannaCry virus during Spring 2017.

The Community Risk Register is used as the basis for all our work within the Local Resilience Forum, making risk the foundation of resilience efforts in the county.

Training & Exercising Group Chaired by Simon Dunker, South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue



The role of the Training & Exercising Group is to plan, organise and coordinate training and exercising needs, aligned to the Local Resilience Forum strategic priorities, our Community Risk Register, our current plans, and any new and emerging risks.

In Spring 2017 a Local Resilience Forum exercise took place to validate the multiagency response, at a strategic level, to a terrorism scenario in South Yorkshire. This exercise involved all strategic partners and was completed successfully.

During February 2018 we participated in an exercise to validate the cross-LRF response to Tidal Trent flooding. This was a very useful exercise in working across the borders of our Local Resilience Forum, and considered how we can offer mutual aid to other areas of the country. This will be fully debriefed and reports circulated to Local Resilience Forum members and partner agencies.

The Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles (JESIP) have been incorporated into all exercises to build on joint and collaborative working between all partners. JESIP refresher training is underway within the region and it is anticipated that all LRF members will be invited to send delegates in due course.

Reflecting on the tragic fire at Grenfell Tower, we are planning a tactical exercise in 2018/19 that will build on our “Gold Symposium” relating to the common consequences of a major fire. The strategic exercise is currently being planned which will link in with a planned military “Resilient Rat” exercise and the “Gold Symposium”, testing our nominated strategic leads.

The Training & Exercising Group has also been busy overseeing the development of our annual Gold Symposium – a whole day dedicated to fostering professional development and strategic leadership growth within the South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum. Due to be held in May 2018, the aim of the day is to consider, through learning and discussion, South Yorkshire LRF’s current strategic position in relation to recent national events. We will focus on learning from recent national Terrorist, Cyber Crime and other high profile events. Running through the day will be the overall theme of preparedness, including Risk, Resilience, Protective Security, Impacts, Consequences and Business Continuity.

Public Information & Media Group Chaired by Alex Mills, South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue



The role of the Public Information and Media Group is to plan how to warn, inform and advise the public before, during and after an emergency.

Communications formed a key part of the exercise to validate the multiagency response, at a strategic level, to a terrorism scenario in South Yorkshire. Learning has been taken from this exercise, and our “Communicating with the Public” plan has been refreshed, approved, and shared with all members of the LRF.

Our Communications Leads have also focussed on training together in readiness for a joint response to multiagency emergencies, and topics have included airport communication (with Doncaster Sheffield Airport falling into the South Yorkshire boundary), and effective crisis communications.

Our South Yorkshire Prepared website has been reviewed and updated with our refreshed Community Risk Register, and with information on how members of the public can prepare their homes, their businesses, and their communities for emergencies.

Human Aspects Group Chaired by Rosalind McDonagh, Doncaster Council



The role of the Human Aspects Group is to ensure that appropriate humanitarian assistance arrangements are in place in South Yorkshire to meet the immediate, medium and long term needs of those affected by a wide range of emergency events.

The Group has worked in partnership to build capacity and coordinate humanitarian assistance arrangements within South Yorkshire, and is attended by a range of voluntary sector organisations including the British Red Cross, Street Pastors, the Salvation Army, and Victim Support.

The Group has considered information on modern day slavery, shared learning from the Manchester Arena terrorist attack, and reviewed LRF capacity and capability to provide humanitarian assistance during an emergency.

A key piece of work has been the development, in partnership with the Humber Local Resilience Forum, of a new East Coast Tidal Inundation Plan – ensuring that South Yorkshire is ready to provide mutual aid to our partner LRF in the event of east coast tidal flooding.

The Group is now developing a Humanitarian Assistance Plan to ensure that our South Yorkshire multiagency emergency response continues to address the common humanitarian needs after a variety of incidents, and that recovery from an incident starts from the very beginning of the response to that incident.

The Group has been closely involved in local exercises to validate Local Resilience Forum plans – ensuring humanitarian assistance is embedded in our response. This has included testing of Doncaster Sheffield Airport arrangements for repatriation of UK residents.

Telecommunications Sub Group Chaired by Chris Lucas, Yorkshire Ambulance Service



The role of the Telecommunications Sub Group is to ensure that local responders and partners within South Yorkshire are able to communicate effectively during even the most challenging of circumstances. The provision of effective operational communications is key to ensuring that information can be shared between responding organisations and coordination is maintained.

Over the last year the Group has been reviewing the South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum Telecommunications Plan, and this has been developed into a useful action card for all local emergency responders. In addition, the High Integrity Telecommunications System (HITS) has been tested on a regular basis, ensuring resilient communications are in place to support the management of emergencies.

The Group continues to remain fully updated on the new national 'Emergency Services Mobile Communication Programme', which will roll out in subsequent years.

The Group also continues to support interoperable communications, utilising the current Airwave network. Following the Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles (JESIP) doctrine, regular communications testing between responding organisations and commanders continues on a regular basis.

The Telecommunications Sub Group has reflected that it is keen to widen its remit to include areas such as the Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles (JESIP) and Chemical, Biological, Radiation & Nuclear (CBRN) joint working. During 2018/19 the Telecommunications Sub Group will therefore evolve into a tactical level Interoperability meeting for the South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum.

Business Continuity Group **Chaired by Russ Parramore, South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue**



The role of the Business Continuity Group is to enhance organisational resilience of Local Resilience Forum partners through the dissemination of good practice and the sharing of experience between partners in relation to Business Continuity.

The Business Continuity Group is attended by Business Continuity Management practitioners from each of the blue light services, Health, Local Authorities, Major Utilities and other invited agencies. The group meets on a regular basis where the sharing of information about Business Continuity practice, events and exercising ensures an effective partnership working to provide resilience within the South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum area.

The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 requires that each of the organisations represented must have a Business Continuity Management (BCM) system in place, so that during any period of disruption their Critical Functions can be prioritised and maintained until normal service is resumed. Industrial action, flooding and the loss of information technology continue to feature highly on the agenda of our meetings. All of the agencies represented align themselves to recognised Business Continuity standards, usually either sector-specific standards or the international standard ISO22301.

During the year, the Group has particularly focussed on the business continuity impact of power outages, and our local response to the national Fuel Plan.

The group continually horizon scan to identify and raise awareness of business continuity issues that may affect the various organisations within the South Yorkshire.

Conclusion

The South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum is a strong multi-agency partnership with representatives from across the public sector and supporting organisations, working together to ensure that South Yorkshire is better prepared to respond to and recover from emergencies.

We will continue to work together over the next year, building on the solid foundations which we have already created, learning from experience within South Yorkshire and across the country, and regularly refreshing our plans to ensure that they keep pace with the changing environment in which we are all operating.

If you would like to know more, our website www.southyorkshireemergencies.co.uk gives additional advice on preparing your homes, businesses and communities for emergencies.