

Resilience

Resilience Hubs

Village halls may have a role in communities as a centre for support in the event of floods, snow, storms, power cuts, food and water supply chain issues, and other horrible disasters such as another pandemic.

They may also act as hubs for food and heat for those in need, due to the cost-of-living crisis.

Co-ordination

If a hall committee permits their hall to become a resilience venue during a crisis, they will need to have decided in advance who co-ordinates the disaster response? This could be the hall committee, the community council, the local authority, or a dedicated resilience team.

Resilience Equipment

Halls might purchase equipment to aid their role as a resilience hub, such as a generator to operate during power cuts. Safety should be a primary concern when using a generator, and a qualified electrician should be consulted. See the links below for safety guidance, and for halls in Aberdeenshire that have already installed generators.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/safety/resources/aztopics/generators>

<https://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/fp/news/aberdeen-aberdeenshire/4917364/aberchirder-hall-emergency-generator-storms/>

<https://www.finzean-hall.co.uk/contact-us>

Halls might act as a hub to provide equipment for their communities, such as the Echt and Skene Community Council's halls resilience cabinets.

<https://echtandskenecc.co.uk/community-resilience/>

The council has no statutory duty to prevent properties from flooding, however they will try to help residents and communities as much as they can. When there is widespread flooding, operational staff are likely to be very busy and anyone wanting sandbags should be directed to one of the main Roads Depots holding stocks to collect sandbags for themselves.

Halls/resilience groups can act as hubs for collecting and storing sandbags for their communities, and could hold workshops on home protection.

Information from Aberdeenshire Council on community resilience is available in this link:

<https://engage.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/aberdeenshire-community-resilience-strategy>

