

Birse & Ballogie Community Response Plan

AMENDMENT RECORD		
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1 Introduction

Community Resilience is an initiative supported by local, Scottish, and the UK governments originating from the Civil Contingencies Act 2004. The principle is that communities develop a local plan so that they can help themselves during an emergency in a way that complements, but in no way replaces, the response of the emergency services and other responders. The objectives of the local plan are:-

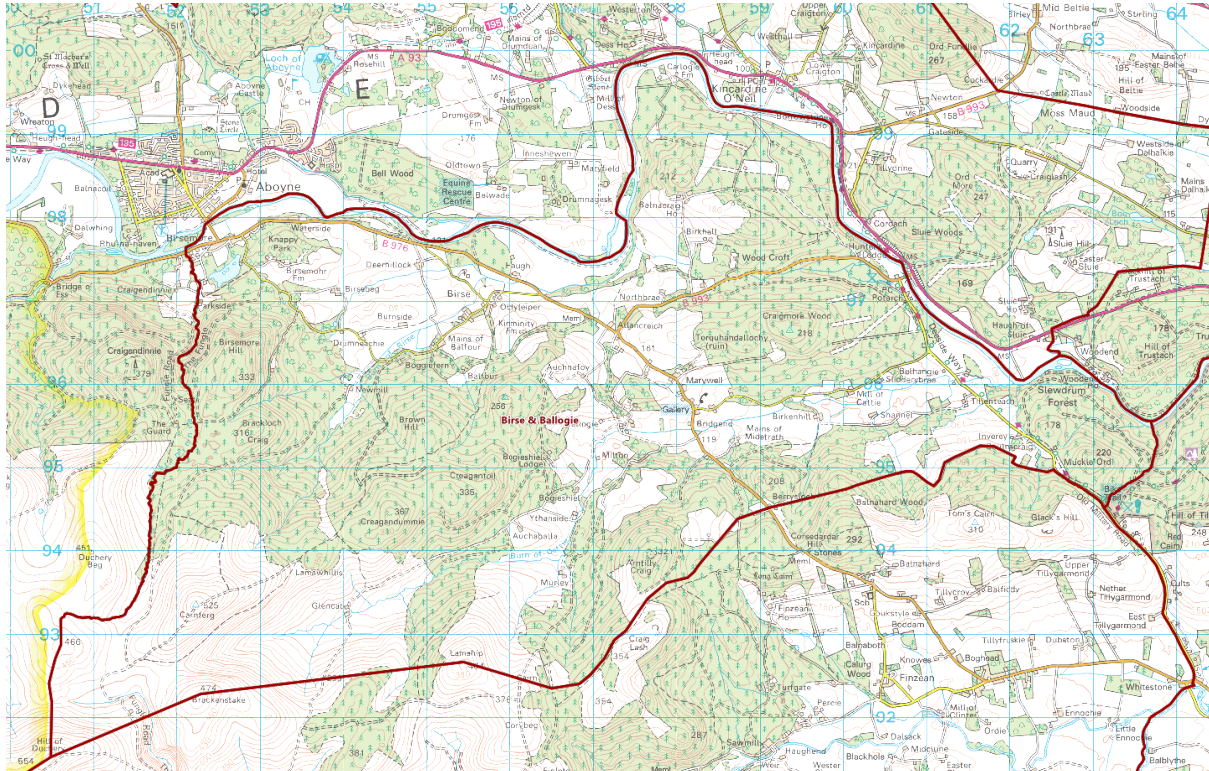
- to provide a framework for the delivery of a resilient community response plan.
- to raise awareness and understanding within the community of the local risks and emergency response capability to motivate and support self-help.
- to increase individual, family and community resilience against emergencies.
- to commence and maintain self-help arrangements until support from the emergency services or other agencies is in place.

This community resilience plan has been developed by the Birse & Ballogie Community Council (B2C2) resilience sub-group. It assesses risks, identifies local resources and actions, voluntary support, and key locations within B2C2. In the event of an emergency or any situation which threatens the safety of residents, the actions taken by the community may include some of the following:-

- providing a focal point for communications with emergency services and responders.
- communicating status of emergency within the community
- checking on neighbours and residents who may benefit most from additional assistance to ensure their safety and well-being during severe weather or utility failure.

Members of this subgroup are all volunteers and are an integral part of B2C2.

2 Birse & Ballogie Community



The Resilience team will be known as RG. It will operate under the leadership and guidance of the RG leader (RGL).

This is a geographically diverse area. It has several pockets of houses and properties spread across the community. B2C2 has no obvious centre of gravity and no large community buildings. The strategy adopted has been to divide B2C2 area into 8 areas. Each area has one or two local coordinators and where possible an alternate coordinator. The local coordinator then has a smaller more manageable community to focus on. The local coordinators will network across the community with the support and guidance of the RG Leader (RGL).

B2C2 Resilience Group (RG) operates under the general direction of Birse and Ballogie Community Council (B2C2). RG will complement but in no way replace the response of the emergency services and other responders. However, it is recognised that in a widespread emergency, resources may be stretched and emergency services may take much longer to respond. RG will seek to give local assistance to those in need in an emergency whilst improving communication and flow of information to make the local community more resilient in the face of events such as prolonged power outages, storms and flooding.

3 Risks and Response

3.1 Main Risks

The main foreseen risks which could impact the community and may require a local resilience response are:

- Severe weather (e.g., storms or excessive snowfalls)
- Prolonged loss of utilities (e.g., loss of electricity, water, or telecoms)
- Major incident (e.g., aircraft crash, forest fire or terrorism)
- Flooding is a potential risk, which may affect normal activities.

A community risk assessment outlining potential emergency events, the likely impact and suggested actions is included with this plan in the appendices and can be found at **Appendix 1**

3.2 Response

Any response to a community emergency will depend on the nature of the situation to be dealt with. Some scenarios, such as impending severe weather, will likely be pre-warned and will allow time to alert the community to be prepared and have all checks and preparations completed in advance of any response mobilisation.

