



Local Resilience Forums & the VCSE Sector: Developing a Functional Relationship to promote planning and resilience

- Advantages of VCSE Sector involvement in LRF
- Common problems in establishing LRF connections and overcoming them
- Key insights to making the best use of VCSE Sector in an emergency



Advantages of VCSE Sector Involvement in Local Resilience Forums

- Civil Contingencies Acts Supporting Regulations (Contingency planning 2005) requires that category 1 responders “have regard” to the activities of certain VCSE organisations in the course of carrying out their emergency and business continuity planning duties.
- creates an expectation that the resources, expertise and reach into communities by the VCSE sector will be utilised



Advantages of VCSE Sector Involvement in Local Resilience Forums

- Involvement of VCSE organisations in the LRF puts relationships on a more robust and longer term footing
- Active engagement of the VCSE Sector in the LRF enables more effective co-ordination of activity in an Emergency
- Provides additional capacity and resources
- Effective recruitment, retention, mobilisation and management of emergency response volunteers



Common problems in establishing LRF Connections and overcoming them

- Difficulty deciding which VCSE organisations to involve
- Setting up and maintaining a VCSE Sub group of the resilience forum requires support
- Involvement of VCSE Local Infrastructure Organisations in the work of the LRF



Key Insights into making the best use of the VCSE Sector in an emergency: The Salford Story

- Worked with Salford City Council to setup systems for mobilisation of VCSE Sector and Volunteers on behalf of the LRF in an emergency
- Working with AGMA to replicate the arrangements across Greater Manchester



The Salford Story: How our volunteers and VCSE organisations help in an emergency

- Setting up reception/rest centres and provision of other welfare support
- Communicating with residents (helplines, interpretation, street outreach)
- Co-ordinating appeals funds
- Practical assistance – such as clearing debris
- Psychological support during and as part of recovery