



WEST YORKSHIRE **PREPARED**

YOUR SERVICES WORKING TOGETHER

WEST YORKSHIRE RESILIENCE FORUM

ANNUAL REPORT
2022 / 2023



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Foreword

It is with great pleasure that we introduce the West Yorkshire Resilience Forum Annual Report for 2022/23, which rightfully acknowledges the hard work, wider collaboration and achievements of the forum over the previous twelve months.

It is essential that all organisations responsible for responding to emergencies and helping those affected, continue to get better at working together to minimise the impact of such occurrences, and ensure an effective and coordinated response. The Local Resilience Forum enables all responsible organisations to plan effectively and ensure that we in West Yorkshire are equipped and prepared to deal with any emergency that may occur. Emergencies can have a huge impact on residents, communities and businesses and cause great distress through injury, loss of life, damage to property and people being forced out of their homes, as well as longer-term serious disruption to everyday normality.

The previous twelve months have seen an exceptionally busy period for the West Yorkshire Resilience Forum. We responded to a number of live operational incidents, as well as developing and delivering the busiest multi-agency training and exercising schedule since before the COVID-19 pandemic. It is essential we continue to learn from these combined experiences to ensure we have a coordinated partnership approach to managing critical incidents, with the safety of our neighbourhoods and communities remaining our clear priority.

It is vital we are prepared, and to do that we need to understand the challenges facing us and identify and address any gaps in our capacity and capability to deal with those challenges. The National Security Risk Assessment and our local risk registers help us focus on what really matters to the people of West Yorkshire and empower us to deal with emergencies should they arise.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank all colleagues within the West Yorkshire Resilience Forum, the sub-group teams and the Secretariat for their continued hard work and commitment over the last year. We are sure that 2023/24 will bring more challenges to test our resilience, but by working together, and in striving to achieve the highest standards for the people of West Yorkshire, we will continue to serve our communities and provide them with the response they deserve.



Ed Chesters

T/Assistant Chief Constable
West Yorkshire Police



Dave Walton

Deputy Chief Officer
West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service



Kersten England CBE

Chief Executive
Bradford Local Authority

Introduction & Partner Organisations

West Yorkshire Prepared is the region's Local Resilience Forum (LRF) and is a multi-agency partnership, working to identify, plan and prepare for major civil emergencies, to ensure the region is better prepared to cope with potential risks and able to recover following a major incident.

The LRF assesses the types of hazards that might affect the region, puts plans in place to address different types of emergencies, delivers training and exercises to test the plans, ensures staff in all organisations are kept up to date and provides advice, information and assistance to the public, business community and voluntary organisations.

The organisations in West Yorkshire Prepared work collaboratively to ensure there is co-ordination, co-operation, and efficiency within the partnership, working together for the benefit of the communities they serve.

Partner Organisations of the West Yorkshire Resilience Forum

Category 1



Organisations are at the core of the response to most emergencies.



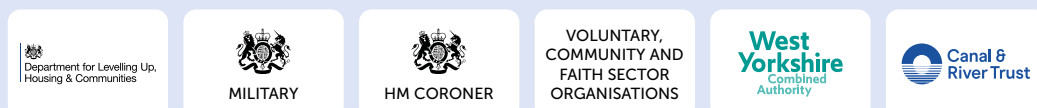
Category 2



Organisations provide support to Category 1 organisations when and where required during an emergency incident.



Cooperating Bodies



West Yorkshire Prepared Subgroup Activity

West Yorkshire Resilience Forum has a number of sub-groups, which take responsibility for different areas of work. Each sub-group is required to produce plans and guidance relevant to their work area. The following pages summarise a selection of the activity currently being undertaken within each group.

Risk and Capabilities Subgroup

Subgroup Type:	Tactical
Chair:	West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service
Deputy Chair:	Leeds City Council

The aim of this subgroup is to identify, assess and prioritise risks that arise from hazards and threats which may impact West Yorkshire, and enable the West Yorkshire Resilience Forum and associated groups to deliver appropriate programmes of work aimed at treating these risks.

Activity over the last twelve months has included the continued review and localised risk assessment of risks identified under the National Security Risk Assessment 2019, and also the identification of risks which require multi-agency exercising. This includes, but is not limited to, extreme weather events, fluvial flooding and counter terrorism related incidents.

Interoperability Subgroup

Subgroup Type:	Tactical
Chair:	West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service
Deputy Chair:	Yorkshire Ambulance Service

The aim of this subgroup is to ensure the West Yorkshire Resilience Forum is able to respond to malicious attacks, as per the National Risk Register, in an efficient and effective manner and enable a swift return to normality with minimal disruption to services and community activities. This subgroup is also responsible for embedding the Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles (JESIP) within all partner agencies.

Activity over the last twelve months has included maintaining an oversight of the progress against the Manchester Arena Inquiry recommendations, reviewing multi-agency major incident response plans to ensure they work with each other, and establishing memorandums of understanding (MOU) between partners (e.g. an MOU has been established between West Yorkshire Police and British Transport Police to outline which agency takes primacy for certain incidents).



