

Introduction to Strategy to create a Local Resilience Capability: Vision

This document introduces South Yorkshire's early thinking and vision for operationalising societal resilience as a Local Resilience Capability. We will use this document to shape the meeting with the aim of developing a collective vision for societal resilience (see iii) questions for discussion).

The meeting will be facilitated by the NCSR+ research team, University of Manchester*.

i) Introduction

Resilience as a societal endeavour is taking hold as a national ambition. The National Resilience Strategy and the Integrated Review of Security and Defence commit to whole-of-society resilience. For our LRF this means we should do even more to help society to be resilient.

Most in society are already quite resilient and can prepare for a disruption and self-help if it happens. But, some parts of society are less resilient to disruption, suffer more from its impacts, and have diverse needs for support that they cannot resolve themselves. These are 'target groups' for additional support and include those individuals, community groups, businesses, and organisations in society that are most at-risk, vulnerable, not prepared, unaware, or unable to leverage their agency to self-determine their own resilience to disruption.

Target groups may require extra help from local services such as partners in our LRF. By working even more closely with target groups and wider society, we will enhance societal resilience in general that will encourage self-help and helping others, and we will better understand the changing needs in target groups so that we can better pinpoint our services.

Societal resilience is the capability created by local systems to help people and places to adapt and advance in a changing environment. Our LRF is a critical component of that system and will continue to respond to local needs from a disruption, target effort to those most in need, and maintain local essential services and their infrastructure. But some disruptions are so big that the volume of needs they create outstrip what our LRF partners can, alone, realistically support. Here, society (with an enthusiasm to help others) has a crucial role to play in bolstering the official response so that emergency responders can focus on those most in need.

As an LRF, we can help society to channel these efforts strategically to get ready before a disruption to react to what may happen during and after it. To accomplish this, we will develop a system that operationalises societal resilience as a capability that can be activated by our LRF when additional support is required.

Local Resilience Capability will deliver functions to society and our target groups, including:

- preparing for a disruption – by encouraging self-help and helping others and by integrating that capability into our LRF as the coordinating body
- responding to a disruption – by coordinating requests for help and offers of support and by monitoring changing local needs
- recovering from a disruption – by supporting society as it deals with the aftermath

ii) Vision for societal resilience

Our vision for societal resilience is:

To create a Local Resilience Capability for our LRF that will enhance our approach to societal resilience, so that our individuals, community groups, businesses, organisations, and voluntary sector can all play a meaningful part in building the resilience of our society.

iii) Questions for discussion

- What does societal resilience mean to you?
- What vision would you like to pursue for societal resilience?
- What are your thoughts on the above vision?
- Where are we currently achieving this vision? i.e. should keep
- Where are the current gaps in achieving this vision? i.e. should fill
- What resources are available to pursue the vision?

***Data collection statement**

Please note that meetings and workshops will be audio recorded by the University of Manchester for research purposes. Any data collected will be stored anonymously, only accessible to individuals working on NCSR+ research from The University of Manchester and may be published in anonymous form in academic books, reports or journals and briefing reports. Your participation in this data collection for research purposes is voluntary and you are free to withdraw your consent at any time.