Other situations may see the community called to initiate a response to an emergency event by Aberdeenshire Council, either via the Marr Area Manager or the council Emergency Planning Officer (EPO), or by Police Scotland and may well be a request to assist and support the Emergency Services.

4 Resilience Organisation

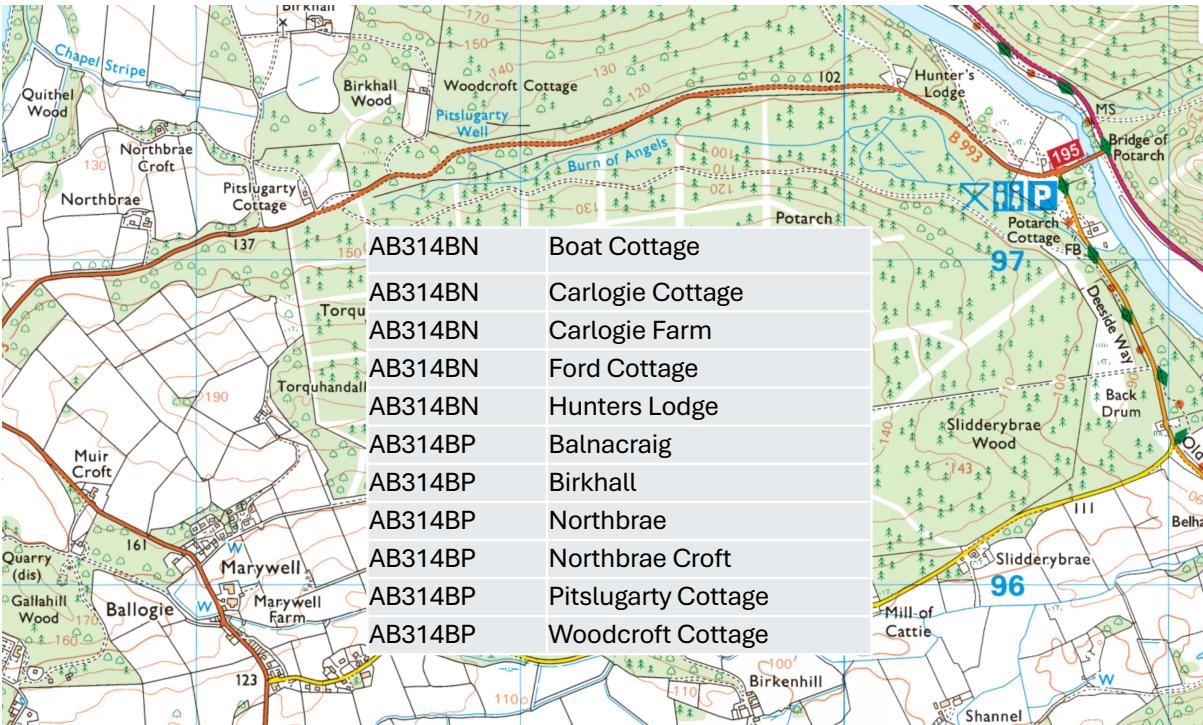
B2C2 area is divided into 8 areas. Each area has one or two local coordinators and where possible an alternate coordinator. In each area, residents have the Local Area Coordinators as their first point of contact in case of need. In the event of him/her not being available, residents could contact any of the coordinators below. During events, the local coordinators will network across the community. The organisation is flexible to accommodate the reality that not all coordinators will be available at any given time. Furthermore, it recognises that in certain emergencies “normal” network communications may be inhibited.

The organisation represents a strong network. The local coordinators provide access to that network. They can act on their own or call for support from the wider RG network.