**ENSURING
RESPONSES TO
INCIDENTS ARE
EFFICIENT AND
EFFECTIVE**





Business Continuity Subgroup

Subgroup Type:	Operational
Chair:	Wakefield Council
Deputy Chair:	West Yorkshire Police

The aim of this subgroup is to implement the National Resilience Standard for Business Continuity Management and fulfil the requirements of the Cabinet Office document 'The role of Local Resilience Forums: A reference document'.

Activity over the last twelve months has included maintaining an overview of industrial action across partner agencies, and planning and developing a response plan in the event of power outages and cyber resilience.

Training, Exercising and Development Subgroup

Subgroup Type:	Tactical
Chair:	West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service
Deputy Chair:	West Yorkshire Police

The aim of this subgroup is to ensure West Yorkshire Resilience Forum members are, through effective training, exercising and development programmes, competent and prepared to undertake their role at a Strategic, Tactical and Operational level to deal with risks, threats, incidents and events in an efficient and effective manner. This subgroup also ensures multi-agency plans are exercised at appropriate levels, providing feedback to LRF Partners and more widely, through debriefs and lessons learned, using Joint Organisational Learning (JOL) where appropriate.

Activity over the last twelve months has included the planning, writing and delivery of several multi-agency exercises covering areas such as: Marauding Terrorist Attacks, Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH), Cyber, and the activation of a Strategic Coordinating Group without notice.



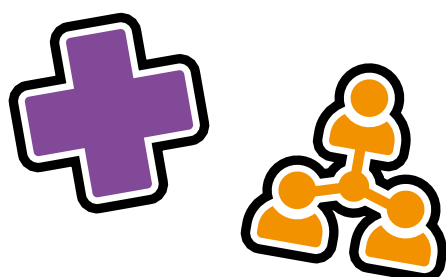
BUSINESSES ACROSS BRITAIN FACE A VARIETY OF POTENTIAL EMERGENCIES, SUCH AS CYBER-ATTACKS, FIRE, FLOODING, SEVERE WEATHER, CIVIL UNREST AND SEVERE ILLNESS.

Mass Fatalities Subgroup

Subgroup Type:	Operational
Chair:	Leeds City Council
Deputy Chair:	HM Coroner's Service

The aim of this subgroup is to ensure the West Yorkshire Resilience Forum has plans in place to respond to an incident involving a large number of unexpected deaths.

Activity over the last twelve months has included the continued development and maintenance of a multi-agency Mass Fatalities and Excess Deaths response plan. Work is currently ongoing to separate these into two distinct plans. The West Yorkshire Prepared Mass Fatalities Subgroup is also responsible for and maintains oversight of the development of Local Authority plans on this subject.



Resources, Evacuation and Recovery Subgroup

Subgroup Type:	Operational
Chair:	Kirklees Council
Deputy Chair:	City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

The aim of this subgroup is to ensure the region's resources are fully prepared for managing emergencies, evacuation and recovery within or affecting West Yorkshire.

Activity over the last twelve months has included planning and preparation for a fuel shortage exercise later in 2023, the identification of designated fuelling stations for use by the emergency services in the event of a widespread fuel shortage and the continued review of multi-agency plans developed by this subgroup.



SEVERE WEATHER IS ONE OF THE MAIN CAUSES OF DISRUPTION IN WEST YORKSHIRE. THERE ARE VARIOUS FORMS OF SEVERE WEATHER INCLUDING SNOW, ICE, HEAVY RAIN, HIGH WINDS, FOG AND HEATWAVES.

Severe Weather Subgroup

Subgroup Type:	Operational
Chair:	Kirklees Council
Deputy Chair:	Environment Agency

The aim of this subgroup is to propose a clear, integrated framework for all agencies involved in planning for, and responding to, the consequences of severe weather (e.g. flooding, storms, snow, heatwaves, etc.) and dam inundation incidents.

Activity over the last twelve months has included the development and refresh of the West Yorkshire Resilience Forum Severe Weather Plan. This group has also discussed recent severe weather incidents, including Snow (March 2023), Extreme Heat (Summer 2022) and Drought (2022), as well as the Emergency Alerts service and how it could be used for severe weather alerts (e.g., flooding).

Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector Organisations Subgroup

Subgroup Type:	Operational
Chair:	Yorkshire 4x4 Response
Deputy Chair:	Wakefield Council

The West Yorkshire Prepared Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector Subgroup provides a joint working platform for practitioners for the county's emergency planning arrangements with voluntary sector partners. Its overall purpose is to support the work of the West Yorkshire Resilience Forum, to identify issues for consideration by the WYRF and/or the WYRF Management Group and to ensure their decisions are implemented.

Activity over the last twelve months has included presentations from partners to outline their response capabilities in the event of an incident, and updates have been made to the activation documentation to ensure the West Yorkshire Resilience Forum has the correct contact details should they be required.

SUPPORTING THE WORK OF THE WEST YORKSHIRE RESILIENCE FORUM.



