



Cumbria
PREPARED



Westmorland
& Furness
Council

Cumbria Local Resilience Forum



Community Emergency Hubs

Westmorland and Furness and Cumberland Councils, on behalf of Cumbria Local Resilience Forum are launching a Community Emergency Hub Scheme for our communities wanting to prepare for and better respond to emergencies.

A Community Emergency Hub is a safe place where community members can go and support each other during an incident or emergency.

The idea has been developed from a successful model used in New Zealand whereby communities have designed hubs operated by themselves, with structure and support from responding agencies.

The Cumbrian Councils adapted the scheme; after exercising, testing and making improvements. It is now ready for launch to communities and groups countywide.

All local communities wanting to use a safe place where community resilience can occur now have opportunity to set up a hub, to coordinate local resources, share information and communicate with responding agencies.



cumbriaprepared.org.uk/community-emergency-hubs

The Council can give you a compact kit of resources, with a guidance booklet to support you setting up your local hub.

Any Cumbrian community, big or small can have a hub.



To find out more about the scheme, click below:

[Community Emergency Hubs | Cumbria Prepared](#)

and liaise with your Local Authority Community Development Officer for a kit.

Councillor Justin McDermott, Cumberland Council's Portfolio Holder for Public Health and Communities, said:



"With our partners, we work year-round on the services that ready our communities for emergencies. And when they happen, we take co-ordinated action to protect residents and their homes.

"But one of the most valuable things we do, especially as extreme weather events become more frequent, is help communities become more resilient themselves. No-one is better placed to co-ordinate a community response than local people – so I am delighted that, together, we are enabling people to take the reins themselves.

"Hubs are safe spaces where residents can gather, access services and, crucially, tap into collective information and resources. They can be set up quickly, even when weather makes it difficult for outsiders to reach the site.

"I urge communities to use the support on offer to create an emergency plan for their own needs, and to build their own readiness – so that when the worst happens, we can work together."

Councillor Judith Derbyshire, Westmorland and Furness Council's Cabinet member for Housing and Community Safety, said:



"Our council works closely with emergency response partners to plan, prepare for and respond to incidents and emergencies.

"Part of the council's role is to support community preparedness. We are wanting to work with our communities, including our town and parish councils, to help develop community emergency plans, and more effective, timely and locally targeted help to people in an emergency.

"Community hubs can provide a place where people can come together and offer each other support in an emergency, where information can be shared and where responses and recovery can be co-ordinated with community insight.

"We believe that working with and alongside communities in such situations will ensure that people are best supported in an emergency situation and I would urge people to find out more about how to set up a community hub in your area."



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