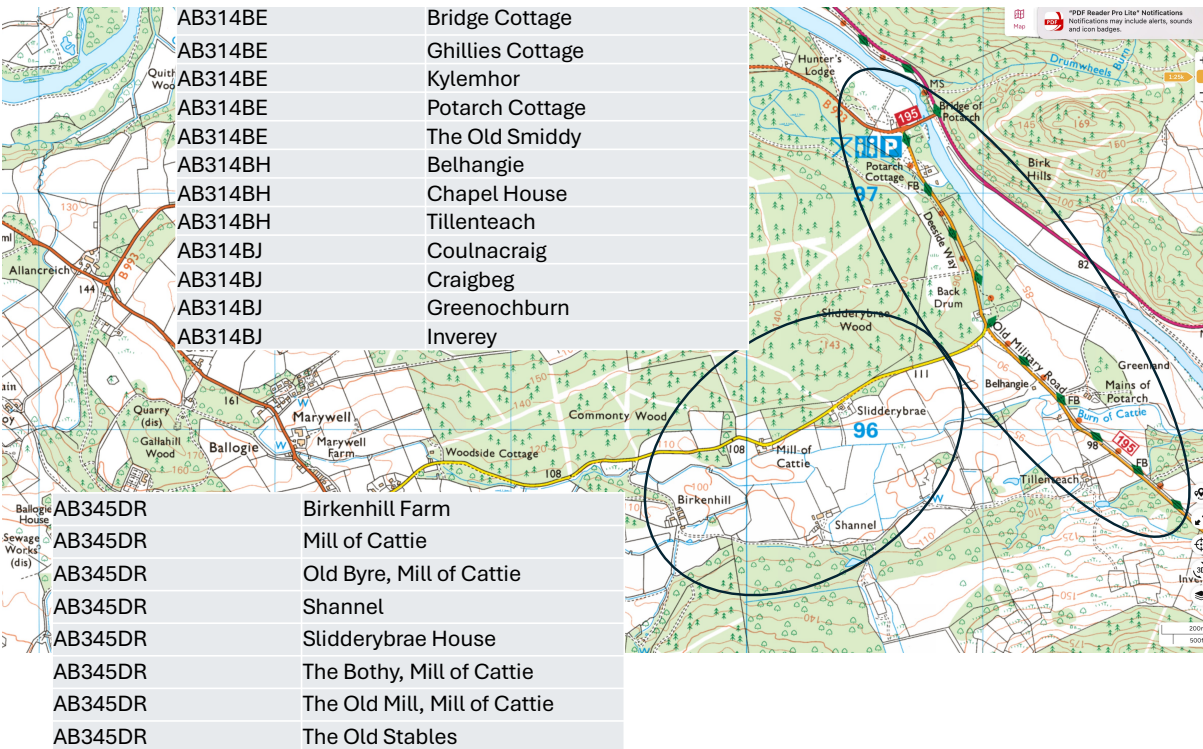
	Area	Local Area Coordinators	
A	Balnacraig	Malcolm Nicol (RGL) malcolm@ballogie-estate.co.uk 07876 441879	James Blackhall rjbservices01@gmail.com <u>07483 316642</u>
B	Potarch/ Deeside Way/ Slidderybrae	David Williamson (B2C2 Chair) dmwmson@icloud.com 07876 17781 Dave Bracegirdle davebracegirdle@gmail.com 07719 433245	Ian Wilson slidderybrae@gmail.com 07919 280656
C	Marywell Central & North	Eryn Inglis eryninglis@hotmail.com 07498 993444	Carl Morris morris137@btinternet.com 07787 600985
D	Marywell South	Ken Milroy kenmilroy01@gmail.com 07714 294049	Steve Wilson stevejwilson@doctors.org.uk 07718 904361
E	Ballogie Estate	Peter Littlejohn pslittlejohn317@btinternet.com 07894 865317	Thad Skews thadskews@gmail.com TBA
F	Birsemore	Steve Kew steve@sakew.com 07802 818102	Kirsty Saluja kirstysaluja@btinternet.com 07443 548906 Sean Saluja seansaluja@gmail.com 07703 528170
G	Balfour/ Oldyleiper	Donald Silcock donaldmsilcock@aol.com 07580 836354	Dougie Boyle dougboyle20@icloud.com 07776 425 814
H	Birse Estate	Norman Kellas norman@dunechtestates.co.uk 07742 516120	

The following pages show the areas and properties.

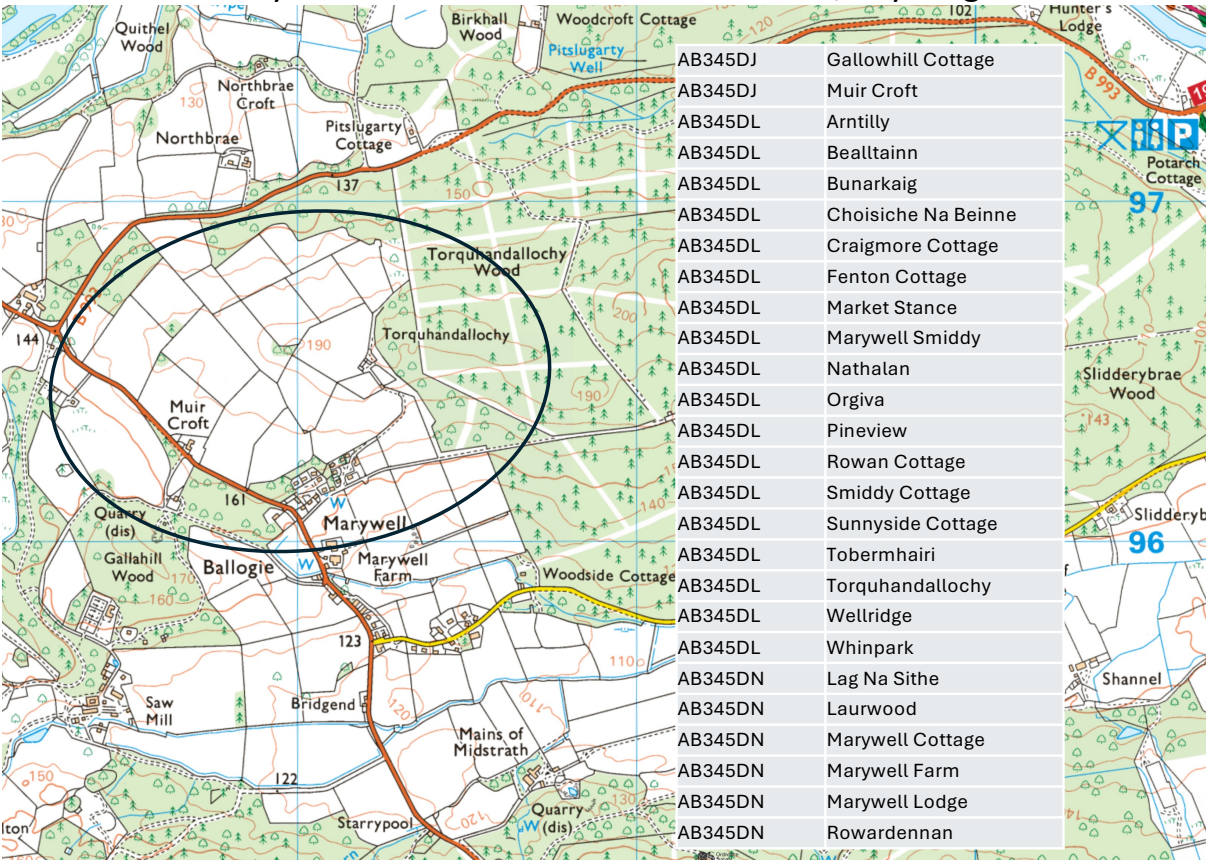
4.1 Area A - Balnacraig – Malcolm Nicol/ James Blackhall



