



RURAL CHURCH COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & RESPONSE

1

BE PREPARED & PLAN AHEAD

Familiarise yourself with the local emergency plan & your role as church/community volunteers.

2

GET CONNECTED

Join local social media groups, networks and have key community contacts easily to hand.

3

STAY SAFE

Observe all protocols & avoid well-meaning but potentially risky actions, i.e. don't ignore exclusion zones.

4

KNOW YOUR LIMITS

Don't overstretch your volunteer team - offer practical help, chaplaincy & prayer, then signpost to wider support network.

5

ACCESS SUPPORT

Use all wider support on offer, share the load and take advice from your denominational comms team as required.



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1

BE PREPARED & PLAN AHEAD

Find out more about local emergency response support for parish councils in England & Wales here: [Emergency planning](#)

For all other nations and crown dependencies the following links may be useful; [Preparing for emergencies: find out about local plans - GOV.UK](#) (for England & Wales) [Responding to Emergencies | Ready Scotland](#) (for Scotland) [Community emergency planning](#) (N. Ireland) [Isle of Man Government - Emergency Planning Unit](#) (for IOM) [Emergency planning](#) (Jersey) [Emergency Planning - States of Guernsey](#) (Guernsey)

2

GET CONNECTED

Adopt a proactive approach - prepare & build local resilience networks ahead of any emergency situation.

This guide might be helpful: [Community resilience](#).

3

STAY SAFE

Animal diseases like bird flu, foot and mouth, or bluetongue can spread quickly among livestock. Some can also infect humans. These outbreaks can harm farming, the food chain supply, and the economy.

Further guidance on staying safe can be [found here](#).

4

KNOW YOUR LIMITS

Don't overstretch your volunteer team - offer practical help, chaplaincy & prayer, then [signpost to wider support](#), both practical & spiritual.

Ensure the well-being of yourself as a leader, others who are part of the volunteering team, as well as those impacted in your wider community.

5

ACCESS SUPPORT

Use all wider support on offer when speaking with the press.

Share the load and take advice from your denominational communications team, accessing their support as required. It is helpful to do this before commenting publicly. Refer to the [Methodist media team guidance](#) or your own denominational resources.

With grateful thanks to the Methodist Rural Solidarity Circle;

Amanda Gorton, Bridget Down, Rev Nick Read, Rev Richard Wilde, Sarah Hulme, Rev Dr Tracey Darling.