

Your Local Community Network

Yeovil LCN

**7.00pm 19th March 2026
Tintinhull Village Hall
and Online (HYBRID)**





Please Note

- This meeting is being digitally transcribed. Information captured is used to produce the meeting notes.
- Photographs or images of this meeting may be captured for publicity and promotional purposes. If you do not want your image to be used, please let a member of the LCN Team know.

IN-PERSON ATTENDEES

- If the fire alarm sounds leave the building immediately via the signposted exits.
- Please **turn off Wi-Fi on all your devices** so that people attending online can get the best possible meeting experience and put all your devices on silent.
- Please raise your hand to alert the Chair if you'd like to speak.
- **The microphones work automatically when you start speaking, indicated by a green light. You don't need to press anything! Simply hold the microphone and speak clearly into it.**

VIRTUAL ATTENDEES

- Please put your microphone on mute when you're not speaking.
- If you'd like to speak, please raise your 'hand' to alert the Chair or use the meeting's chat function for any comments or questions, which will be visible to everyone.
- Turning cameras on isn't a must, but **it helps everyone to feel more engaged and connected in this collaborative space**. If you're okay with it, we'd appreciate seeing you!

Agenda



1. **Welcome and apologies**
2. **Parish Issues and Opportunities: Collaboration and Feedback**
3. **Parish Preparedness Survey**
4. **Community Transport**
5. **Arts Engagement and Outreach**
6. **Highways Working Group Update**
7. **Future Agenda Items and Speakers**
8. **Any Other Business?**
9. **Close and Networking**

Welcome & Apologies



Parish Issues & Opportunities



What are the **TOP 3** issues for your parish?

For each issue, what support does your parish need?

How could it be addressed through collaboration with others?

What examples are there of successful collaboration (or barriers preventing it) for the same or similar issues?

Guest Speaker



Dr Paul Elliston

Resilience & Adaptation Community Outreach

Community Engagement Officer (flooding)

Somerset Rivers Authority

Email: paul.elliston@somerset.gov.uk

Phone: 07825 054667



City, Town & Parish Preparedness Survey

NAME OF CITY/TOWN/PARISH _____

RISK

Using a score of 0 (None) to 4 (Very Likely), please evaluate the extent to which you consider your Parish to be vulnerable to the following hazards. Where possible, please also give the date (or month and year) when this last occurred in your Parish.

| | Date of Last Known Event | Score (0 – 4) |
|---|--------------------------|---------------|
| Property / Business Flooding | | |
| Strong Winds | | |
| Excessive Heat | | |
| Excessive Cold, Snow and Ice | | |
| Road Traffic Accidents | | |
| Access limited by Accidents, Road Closures or Excessive Traffic | | |
| Animal Disease | | |
| Terrorism and Malicious Threats | | |
| Pandemic | | |
| Radiation Incident | | |
| Industrial Incident | | |
| Power Outage | | |
| Fire | | |

For the rest of the survey, please use the same scoring system (0-4) to self-evaluate your level of preparedness as a Parish to deal with the risks you have identified.