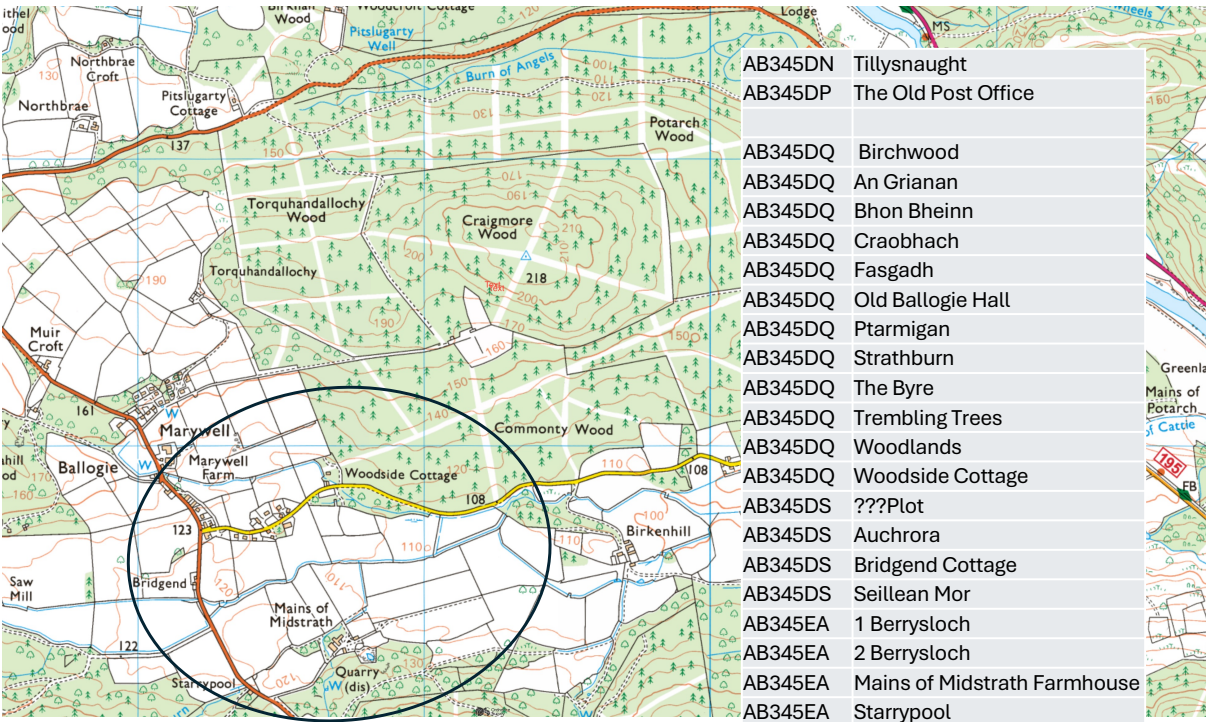
4.2 Area B - Potarch/ Deeside Way/ Slidderybrae – David Williamson, Ian Wilson, Dave Bracegirdle



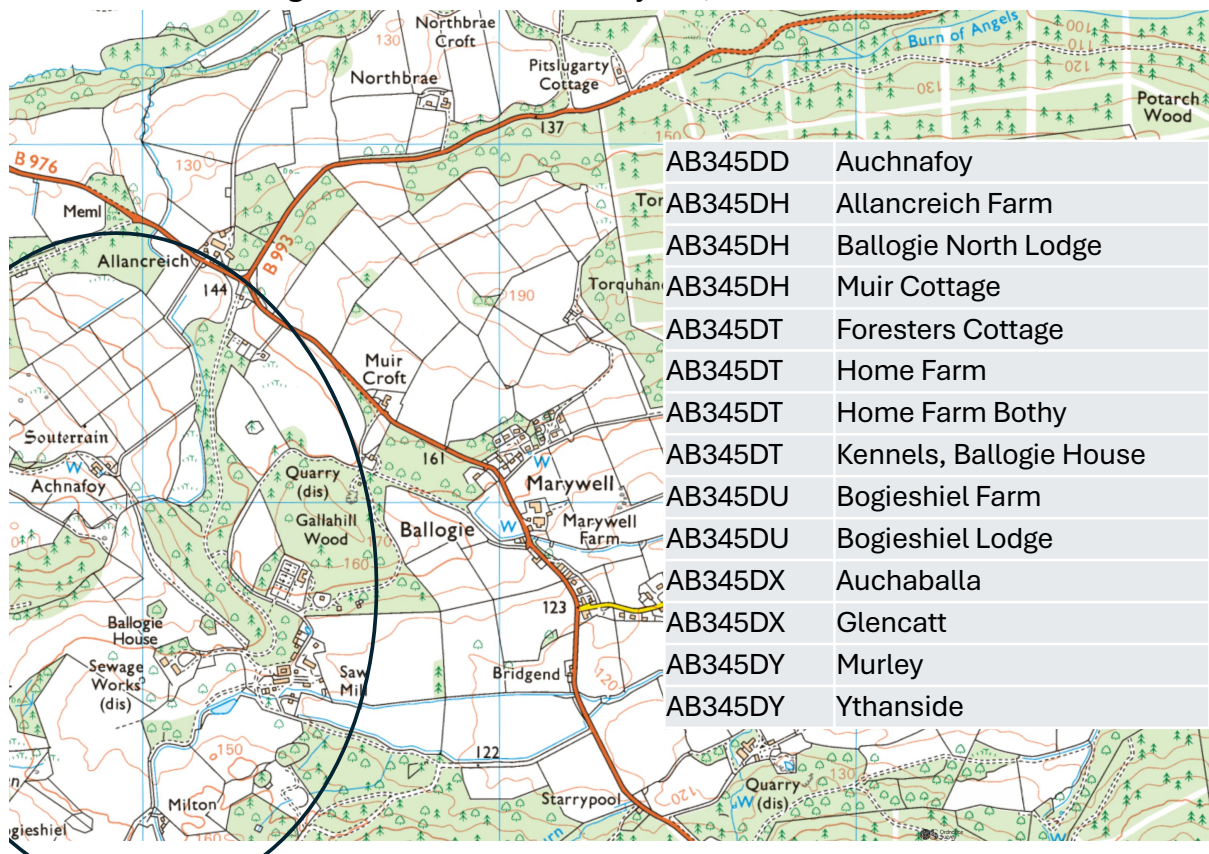
4.3 Area C - Marywell Central and North – Carl Morris/ Eryn Inglis



