

# Moray Community Resilience Bulletin

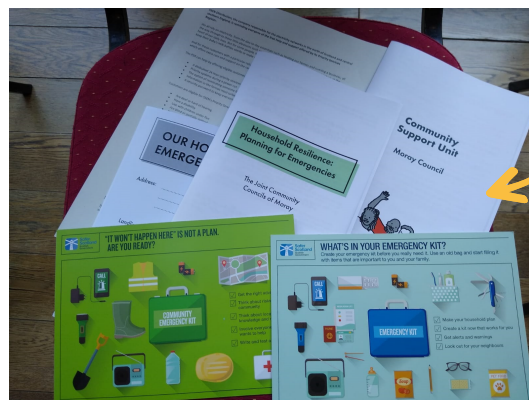
## September 2023

Since January 2022, we have been working to support the development of community resilience groups across Moray. We have supported groups to access funding, develop community emergency plans and access free training opportunities that increase their community resilience.

This year we have delivered community information meetings in the areas of Speyside, Fochabers, Findhorn and Kinloss and Keith and Strathisla. These meetings included a presentation on the emergency planning process for Moray Council and the Grampian area, an update of our work to date and then an open discussion about how community resilience planning might develop in that area.

We also shared simple things that communities can do to increase their resilience such as helping people to sign up to the priority service registers hosted by Scottish and Southern Electricity Network, Scottish Gas Network and Scottish Water. The more people registering who are considered vulnerable in your local area, the better the picture these utility providers have for prioritising support during disruptive events.

If your community are looking to start a resilience group, please get in touch with us to discuss hosting an initial meeting in your area.



### Winter is coming... Almost!

Moray Council will be sharing winter messaging via their Facebook page from October to March. It would be useful to share this on your local community pages so that it has a better chance of reaching people in your community. You could also think about sharing the information in local newsletters, for example, for those who do not use social media.

Download the MET Office App and sign up for weather warning updates. The app is available to download from the App Store (Apple) and Google Play (Android). Key features include real time 'UK National Severe Weather Warnings' and instant notifications for saved locations that include snow, strong winds, ice, fog and rain.

To view which roads are being gritted and when, head to Moray Council's website. Search 'Winter Maintenance' and under the scheduled road gritting tab you can see an interactive live map that shows which roads are scheduled for gritting and priority routes.

**Pictures show the community resilience information meeting in Findhorn, hosted in the Village Centre by local volunteers.**

## What have Moray resilience groups been up to?

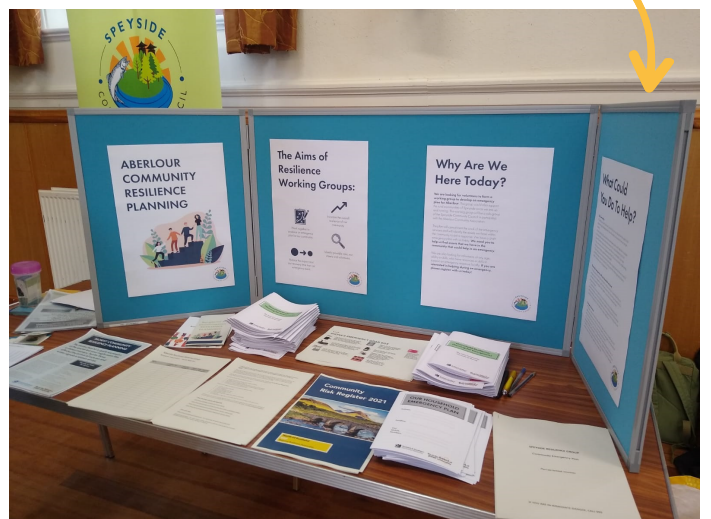
Strathisla have purchased emergency resources that have been distributed to the various community halls in their area, as set out in their SSEN Resilient Communities Fund application. Items in the 80L boxes included self-heating food packets, foil blankets, wind up torches, lanterns, wind-up radios, hand warmers and much more. The boxes were given over to the halls for distribution in their local areas to support vulnerable residents during challenging events. Each hall also received an EcoFlow Power Pack which will enable them to provide a portable power source for charging phones or running small electronic devices from during an emergency event.



In Speyside, Aberlour Community Association in partnership with the Community Council have been responding to the flash flooding experienced in May. Along with damage to private properties, the Old Station Tea Room (a well utilised community asset) suffered extensive damage. The group attended a Moray Council event on the 24th of August in Fleming Hall and hosted an information table. They used the opportunity to recruit volunteers to their CRG, share their flood resistance plans for the Tea Room and get feedback from the community. The group have submitted an application to the 'SSEN Resilient Communities Fund', with guidance from the Scottish Flood Forum and the Community Support Unit (Moray Council), for resistance equipment to protect their community asset from future flooding damage. The application included movable flood door barriers, synthetic flood resistance sacks and air bricks for floor vents. They also applied for a small amount for completing postal information drops around the residencies affected by the floods in May.