PEOPLE

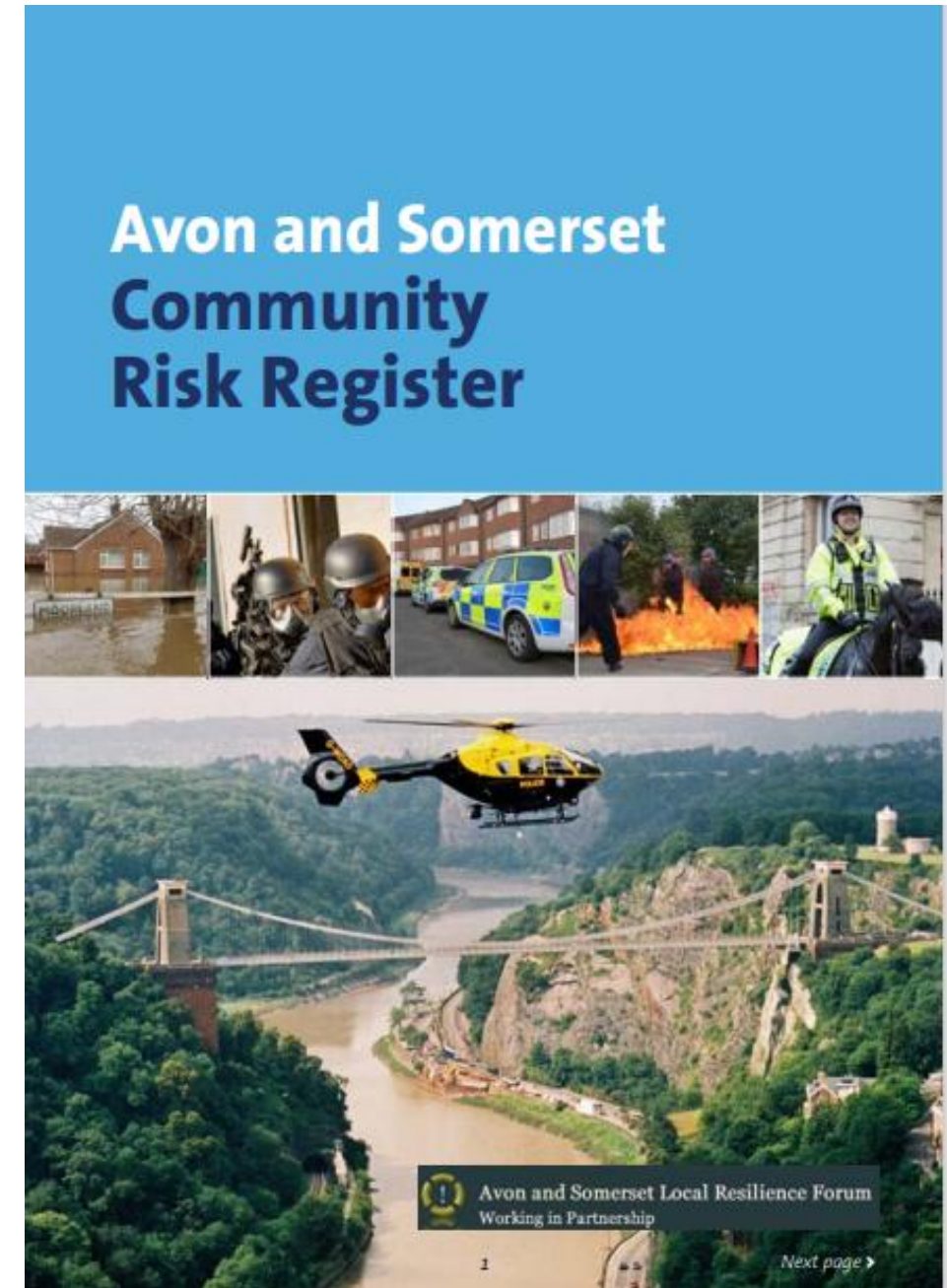
| | |
|--|--|
| We have a very active parish, with many people volunteering in some capacity. There is a strong sense of identity and togetherness. | |
| When it comes to responding to an emergency, we have successfully recruited | |

Preparedness Survey

Sent out
to Clerks
on 11th July

The purpose of the survey is to:

- Help Somerset Council to assess risk of emergencies across the county and plan accordingly – this is a statutory duty for Somerset Council under the Civil Contingencies Act (2004)



The purpose of the survey is to:

- Allow ongoing and new activities and support to be offered that support resilience and preparedness at a community level in the form that most required and in the places where it is most needed



The purpose of the survey is to:

- Give parishes the opportunity to reach out for support in any of the areas that it covers

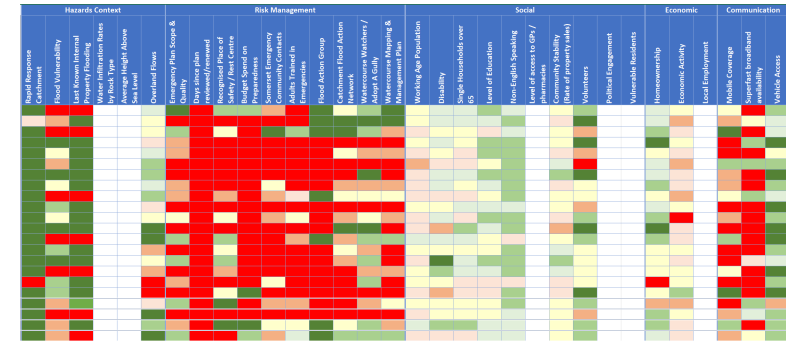


Thanks to the following parishes:

- Chilton Cantelo
- East Chinnock
- East Coker
- West Coker
- Yeovilton & District



Resilience Dashboard



Top Hazards (in frequency and severity) identified:

Strong winds – 69%

Power outage – 67%

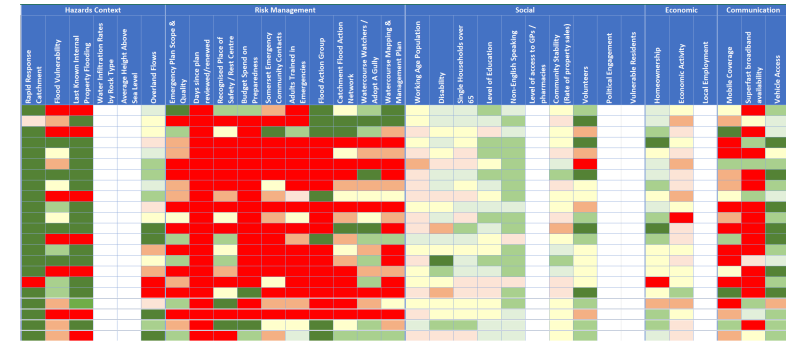
Lack of access due to road issues – 66%

Flooding – 61%

Excessive cold, snow & ice – 58%

Road Traffic Accidents – 58%

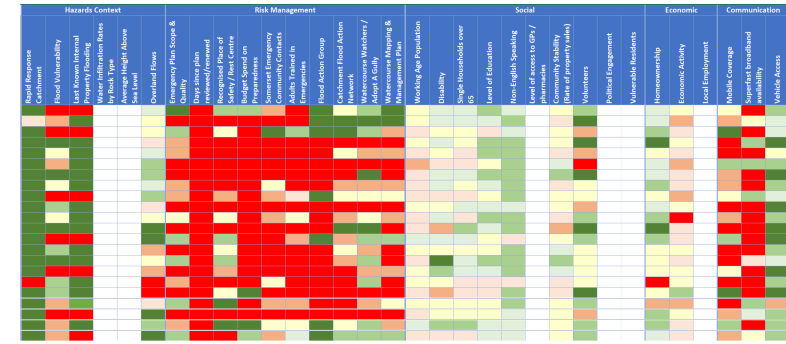
Resilience Dashboard



Average Level of Preparedness : 30.5%

There is some variation in terms of the areas in which communities felt most or least prepared. Responding parishes scored themselves best in terms of having people to draw on (35%) and having good communication (34%), but less well on having the right plans and processes in place to respond well to an emergency (29%) and worst of all in terms of having access to equipment, resources and training (25%)

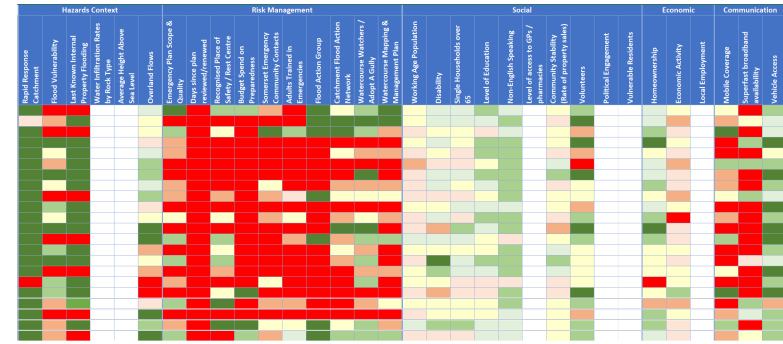
Resilience Dashboard



Areas of greatest preparedness:

- Strong community and active parish (65%)
- Understand and monitor hazards (47%)
- Good broadband (46%)
- Apt ways of communicating across the community in an emergency (45%)

Resilience Dashboard



Areas with greatest opportunity to improve:

- Enough Somerset Emergency Community Contacts to best manage communications during an emergency (16%)
- Adequate training for community emergency response volunteers (19%) and volunteer co-ordinators (22%)
- Considering emergency response when setting parish budgets (21%)
- Having the right plans and processes in place to respond as well as possible to known risks (20%), managing equipment (21%) and being trained to use it (19%)
- Being able to record actions taken during an emergency response to aid debriefing and plan improvements (23%)

Questions?



Guest Speaker



Victoria Butcher

General Manager

Phone: 01935 477399

Email: info@communitytransport.org.uk

Web: www.communitytransport.org.uk



Octagon Theatre's Arts Engagement & Outreach programme

Katherine Beverley, Arts Engagement & Outreach Manager



Guest Speaker



Katherine Beverley

Arts Engagement & Outreach Manager

Email: katherine.beverley@somerset.gov.uk

Phone: 01935 462415

Web: www.octagon-theatre.co.uk

www.westlandsyevovil.co.uk

| | 2023-24 | 2024-25 |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Total number of participation classes/workshops/sessions | 982 | 1,291 |
| Total number of shows & events | 18 | 20 |
| Total number of participants | 6,159 | 10,693 |
| Total number of participations | 12,699 | 22,259 |
| Total number of practitioners/facilitators | 121 | 160 |
| Total number of employment hours | None recorded | 3,606 |
| Total number of audience members (in person) | 11,393 | 26,007 |
| Total number of audience members (online/digital) | None recorded | 355,926 |
| Total number of voluntary hours | 282 | 501 |

Participation

- **Over 7,300 people** aged from just 3 months to 90 years took part in activities, classes and workshops at our venue and across the county.
- **22 weekly participation classes** for all ages and abilities, resulting in **1,095 employment hours** for local teachers.
- Over **6,500 children, young people and families** attended our free Summer and Winter **PlayDays** held in Yeovil, Wincanton, Langport and Chard.



