

National Centre for Resilience

Bulletin - Autumn 2016

Visit from the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform (ECCLR) Committee



Kirsty MacRae of SFF outlines one of the projects being undertaken by the NCR to members of the committee

At the end of August The Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee visited the National Centre for Resilience (NCR) as part of a visit to engage with local stakeholders in Dumfries and Galloway.

It was an opportunity for the NCR to highlight the collaborative working that is bringing together resilience partners, communities and academia to enhance our resilience and preparedness to natural hazards.

The Committee Members heard from a number of NCR partner organisations who have been involved in the development of the Centre and the collaborative projects in which they are engaged. These include the development of the Community Resilience Flooding Toolkit, the People at Risk Database (PARD) and an overview of local flood initiatives.

Members were interested to hear how these contribute to on-the-ground support action at a time of emergency and in particular the impact of targeted assistance to the most vulnerable members of our communities. Due to the level of interest from the Committee Members, enthusiastic questioning meant that they stayed well beyond their allocated time.

Members of the Committee have thanked everyone involved and said they enjoyed their visit and hearing of the collaborative work which is drawing on excellence from across the resilience community.



Maxwell House on the Crichton Campus, Dumfries, where the NCR is based.

New NCR Staff

We are pleased to welcome and introduce Kayleigh Scott, Project Officer and Stella Milsom, part-time Administrative officer, to the team.

Kayleigh studied at the University of Edinburgh and joins the team having previously led cultural projects around the region. Most recently working at the award-winning Devil's Porridge Museum near Gretna.

Stella has had a twenty year civil service career and brings partnership and programme management experience to the role. She has recently relocated and set up her own business.

Kayleigh and Stella have been busy meeting members of the resilience community including the Emergency Planning Team at Dumfries and Galloway Council, West RRP, Jim Sharp and Pat Boyle from the Met Office and have visited Scottish Government in Edinburgh. They look forward to meeting more of you over the next few months.

The recruitment of the research staff is underway and we look forward to them joining the team in the New Year.

Project Updates

Natural Hazard Factsheets

Natural Hazard Factsheets for responders and communities are being developed together with a Leadership Pack. These bring together information and learning that will be useful for planning and resilience operations, especially at the onset of a disruptive event. Landslides and wind fact sheets are complete and will be published shortly. The flooding factsheet is in development and will be published in the New Year.

People at Risk Database (PARD)

Phase 1 of the Persons at Risk Database (PARD) has been successfully completed. The requirements and specifications for Phase 2 are now being developed. This phase of the project is exploring the options for secure data hosting, data sharing and technical requirements and development and is being informed by the experiences and lessons learned from various Local Authority areas which have already developed localised solutions.

Flooding “Framework” Toolkit

A Project Review meeting with the Scottish Flooding Forum was recently held. Work is shaping up well and following stakeholder feedback at this key development stage we are better placed to reflect the policy drivers as well as experience and resources already existing within Local Authorities. The Tool will be essentially aimed at bringing together and sharing existing best practice, sign post resources, and offer guidance and good practice tips.

Critical Infrastructure Resilience International Network (CIRINT.NET)

CIRINT.NET is designed to be a long lasting network to bring together public institutions, private operators, professionals and academics interested building Critical Infrastructure Resilience. Partners vision, is for a fully functioning, living and dynamic network of regions across the World, collaborating on critical infrastructure resilience, sharing good practice and learning from one another, which can only be to our advantage of our communities.

The network website was formally launched this year. Development of the website continues as efforts focus on signing up ‘Members’ (Organisations) and ‘Participants’ (Individuals) to the network. To date international engagement within the network includes stakeholders in Eire, Germany, Greece, France, Netherlands, Italy, Spain, USA, with many more indicating interest in joining. If you want to sign-up you can do this through the cirint.net website or if you want to know more email: Robert.gibson@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

NCR Governance

With the NCR now operational with core staff in place, it is necessary that the governance for the Centre are developed accordingly. Plans are in place to build on the successes of the Programme Implementation Board with the creation of an Executive Group. Members will comprise of key NCR delivery partners representing responders, policy, academia and science experts. The Group will provide strategic direction for the NCR, ensuring that the views of stakeholders are reflected in the work of the NCR and providing quality assurance for NCR outputs. The Executive Group will be meeting for the first time in December and we will bring you an update in our next newsletter.

We welcome your comments, suggestions and feedback regarding the NCR development and future work. We will distribute information regarding specific events that are relevant to the NCR community via our regular newsletter. In the meantime, please keep in touch with your thoughts through email: NCR@gov.scot