



Wells City Council adopts new Community Resilience Plan to strengthen emergency preparedness

Wells City Council has adopted a new Community Resilience Plan to help the city prepare for and respond to major emergencies, bringing together local resources, community organisations and volunteers.

The plan sets out how the Council will work with community partners and emergency response agencies to coordinate local resources and provide support to residents, businesses and visitors during a major incident. It identifies a range of risks that could affect Wells, including flooding, severe weather, power outages, fire and water supply failure, and sets out how the Council and its community partners can prepare for these situations.

Community resilience is about communities and individuals using local knowledge, skills and resources to help themselves during an emergency, complementing the work of the emergency services. By planning in advance, the Council can help coordinate the local response and make use of relationships with community organisations and partner agencies.

Clear and consistent communication will also form an important part of the Council's response during an emergency. Communications will be factual, accessible and coordinated, with residents able to access the latest information through the Council's website and social media channels, as well as through partner organisations.

If digital channels cannot be accessed during an emergency, alternative methods such as door-to-door checks and printed notices may be used. The Council will work with partner agencies to ensure information remains clear, consistent and accessible, while helping to address misinformation and rumours.

Residents also have an important role to play in building community resilience. This includes taking reasonable steps to prepare themselves and their households for emergencies, staying informed during incidents and supporting local community organisations.

As part of local flood resilience work, Wells Rotary, with support from EVAG, is also offering flood resilience support kits to homes that are vulnerable to flooding. Residents who may benefit from a kit can contact Wells Rotary through its website to arrange an appointment.

Further information about the Community Resilience Plan, including advice and practical tips on how residents can prepare for emergencies in their own homes, is available on the Wells City Council website.

The Community Resilience Plan is intended to support the response to major incidents affecting the wider community. It does not replace arrangements for individual household emergencies or the role of the emergency services.