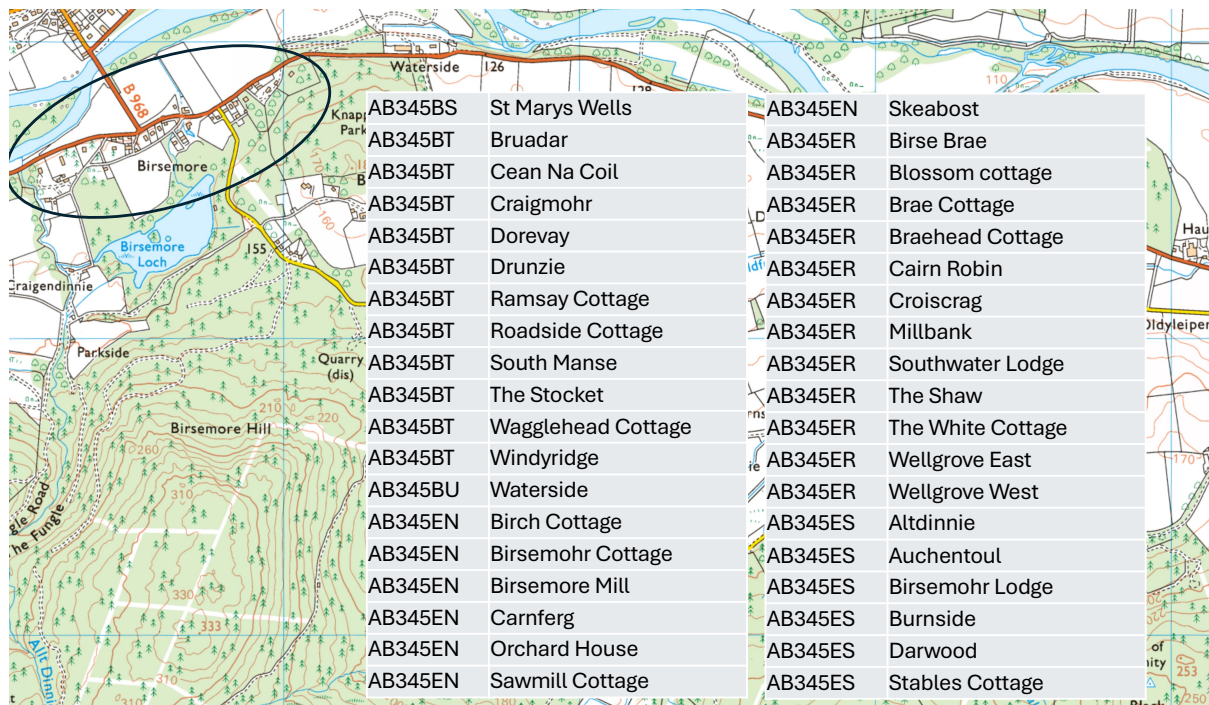
4.4 Area D - Marywell South – Ken Milroy/ Steve Wilson



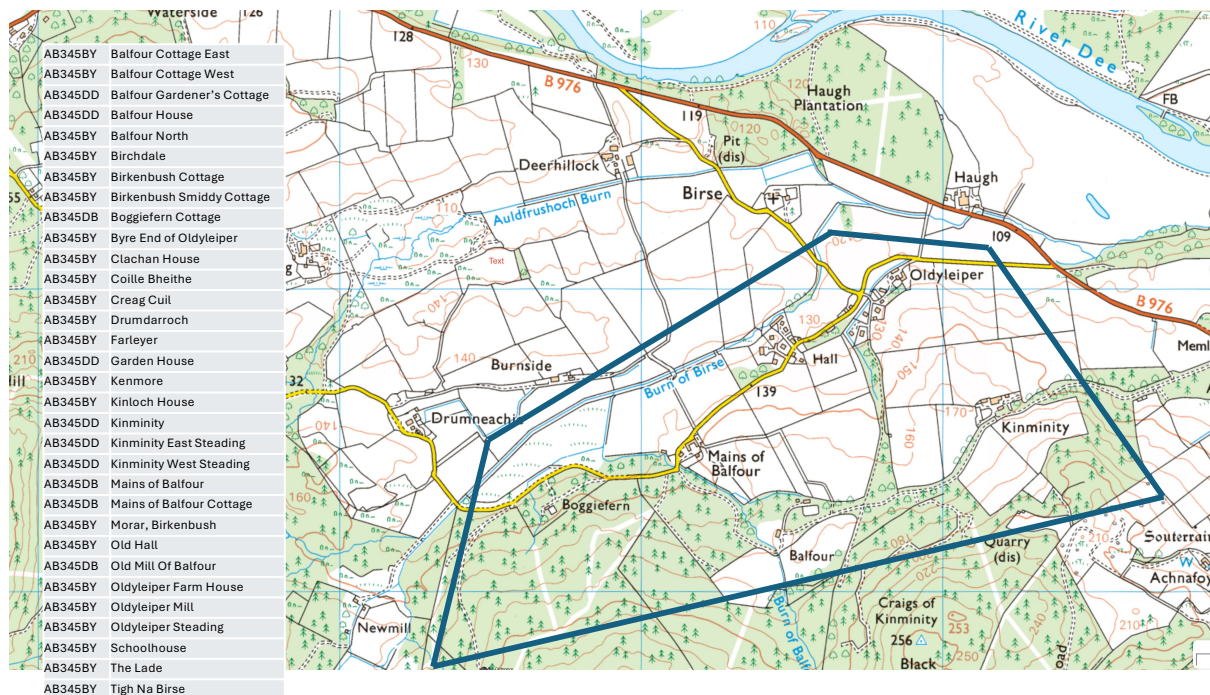
4.5 Area E - Ballogie Estate – Peter Littlejohn/ Thad Skews



