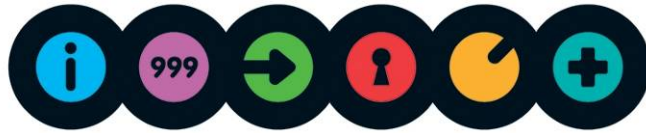


Staffordshire Prepared



Voluntary Sector Exercise Hands Up!

Disasters, incidents, emergencies can overstretch the resources of the emergency and local authority services whatever they are called. The value of additional support from the voluntary sector has been demonstrated on many occasions.

The Civil Contingencies Unit, on behalf of the Staffordshire Resilience Forum, has developed a no notice telephone call out exercise for the Voluntary Sector to take place every six months.



Exercise Hands Up is flexible in when it takes place, during or out of office hours, the scenario which is given, location and numbers of resources requested.



Voluntary Sector members will be notified of the Exercise taking place during a two week period by the Civil Contingencies Unit.



The Exercise aims to test call out procedures for the Voluntary Sector and also allows the Voluntary Sector to test their own call out procedures internally.

One of the benefits is that it gives a snapshot of resources which could be called upon to assist the Category 1 responders in an emergency, be it at a Rest Centre, assisting with searches, providing first aid or counselling and listening skills.

To find out more about Exercise Hands Up or the Voluntary Sector meetings, membership, etc, please contact the CCU Admin Team on 01785 898618 or e-mail ccu@staffordshirefire.gov.uk.