The Scottish Flood Forum are an independent charity which supports individuals and communities at risk from flooding. To find out more about the support they can offer, call: 0131 563 9392.

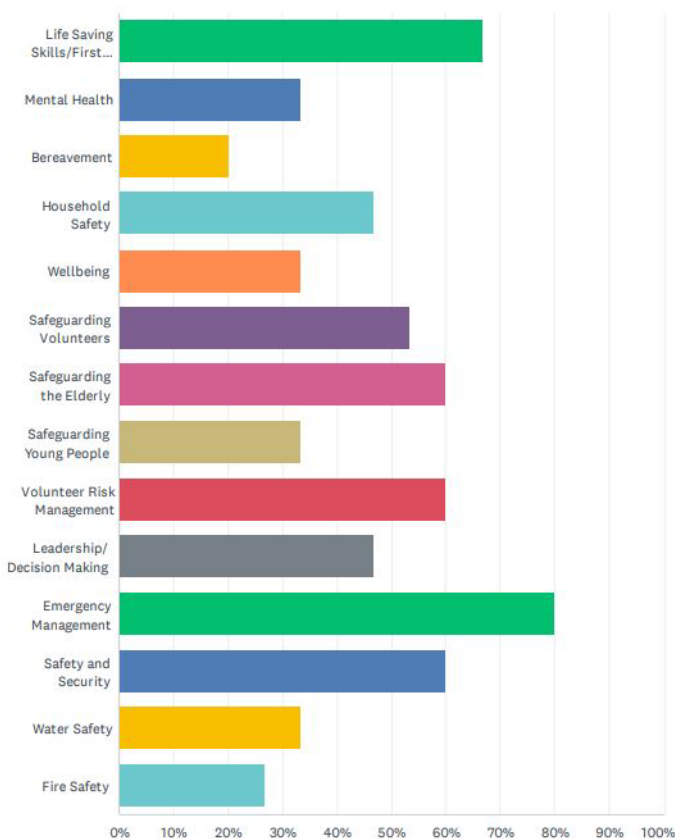


## Ensuring training is available for community resilience volunteers and organisations

The Joint Community Councils of Moray have been vital in developing community-led resilience in Moray. In 2022, they applied for a small amount of money from the SSEN Resilient Communities Fund to deliver some training opportunities to resilience volunteers. Moray Council are committed to continuing this and the Community Support Unit (CSU) have been facilitating this on their behalf.

Recently the CSU has been allocated a budget of £5000 per year from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund to deliver training opportunities to community resilience volunteers over the next two years.

The CSU circulated a survey monkey with CRG contacts to determine what training themes resilience groups felt their area and residents would benefit from.



There is a keen interest in further lifesaving/ first aid training opportunities and a need to focus skills in emergency management. We are currently developing a calendar of training opportunities with the aim of delivering one per month over the next two years. These sessions will be fully funded and available to anyone in Moray for personal resilience or organisational resilience. We promote these on our CLD Communities Facebook page, via email to community resilience groups and they will also feature on the TSI Moray Bulletin. Training details can be shared within your community via your own communication channels and we would encourage you to do so that everyone has the equal opportunity to access and benefit from this resource.

If you have any other ideas for training, please email: [rhona.mcnicol@moray.gov.uk](mailto:rhona.mcnicol@moray.gov.uk)

## Who we are currently working with to deliver training to volunteers:



Befriending Networks



**GREEN RIBBONS**  
MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING & COACHING



[communitycouncils@moray.gov.uk](mailto:communitycouncils@moray.gov.uk)

Be at the **heart** of  
**your** community

**Moray community resilience event will be continued for the next three years**

In November last year, we hosted the first Moray wide, community resilience event in Elgin Town Hall. The event saw 88 community volunteers and 27 emergency service representatives from organisations such as the Police, Scottish Water, Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks, Moray Council, British Red Cross, Scottish Flood Forum, Scotia Medical and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

Following the event, Moray Council have been awarded funding to continue the community resilience event annually for the next three years through the SSEN Local Authorities grant to

emergency planning. We are delighted to have received this support as it means we can continue to grow the community resilience framework we have developing in Moray.

The second event will take place in Lhanbryde Community Centre on the 21st of September. The 'theme' for the event is building confidence and creating connections between community resilience groups and volunteers. We will feature discussions, information and learnings from the event in our next bulletin.



**Lhanbryde Community Centre**  
IV30 8QQ

**Moray Community Resilience 2023**

**Confident & Connected Communities**

**21st of September | 10.30am - 2pm | Free**

**LET'S HELP  
EACH OTHER  
AND WORK  
TOGETHER**

If there is anything that your community resilience group would like support with from Moray Council, please get in touch with Debra Duke our Community Council Liaison Officer to discuss how we can help.

We can provide links to other groups or organisations, help with printed materials, display boards, links to other resilience groups, insurance advice and more.



[communitycouncils@moray.gov.uk](mailto:communitycouncils@moray.gov.uk)

**Be at the heart of  
your community**