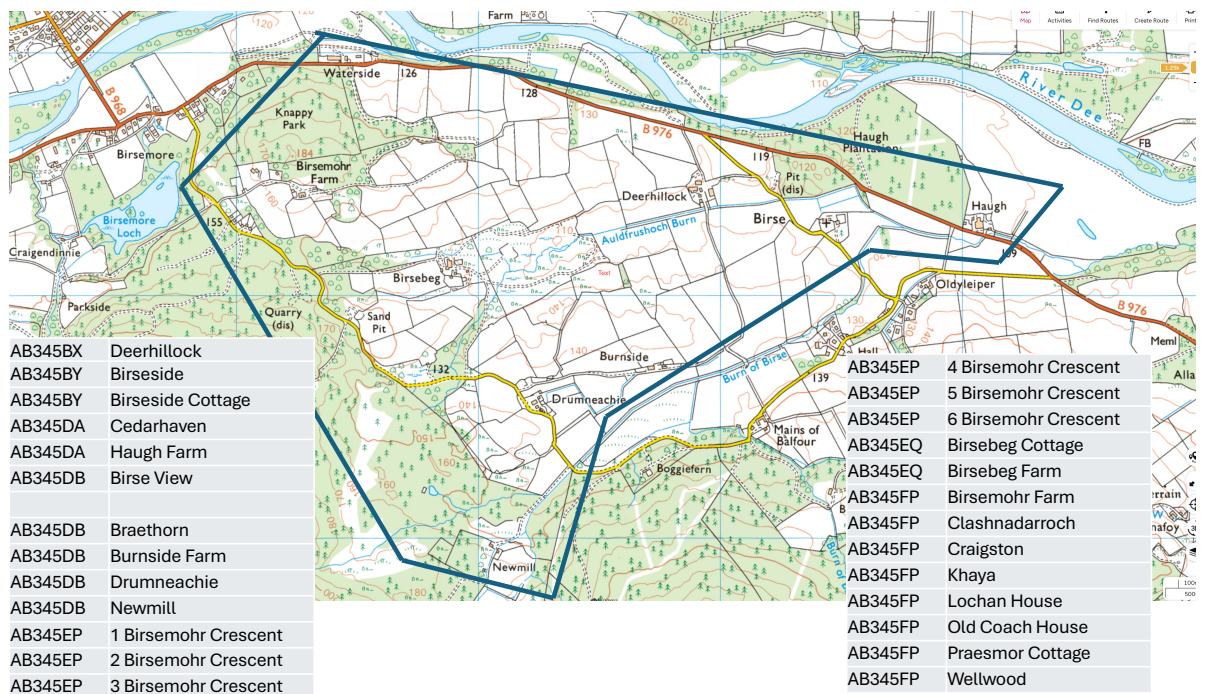
4.6 Birsemore – Steve Kew, Kirsty and Sean Saluja