Arts for Health & Wellbeing

- **Parkinson's Dance** *in Langport*
- **Movement Through Cancer** *in Yeovil*
- **Time Together** *in Wincanton*
- **Somerset Wellbeing Orchestra** *in Chard*
- **Memory Choir** *in Yeovil*



Creative Learning & Education

- **93 primary & secondary schools**
- Delivering dance, theatre and music with **Wise Children, Motionhouse Dance** and **Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra (BSO)**.
- **800 students** took part in workshops with inspirational performers and musicians.
- **2,171 students** watched live professional performances.
- **50 teachers** benefitted from CPD training



Talent & Career Development

- **Creative Careers Event @ WEV: 120 secondary school students**, got to have a go at lighting, sound and stage management, and be producers, directors and performers for the day.
- **Careers Talks: Over 1,000 students aged 8–25**, learnt about different jobs in the Creative Industries.
- **Work Experience: 27 students** got hands-on experience and insight into running a busy receiving and producing venue.
- **3 apprenticeships:** Marketing, Technical and Catering teams.
- **1 internship** in partnership with Exeter University
- **Paid work experience** to 3 local emerging facilitators.



Artist Support

- **200 hours of Free Studio Space** for artists to create, rehearse and develop new work.
- **1:1 mentoring** support for **44 artists**.
- **20 Piano Nights & Acoustic Afternoon** sessions giving a platform to **13 local musicians** to perform live to over **770 audience members**.
- **8 Creative Commissions** awarded to local artists.
- **21 Artists Blogs and Vlogs**.



Access & Inclusion

- **Over 1,200 tickets at £3** to low-income customers across 60 performances.
- **20 participants supported** to attend weekly participation classes through our SHiNE Bursary Fund.
- **Free buddy support** offered to anyone who feels unable to attend shows and events on their own.
- **17 schools supported with travel costs** to enable over **1,890 students** to experience the magic of theatre.
- **Improving access** by actively listening to disabled, D/deaf, and neurodivergent people about barriers they face.



Productions & Events

- **Outdoor Public Performances** – across Somerset. Over **26,000 people** watching live performances where they live.
- **Relaxed Wellbeing Productions** – e.g. BSO dementia-friendly Cake Concert
- **Community Productions** – Over **500 performers** of all ages and abilities taking to our regional stage to perform in our community productions.
- **Positive economic impact** in locations where events and productions were staged.



How we are funded...

Arts Organisation – managed & funded by the Local Authority

- Arts Council England (ACE) National Portfolio Organisation (NPO)
- Somerset Council – discretionary service
- Town & Parish Councils
- Trusts & Foundations
- Earned Income
- Donations & Sponsorship



Working Groups & Agenda Items



Any Other Business



Yeovil Town Council

Community Health and Wellbeing Allotments (funded by SALC)

- Community project encouraging people to garden for mental and physical health, especially those who have limited access to growing space, and who are discouraged by social or wellbeing limitations that would make a whole plot impractical.
- FREE allotments for people groups across Yeovil wanting to grow their own. Families, young people and those willing to share a plot particularly welcome to apply.
- Contact Sue Wheeler, Yeovil Town Council's Parks Engagement Officer via mail:

Sue.wheeler@yeovil.gov.uk

YEOVIL'S BRAND NEW ARTS & CULTURE FESTIVAL
FRIDAY 27 - SUNDAY 29 MARCH, 2026

YEOVIL
ART
WEEKENDER
CELEBRATION OF CREATIVITY

A vibrant three day takeover of Yeovil town centre, packed with art, performances, workshops and community creativity.

All ages and abilities welcome!
Be part of the celebration!

www.yeovilartspace.uk/artweekender





Wessex Water will be holding drop-in sessions:

- 📍 Monday's: 13 April and 8 June 2026
- 🕒 10am-12pm and 1pm-2pm
- 📍 Yeovil Library, King George Street, Yeovil BA20 1PY

👉 To find out more, visit:

<https://www.wessexwater.co.uk/community-drop-ins>

COME AND MEET WESSEX WATER

Chat to us in person if
you have a query about:

Your
water
bill

Your
water and
sewerage
services

How to save
water and
prevent sewer
blockages

Wessex Water
COMMUNITY
DROP in

Actions



Actions & next steps?

Future meetings:

7pm Thursday **18th June 2026** (AGM) –
The Manor Hotel, Yeovil (in-person only)