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Introduction

What is a Community Risk Register?

This Community Risk Register (CRR) highlights risks that have the highest likelihood and potential to have significant impact, causing disruption to the Lothian and Borders Local Resilience Partnership (LRP) area and its communities, as defined in the map on page 21.

This document will:

- Inform you about the highest risks and their consequences in the Lothian and Borders area
- Provide you with links to organisations and websites to find out more
- Encourage steps that can be taken to become better prepared and more resilient in your home, business and community

While certain risks are mentioned it does not mean that they will definitely occur in the Lothian and Borders area.

It does mean there is a possibility of them happening and this document will provide information about what can be done if any of them do occur and how you can prepare and stay informed.

You should also use this information in conjunction with local knowledge and advice from the emergency services, agencies, local health boards and your local authority. Contact details can be found from page 19.

Who is this document for?

Whenever an emergency’ occurs, it has the potential to affect you and those around you in a number of ways.

This document will highlight some of the different ways in which this could happen, ranging from how it affects you, the individual, to the broader Lothian and Borders LRP area.

You
How you could be affected in your daily life

Your Family
How those close to you could be affected

Your Business
What it could mean for your business

Your Community
What the effects could be to your local community

Your Area
How the overall region could be affected

1To aid understanding and continuity throughout the CRR, the term ‘emergency’ is being used to cover all types of disruptive events, incidents and accidents which may occur as a result of an identified potential risk.
Resilience Partnership Profile

The Lothian and Borders LRP comprises organisations which are required to prepare and plan for, respond to and recover from emergencies in the Lothian and Borders area. The partnership works to enhance the safety of Lothian and Borders and its local communities.

Examples of organisations which make up this multi-agency partnership include, but are not limited to:

- City of Edinburgh Council
- East Lothian Council
- Midlothian Council
- Scottish Borders Council
- West Lothian Council
- Police Scotland
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- Scottish Ambulance Service
- NHS Borders
- NHS Lothians
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
- HR Coastguard (MCA)
- Met Office
- Voluntary sector
- Utility companies

How is a Community Risk Register created?

The CRR is the result of risk assessments carried out by the multi-agency partnership to identify risks in the area and rate them in terms of their likelihood of occurring and the potential impact. The results of these assessments are used to inform the partnership and produce agreed and effective multi-agency plans and procedures.

This document is the result of professional judgement from a range of contributors, historical evidence, scientific input and expert analysis in evaluating the key risks facing the Lothian and Borders LRP area.

This CRR covers non-malicious emergencies (e.g. natural occurrences, accidents) rather than threats (e.g. terrorist incidents). Although the Lothian and Borders LRP addresses threats within its risk assessment work, the sensitivity of the information supporting its assessments, means that details will not be made available in the public domain.

The specific risks identified in this document are viewed to have the potential to cause significant disruption to people’s lives should they occur within the Lothian and Borders LRP.
Area Profile

Lothian and Borders

The Lothian and Borders LRP is formed by the City of Edinburgh, East Lothian, West Lothian, Midlothian, and the Scottish Borders Councils. It covers an area of just under 2,500 square miles, extending from North Berwick at its most Northerly point to Newcastle (near the border with England) and from West Linton (near its Western boundary) to Eyemouth in the East.

Just under 1m people live in the Lothian and Borders area and 50% of this population lives within the City of Edinburgh.

There are good road and rail networks. The M8 links Edinburgh with Glasgow, the M9 extends from Edinburgh past Stirling, and the M90 to Perth links Edinburgh with the North and North East of Scotland. South of Edinburgh, the A1 and A68 provide connections with the North of England and the A7 is a vital route to the rural areas of the Scottish Borders.

From Edinburgh there are rail connections to all Scottish cities and the East Coast Rail Line carries passengers South to London. The recent completion of the Borders Railway from Tweedbank to Edinburgh will contribute to the economy of the Scottish Borders.

The Forth Bridge for rail and the Forth Road Bridge for road traffic support these transport links across the Forth Estuary and the Queensferry Crossing, opening in 2016, will improve road links to and from the Lothian and Borders area. The Firth of Forth is a significant feature on the North shore of the Local Resilience Partnership area. A number of large facilities contribute to the area’s economy: several docks service the petrochemicals, oil handling and fabrication industries and cruise liners are frequent visitors to Leith. The estuary is an important site for sea life and is protected by the Ramsar Convention, which conserves resources and uses wetlands wisely.

Electricity is generated by Torness nuclear power station in East Lothian and a number of wind farms are located on the hills of the Scottish Borders.

The Scottish Parliament and the Palace of Holyrood House, are situated in Edinburgh and, with Edinburgh Castle, are major tourist attractions.