4.7 Balfour/ Oldyleiper – Donald Silcock/ Dougie Boyle



4.8 Birse Estate – Norman Kellas



5 Response Plan

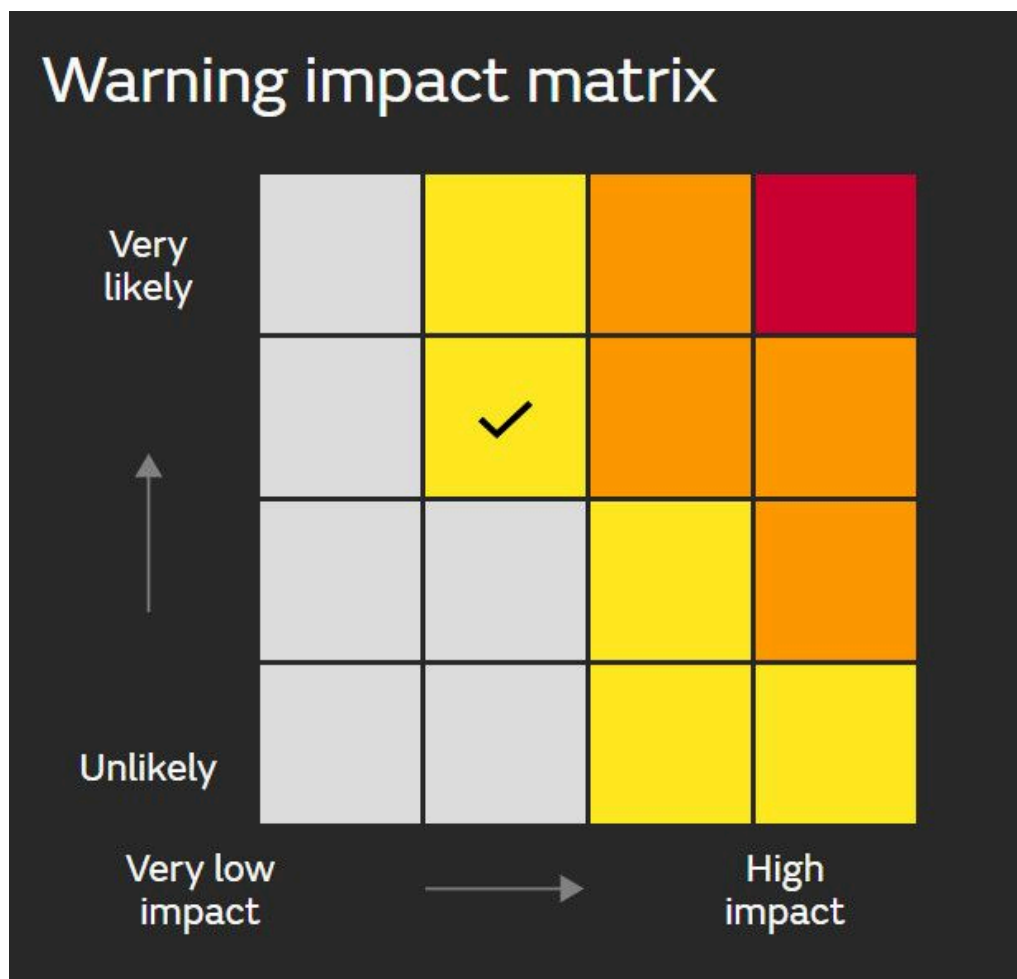
5.1 Media warnings

The Met office issues three levels of warnings which will inform pre-mobilisation. Potentially all weather warnings may lead to some level of disruption.

- Although the likelihood is low, YELLOW may still lead to some disruption
- AMBER means there is an increased likelihood of impacts from severe weather. There is the possibility of travel delays, road closures, power cuts and potential risk to life and property.
- RED means dangerous weather is expected. It is very likely there is risk to life, substantial disruption to travel, energy supplies and possibly widespread damage to property and infrastructure.

The issue of Met office warnings will determine differing actions to be taken.

Met office warnings are available to everybody through the Met Office app.



5.2 Pre – Mobilisation

The issue of a weather warning is a signal for the Community as a whole and RG to be prepared i.e. check relevant batteries are charged and emergency equipment is available and serviceable. The response to the weather warning will be influenced by the nature of the extreme weather predicted.

5.2.1 Met Office YELLOW warning

On issue of a Met Office YELLOW alert, the RG network will receive the warning by WhatsApp and email. All RG members have access to Whatsapp and RG member email addresses. Whilst RGL or B2C2 Chair may normally initiate this, any RG members may issue this warning within the RG network.

5.2.2 Met Office AMBER warning

The issue of a Met Office AMBER alert will follow the same communication as the Met Office YELLOW but with the expectation of a higher state of readiness. Additionally, B2C2Chair or RGL will issue an email to the “full” B2C2 community to ensure awareness of this weather warning. B2C2 approached the whole community to register their emails for use in an emergency, however not every individual in the community elected to have their email address registered and there are few individuals who have no access to email or no email address. Due to General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), access to the full B2C2 community email list is restricted to limited individuals.

5.2.3 Met Office Red Warning

The issue of a Met Office RED alert will follow the same communication as the Met Office AMBER to RG but with the expectation of a higher state of readiness. Additionally, B2C2Chair or RGL will issue an email to the “full” B2C2 community to ensure awareness of this weather warning.

5.3 Mobilisation

The initial steps prior to mobilisation will be taken by alerting RG by WhatsApp and email that they should be placed on standby. The B2C2 full email listing may be used primarily to alert the community of any severe weather warning. Social media messaging will also be used to forewarn the community to be prepared and to check that vulnerable or elderly neighbours are okay. The B2C2 full email listing will also be used to alert residents of any emergency response request from Aberdeenshire Council or Police Scotland.

Depending on the circumstances B2C2 notice boards will also be used to communicate to those without email contact and also in the event that the internet is not available.

If the emergency has caused a loss of power/mobile phone signal/internet connection and RG members are unable to contact each other electronically, each of the 8 area leads has

access to a high power radio. In the event of total blackout, team contact will be maintained at 0900 and 1900 daily using channel 5. The radio range is affected by topography and landscape. It is believed that radio communications should be achieved between the following area stations.

- Balnacraig to Birsemore, Balfour, Oldyleiper, Birse Estate
- Within Birsemore, Balfour, Oldyleiper, Birse Estate
- Balnacraig to Marywell and Ballogie Estate
- Within Marywell and Ballogie estate
- Balnacraig to Deeside Way
- Marywell to Deeside Way

Failing radio communications then face to face physical contact with adjacent groups will be employed if possible.

RGL will inform the B2C2 Chair when a community response is mobilised and them updated as the situation unfolds.

5.4 Initial Response

On initiation, RG members will assess the situation in their locality and undertake appropriate actions. Where possible RG members will communicate actions and issues across the network. These communications on WhatsApp or email will serve to log/ record the actions taken. The RGL will provide appropriate support and assistance to the RG area members.

5.5 RG (Local Coordinators)

The Core roles and responsibilities of the RG local coordinators are as follows:-

- to provide assistance and coordinate activities within their designated area
- to coordinate checks on neighbours and residents who may benefit most from additional assistance to ensure their safety and well-being during the event.
- to assist with the delivery of essential supplies
- to maintain communication with RGL and other RG area coordinators
- to manage notice boards where appropriate.

It is important that RG work safely and where appropriate undertake and document risk assessments.

5.6 External Stakeholders

A single point of contact, normally RGL or B2C2Chair, will liaise and coordinate with the following depending on the nature of the emergency:-

- Aberdeenshire Council Marr Area Manager/EPO
- Scottish power in the event of a power outage
- Police Scotland
- Scottish Water

- Openreach

5.7 Continuity

Appropriate measures should be taken to ensure continuity of response, particularly during severe weather/loss of utilities incidents. RGL and RG Coordinators may delegate activities in these circumstances.

5.8 Facilities & Equipment

RG response equipment is stored with each local coordinator:-

- PPE:- Hard Hat, Hi-Vis jacket, Torch
- Two way mobile radios

5.9 Local Halls

5.9.1 Birse Hall

Birse Hall is maintained and run by Birse Area Community Association (BACA). It is a small hall which is easily heated and has basic kitchen facilities and toilets. It currently does not have an external generator connection but could still be made operational using extension power leads if required. There is plenty of parking available and also a large gazebo facility if an additional external shelter is needed. Note also a defibrillator is available on the external wall of the hall. Contact BACA for hall access.

