

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLANNING - ARE YOU PREPARED?

Do you know what to do in the case of an emergency at home or in the local area? What if the power went out or you couldn't leave the house because of flooding or heavy snow! It is not just a case of ringing the emergency services or the East Riding of Yorkshire Council, are YOU ready to help yourself or others?

The East Riding of Yorkshire Council working with the other emergency services will try their best to help but sometimes, especially if the emergency is affecting a very large area they can't always help. They have an emergency planning team to help coordinate resources and actions and Howden Town Council has been asked to put together its own Community Emergency Plan. This plan is only a last resort plan, a 'how can the people of Howden help themselves while other services get to them plan'. It's a plan that they can call upon to action a local response. The Town Council will lead on the plan and a version of it can be found on the Town Council's website www.howden-tc.gov.uk. There is also more information on the East Riding of Yorkshire Council's website www.eastriding.gov.uk under 'Preparing For Emergencies'.

What can the Town Council do to help?

Following a number of local flooding incidents over recent years the council now has a number of petrol and electric pumps which can be used to help pump out local houses, but bear in mind that sometimes it is very difficult to find somewhere to pump the water to!

The Town Council also pays for a number of salt bins around the town to complement the ones supplied by the East Riding of Yorkshire Council. We have a limited supply of salt for the pavements that we will endeavour to spread when the conditions worsen, but we will not do pavements that will be covered by the East Riding of Yorkshire Council. The East Riding of Yorkshire Council also undertakes to grit a number of the main roads through Howden. They can't grit them all. However if there is snow on your road or blocking your drive you can clear it yourself and use grit from the salt bins to help make the surface safer. More information on this can be found on the East Riding of Yorkshire Council's website under 'Gritting, Salt Bins And Winter Road Services'.

If there is a need to evacuate residents from homes around Howden the Town Council can be called upon by the East Riding of Yorkshire Council and the emergency services to help and a number of buildings have been identified as suitable temporary accommodation.

But are you ready for a local emergency?

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If you need the assistance of the Town Council, especially if you are suffering from flooding please ring **07704 524155**

Other useful numbers are:

Fire, Police, Ambulance and Coastguard

999

Police Non Emergency Number

101

NHS Direct

111

East Riding of Yorkshire Council (24hr)

01482 393939

Environment Agency Floodline

0845 988 1188

Gas Emergency Service and Gas Escapes

0800 111 999

Northern Powergrid (electricity)

Emergency Service Supply Failures

105

Yorkshire Water

0845 124 24 24

Highways Agency General Enquiries

0300 123 5000

National Rail Enquiries

08457 48 49 50

Yorkshire Traveline

0871 200 22 33