Some important financial institutions are based in Edinburgh, including the world headquarters of the Royal Bank of Scotland. The International Airport expansion is increasing the number of foreign and business visitors and a high output from agriculture and forestry in the rural Council areas also contributes to the local economy.

The Royal Infirmary and the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh, the Borders General Hospital, Melrose and St John’s Hospital, Livingston are the main hospitals in the Local Resilience Partnership area and are supplemented by a number of smaller local hospitals and some private health care providers.

There are three universities; Edinburgh, Napier and Heriot Watt and a number of colleges; Edinburgh, West Lothian, Borders and Newbattle Abbey.
Community Risk Register / Lothian and Borders Local Resilience Partnership

Potential Risks

Influenza Type Diseases - Pandemic

A flu pandemic occurs when a new influenza virus emerges for which people have little or no immunity and for which there is no vaccine.

Because of this lack of immunity the virus is able to:

- Infect more humans over a large geographical area
- Spread rapidly and efficiently from person to person
- Cause clinical illness in a proportion of those infected

Pandemic flu is similar to seasonal flu but the symptoms can be more severe and whilst seasonal flu tends to happen around October to May every year, a pandemic flu can happen at any time.

- Illness, unable to go to work, loss of income, limited mobility, loss of life, high levels of anxiety
- Missing school and work, passing illness on, loss of income, several members unwell, loss of life
- Workforce unable to get to work, loss of income, business networks affected
- Increased demand on healthcare services, transport disruption and delays, economic losses, significant loss of life
- Transport and delivery disruptions, increased demand on healthcare services, economic and business losses, tourism affected, loss of life
**Possible Consequences**

- Many people affected
- Public anxiety
- Higher than usual number of deaths
- Health and social care services stretched
- Vulnerable people at a higher risk
- High staff absence levels
- Public transportation affected
- Normal daily routines become affected

**What the Lothian and Borders LRP members are doing:**

In the event of an outbreak, working together to:
- put surveillance arrangements in place to quickly identify and react to new diseases to avoid large outbreaks occurring
- promote good infection control measures in health centres and hospitals
- promote business continuity with local partners and businesses
- support the NHS and social care services to cope with increased demand
- assist in managing the local provision of appropriate and effective vaccinations
- raise public awareness with the community and the media
- manage a higher than normal level of fatalities
- maintain and further develop multi-agency pandemic flu plans

**What you can do:**

- Keep healthy – living a healthy lifestyle significantly increases your body’s immune system and ability to cope with the flu and other illnesses
- Ensure you have someone who would be able to collect your medication, food and other important supplies for you – this will allow you to remain at home, potentially reducing further spread of the pandemic flu
- Have your own supplies of over-the-counter cold and flu medicines for you and your family
- Know and understand your children’s school arrangements on such matters
- Look out for and follow advice from the NHS and other relevant agencies about the outbreak

**For more information:**

- Contact your local NHS board or visit:  
  www.nhs.uk/conditions/pandemic-flu
- Ready Scotland - Pandemic Flu:  
  www.readyscotland.org/are-you-ready/pandemic-flu/
- Healthier Scotland - Take Life On:  
  www.takelifeon.co.uk

More preparedness information can be found on page 17.
Potential Risks

Severe Weather

This is relevant to the Lothian and Borders area as over the years there has been a range of weather events occurring, that have included heavy snow, rain, ice and high winds.

Severe Weather can:

- come in a variety of forms; storm force winds, extreme temperatures, heavy rain (see Flooding page 09) and snow
- last for prolonged periods and its impact can cause significant damage and disruption to people’s lives and livelihoods
- have a knock-on effect and create additional emergencies

Unable to go to work/home, loss of income, transport delays, disruption to daily routine, injury, loss of life

Structural damage to home, increased insurance premiums, missing school, no utilities, transport delays, injury, loss of life

Businesses suspended or closed, damaged buildings, staff unable to reach work, utilities networks disrupted, IT failure

Economic and business losses, damaged buildings, transport delays, loss of life

Utilities failure, economic losses, transport disruptions, tourism affected
Possible Consequences

Can be significant and long-lasting:

- Loss of utilities (power, gas, water, telecommunications) in homes and businesses
- Danger to life from windblown objects such as trees, and structural failure
- Vulnerable people exposed to health threatening temperatures
- Damage to property and infrastructure in urban and rural areas
- Limited or delayed transport availability
- Businesses and services may be forced to close or suspend operations
- Schools and public buildings closed
- Impact on rural areas; crops, livestock affected and communities isolated
- Natural landscape affected