5.9.2 Finzean Hall

Finzean Community Council have approached us to say that in an emergency, people living in Ballogie and Birse are very welcome to use the limited facilities at Finzean Hall (light, power for charging etc) in the event of an emergency. The Finzean Community plan to open the hall in the event of longer power cuts etc. They plan to open the hall using the generator during day light hours and then work out decide further actions. During Storm Malek for example they arranged for bottled water to be delivered to the Hall car park. In the event of a power cut in Ballogie, if Finzean had power they would be prepared to make the hall available.

5.10 Defibrillators

Information on defibrillators can be found at <<https://www.defibfinder.uk/>>

In the B2C2 area the following defibrillators are available to the general public:-

- Ballogie Nursery (north external wall)
- Potarch Café (west wall of Potarch Lodge)
- Birse Hall (outside east wall)

5.11 Stand Down

Once a community emergency has been resolved and no further response is required, the RG team and volunteers can be stood down, following discussing with the Response Team and, if required, Aberdeenshire Council and any other relevant authorities.

5.12 Debrief

Once a community emergency has been resolved and no further response is required, the RG team and volunteers can be stood down.

5.13 Lessons Learned

A lessons learned workshop will be convened by the RGL/ B2C2Chair within 3 months of the stand down with a view to refining procedures for future.

Appendix 1 B2C2 Resilience Plan Risk Assessment

	Event	Impact on individuals (CRR) ¹	P	I	Description	Action
1	Influenza Type Disease Pandemic	Illness, unable to go to work, loss of income, limited mobility, loss of life, high levels of anxiety	3	3	NHS unable to cope with demand. Vulnerable people not able to access required assistance. Extended waiting time for emergency services due to overwhelming demand. Response and required actions advised and broadcast by national government.	Ensure community awareness and understanding of situation and prepare for imposition of restricted mobility. Identify and check on vulnerable people, particularly those living alone. Encourage people to have adequate stock of relevant over counter cold and flu medicines.
2	Severe Weather	Unable to go to work/home, loss of income, transport delays, disruption to daily routine, injury, loss of life	2	2	Severe weather overwhelming or preventing council/emergency service response. Prolonged period of severe cold weather threatening wellbeing of vulnerable people, causing disruption to water, waste and electricity service, (Interruption to Utilities). Prolonged period of hot weather Strong wind causing damage to property, preventing movement outside. Heavy snow fall	Assist if/as requested by emergency/council services. Check access routes for ice. Ensure vulnerable people can access necessary facilities, (clinic, pharmacy, shop etc.) or deliver requirements. Provide heated accommodation where individuals are at risk in their own residence. Check on vulnerable people. Ensure adequate hydration. Check on and assist vulnerable people with accessing essential medication and health care. Check public access to/from key locations. Check on and assist vulnerable people with accessing essential medication, health care and supplies.
3	Flooding	Advised to stay indoors/possible evacuations to safe area, injury, loss of income, inability to get home and/or to work	1	1	Heavy rain causing flooding: This is likely to affect only parts of the community as the area covers a change in elevation although water flow from high ground could affect some higher properties. This could be exacerbated by drain blockages.	Identify flood risk areas. Sign up to receive SEPA Floodline alerts (note 2). Create flood plan: locate and ensure adequate supply of sand bags. Assist if/as requested by emergency/council services.
4	Interruption to Utilities	Unable to warm home or cook meals, possible interference with communications, possible evacuation, disruption to daily routines.	3	3	Disruption or cut in supply of electricity may deprive of households to heating, cooking capability, lighting and, possibly, communications. May also disrupt water supply if distribution pumps are affected. Water supply contamination.	Ensure community awareness and understanding of situation. Assist if/as requested by emergency/council services.
5	Transport Disruptions	Unable to go to work/home, loss of income, transport delays, disruption to daily routines.	2	2	Identified as a possible risk in the CRR but unlikely to have significant impact on Birse & Ballogie as there are several access routes to the community and public transport is infrequent and not dependable for emergency situations.	Assist if/as requested by emergency/council services.

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					Fuel supply disruption would have to be severe and widespread to have a significant impact on the community.	Check vulnerable people have access to or adequate supplies of essential products – medication and food. Ensure availability and access to required emergency and essential medical care.
6	Pollution and Contamination	Advised to stay indoors/possible evacuation to safer area, illness, loss of income, inability to get home, injury, loss of life, restriction on some food and drink if contaminated.	1	2	Pollution and contamination of the local environment and waterways. Health issues for people and animals. Disruption to utilities. Food chain contamination.	Liaise with authorities, ensure community awareness and check vulnerable people can manage. People may be advised to stay indoors.
7	Wild fire threatening residential areas	Residents instructed to vacate potentially threatened properties.	2	3	Pollution and contamination of the local environment and waterways. Health issues for people and wildlife. Disruption to utilities. Food chain contamination.	Inform emergency services. People may be advised to vacate their properties and move to a safe location.
8	Unforeseen event resulting in multiple casualties	Potential for members of community to be involved in a serious event resulting in multiple casualties.	1	3	An example is a serious road traffic accident involving multiple vehicles or vehicle(s) with multiple passengers.	Inform emergency services and mobilise local medical capability. Assist on scene until arrival of emergency services. Continue to assist (if requested) as directed by on scene emergency service co-ordinator.

P - Likelihood/ Probability scale

Description		Guidance
Unlikely	1	Event may occur but only under exceptional circumstances Event not likely to occur within 100 years
Occasional	2	Event may occur at some time within a 100 year period
Frequent	3	Event is likely to occur within 10 years

I -Severity/ Impact scale

Description		Guidance
Minor	1	Little impact, no immediate action required
Medium	2	Situation manageable and unlikely to result in compromised wellbeing or injury to people.
Major	3	Likely to affect a significant number of people with severe or life threatening consequences.