Warning and Informing Subgroup

Subgroup Type:	Operational
Chair:	West Yorkshire Resilience Forum (Communications and Projects Lead)
Deputy Chair:	Kirklees Council

The aim of this subgroup is to assist responding agencies in fulfilling the requirements of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 in relation to communicating with the public through the media and any other available channels prior to, during and after an incident, and to assist in building resilient communities through the provision of timely information.

Activity over the last twelve months has included preparation for the launch of Emergency Alerts, regular involvement in the Training and Exercising schedule to test capabilities, and public communications during incidents to ensure a coherent and consistent message across partner agencies.



Exercising and Incidents of Note

Training and exercising are an essential part of the work undertaken by the West Yorkshire Resilience Forum to ensure all partners are trained appropriately and prepared for a wide range of emergency incidents that may occur in the region. The previous twelve-month period has been a busy one in terms of multi-agency exercising and responding to incidents. The below articulates a summary of each.

Exercise SCAPHA

Multi-agency tabletop exercise based on a hijacked aircraft scenario.



APRIL

2022

Exercise BROAD

An ongoing exercise over the twelve-month period for all partner agencies to test the West Yorkshire Resilience Forum Incident Notification System.

MAY

2022

Exercise LEMUR

Multi-agency exercise to test an electricity outage.

JUNE

2022

Exercise ONCHOCERA

A regional tabletop exercise to test CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear) response.

Exercise GALVANIZE

A CBRN decontamination exercise run by Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust.

Exercise AESTUS ROSE

Multi-agency exercise to test both individual agencies and the overarching West Yorkshire Resilience Forum Severe Weather Plan to an extreme heat incident.

Exercise LARGO

Multi-agency table-top exercise to test the response to a Marauding Terrorist Attack (MTA) at Leeds Train Station.



Gold Symposium

This is a multi-agency event held annually and aimed at Gold (Strategic) commanders to provide inputs and Continuous Professional Development (CPD) ahead of the Gold Exercise later in the year. This year's focus was on Marauding Terrorist Attacks (MTA).

2022

JULY

Leeds Bradford Airport Table-top Exercise

An exercise to test the district policing response to an aircraft incident/emergency.

Incident: Extreme Heat

A multi-agency response and activation of the West Yorkshire Resilience Forum Severe Weather Plan in response to the extreme heat (Red Weather Warning).

Gold Room Familiarisation

A series of multi-agency sessions to provide an awareness and familiarisation with the facilities available should the Gold Room* require activation during a multi-agency response. (*The Gold room is where strategic leads from different organisations come together during a multi-agency major incident).

2022

AUGUST

Incident: Extreme Heat

A multi-agency response and activation of the West Yorkshire Resilience Forum Severe Weather Plan in response to the extreme heat (Amber Weather Warning).

Incident: Operation London Bridge (Death of HM Queen Elizabeth II)

Following the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II, the West Yorkshire Resilience Forum undertook a multi-agency response with regular meetings and activated its response plan.

2022

SEPTEMBER

Exercise ROCKING CHAIR

A multi-agency Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) tabletop exercise to test the response to an incident at a site in Bradford.

Exercise DARK DAY (Gold Exercise)

Multi-agency table-top exercise to test the strategic response to a Marauding Terrorist Attack (MTA) at multiple locations.

2022

NOVEMBER

Exercise GREX

A no-notice out of hours activation of a Tactical Coordinating Group to test the ability of partner agencies to mobilise to a virtual meeting outside of working hours.

Crisis Communications Workshop

An external workshop aimed at communications colleagues to test multi-agency communications during an incident.



Exercise STEPPING STONE

A multi-agency Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) tabletop exercise to test the response to an incident at a site in Huddersfield.

DECEMBER

2022



Incident: Excess Deaths

Due to an increase in excess deaths over the Christmas period, multi-agency tactical coordinating groups were established and the West Yorkshire Resilience Forum Mass Fatalities plan was partially activated.

JANUARY

2023

Manchester Arena Inquiry Webinar

Hosted by West Mercia LRF to provide details and insight into the recommendations out of the Manchester Arena Inquiry.

Major Incident: St James' Hospital

Multi-agency response following the declaration of a Major Incident.

Extreme Weather Webinar

Attended by partners on the West Yorkshire Resilience Forum Severe Weather subgroup.

FEBRUARY

2023

Major Incident: HMP Wakefield

Multi-agency response following the declaration of a Major Incident.

Cyber Exercise

Hosted by the Yorkshire and Humber Warning, Advice and Reporting Point (WARP), attended by IT representatives from a range of partner organisations to test their response capability to a cyber-attack within a simulated environment.



MARCH

2023

Exercise GRAND WALL

A multi-agency Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) tabletop exercise to test the response to an incident at a site in Wakefield.

Whilst protracted, the West Yorkshire Resilience Forum has also maintained oversight and coordination on industrial action activity over the previous twelve-month period.



Don't panic
PREPARE!



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westyorkshireprepared.org.uk