## **Preparing for severe weather**



Fermanagh and Omagh District Council works with the emergency services and other agencies such as Rivers Agency, TransportNI and NI Water to plan for and help respond effectively to all emergency situations including severe weather. Events such as snow, floods and strong winds can impact significantly on our daily lives so it is important that people know what to do to prepare. The following information aims to provide you with useful tips on how to prepare in your home, in your community and on the move.

## Weather Conditions & Warnings



Keep up-to-date with the latest weather forecast and weather warnings from the Met Office by visiting www.metoffice.

gov.uk or downloading their app.

## Flooding



You can find out if your property is at risk from flooding by logging on to the Rivers Agency's strategic flood maps at:

www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/articles/ what-flood-maps-ni.

Flood Re is a joint government and insurance industry initiative to allow you to find affordable insurance for your home if it is at risk of flooding or has been flooded. For more information, visit www.floodre.co.uk/ homeowner.

The Flooding Incident Line is Northern Ireland's single telephone number for people to report any flooding problems. You can contact the Flooding Incident Line 24 hours a day to report any flooding incidents such as problems on the roads, burst mains or blocked drains. Please call 0300 2000 100.

### **Support for Vulnerable People**



Northern Ireland Electricity Networks (NIE Networks) offer a critical care information service to customers who are

dependent on life supporting electrical equipment. Customers on this register will receive up-to-date information by phone during a power cut or a planned interruption. Please call 03457 643 643 to register.

#### **Mains Water Supply**



Northern Ireland Water offers a range of additional services to older customers or customers who have

serious medical conditions or need extra help for any other reason. Please contact Northern Ireland Water's Waterline on 03457 440 088.

#### **In Your Home**



The Council has worked with other partners to develop guidance that will help you prepare for emergencies in your

home and deal with the impact of severe weather in your community. This guidance is available on the "Preparing for severe weather" section of www.fermanaghomagh.com.

It is useful to have an emergency kit in your home: suggested contents include battery/windup radio and torch, spare batteries, candles and matches, a phone that doesn't require mains electric to work, list of useful numbers, list of medications that you are taking, and copies of household insurance policies.

It is important to make sure your heating is safe and that your house is properly ventilated, to reduce the risk of Carbon Monoxide poisoning.

Know how to turn off your electricity supply at the mains.

Know where your stop valve is and how to turn off your water.

Follow NI Water's advice on protecting your pipes. Please visit www.niwater.com for details.

### **In Your Community**



In previous years severe weather left some people vulnerable. Helping each other a little can make a big difference. Identify

family members or neighbours who may need an extra helping hand if severe weather strikes.

- Have their phone numbers to hand
- Offer help with grocery shopping or other essential tasks
- Clear ice or snow from their pathways

If you are part of a community group, think about what your group can do to help others during bad weather.

#### **On The Move**



Before travelling, tune into the local forecast and Met Office warnings. Check the road conditions and think

about alternative routes and allow extra time for your journey.

TransportNI provides a website detailing current traffic information and road conditions for Northern Ireland. Please visit www.trafficwatchni.com.

Fully charge your mobile phone and take a charger with you.

Make sure you have appropriate clothing, equipment and food. Pack an emergency travel kit – this will stand you in good stead at any time of the year.

If your area is at risk of flooding, remember you should not drive or walk through flood water. Six inches or 15cm of fast-flowing water can knock over an adult and two feet or just over ½ m can move a car.

# **Useful Telephone Numbers**

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Service	Telephone Number
<b>Emergency Services</b> (Police, Fire, Ambulance & Coastguard)	<b>999 or 112</b> For all PSNI non-emergency calls - <b>101</b>
Flooding Incident Line (to report flooding)	<b>0300 2000 100</b> (24 hours)
<b>Transport NI</b> (Fermanagh & Omagh District Council Area)	<b>0300 200 7894</b> Emergency After Hours - <b>028 8224 1999</b>
Northern Ireland Water	03457 440 088
Northern Ireland Electricity	03457 643 643
Northern Ireland Housing Executive	03448 920 901
Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	0300 303 1777
South West Acute Hospital	028 6638 2000
Omagh Hospital & Primary Care Complex	028 8283 3100
Other Useful Service Providers	Telephone Number
Doctor	
GP out of Hours	
School	
House Insurance	
*	

\* Intentionally left blank for you to add contact details that are specific for your household e.g. neighbours, councillors etc. You can also get lots more information on what to do in emergencies by visiting the NI Direct website: www.nidirect.gov.uk