Possible Consequences

- Maintaining, testing and exercising plans and procedures for an effective multi-agency response to severe weather events
- Taking account of warnings or alerts issued by the Met Office and SEPA
- Distributing early notification of severe weather forecasts
- Providing support and guidance on business continuity to local partners and businesses
- Engaging with communities to develop community resilience
- Identifying and targeting assistance to the most vulnerable members of communities

For more information:

- Met Office Severe Weather Advice: www.metoffice.gov.uk/guide/weather/severe-weather-advice
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency – Flooding: www.sepa.org.uk/flooding
- Ready Scotland – Severe Weather: www.readyscotland.org/are-you-ready/severe-weather

Information about severe weather and your local area can be located from the Lothian and Borders Local Authorities websites on page 21. More preparedness information can be found on page 17.
Potential Risks

Flooding

There are many notable examples of flooding occurring in the Lothian and Borders area that have previously caused significant damage, anxiety and disruption across many communities.

The types of flooding which are more likely to cause damage and disruption are coastal, river and flash flooding.

Coastal flooding can:

- Be the result of sea surges, high tides and/or gale force winds
- Affect the coastline and local defence barriers which may be overtopped or breached
- Generally be expected

River and Flash Flooding can:

- Be the result of heavy rain and melting snow or a combination of factors
- Affect any area, from those adjoining steep sided hills to flat plains
- Sometimes be rapid with little or no warning

Advised to stay indoors or move to a safer area, injury, loss of income, inability to get home and/or to work

Advised to stay indoors or move to a safer area, structural damage to home, no utilities

Businesses may be in the affected area, staffing levels affected, utilities networks disrupted, long term recovery

Businesses suspended or closed, economic losses, building damage, utilities supply disrupted, loss of life, long term recovery

Economic losses, utilities supply disrupted, tourism affected
### Possible Consequences

- Risk to life, people and animals
- Flooding of homes and businesses
- Evacuation and/or isolation of residents
- Transport disruption with flooded roads and bridges
- Disruption of utilities
- Damage to property, agricultural land and general infrastructure
- Emergency accommodation for those evacuated
- Pollution and contamination of the local environment
- Long term restoration and recovery issues for those affected
- Potential unrecoverable damage to businesses

### What the Lothian and Borders LRP members are doing:

- Identifying and risk assessing areas that could be affected by flooding and those communities at risk in these areas
- Taking account of any warnings or alerts issued by SEPA
- Developing multi-agency plans and responses to flooding
- Testing and exercising flood related scenarios and recovery plans
- Providing information in advance, e.g. weather and flood warnings

### What you can do:

- Find out if you live or work within a flood risk area from the SEPA website (below)
- Sign up to receive SEPA Floodline alerts (below)
- Ensure you have adequate insurance
- Where possible, move valuable or irreplaceable items to higher areas in your house during times of flood risk
- Identify a neighbour who may need help or who might be able to assist you if you evacuate your home
- Create a flood plan for your home and business (see below – Ready Scotland)

### For more information:

- Scottish Environment Protection Agency - Flooding
  www.sepa.org.uk/flooding.aspx
- Ready Scotland - Flooding
  www.readyscotland.org/are-you-ready/flooding/

Information about flooding and your local area can be located from the Lothian and Borders Local Authorities websites on page 21. More preparedness information can be found on page 17.
Community Risk Register / Lothian and Borders Local Resilience Partnership //

Potential Risks

Pollution and Contamination

Lothian and Borders has a number of inland watercourses and open water areas. It also has a large food production sector that makes a significant contribution to the Scottish economy.

The Lothian and Borders Firth of Forth coast is home to spectacular seabird colonies including 150,000 gannets, the largest such colony in the world. Its waters are rich with marine wildlife. This includes grey seals and there have been sightings of bottlenose dolphins, Risso’s dolphins, porpoises and whales including minke, pilot, fin, humpback and killer whales. Pollution and contamination through release of harmful substances is an identified risk to the region.

Pollution and contamination events may occur because of:

- industrial leakage or explosion (sewerage, pollutants, chemicals, etc.)
- transport accidents resulting in harmful substances being released into the environment, such as marine pollution
- contamination of part of the food chain process or drinking water

Businesses may be in the affected area, water utility networks disrupted, long term recovery

Businesses suspended or closed, economic losses, long term recovery, restriction on some foods if contaminated, loss of water supply, anxiety

Economic losses, transportation routes and water utilities affected, tourism affected, contaminated areas within the region

Advised to stay indoors or move to a safer area, illness, loss of income, restrictions of some foods if contaminated, loss of water supply, high levels of anxiety

Advised to stay indoors or move to a safer area, illness, restrictions of some foods if contaminated, loss of water supply, high levels of anxiety

Businesses may be in the affected area, water utility networks disrupted, long term recovery

Businesses suspended or closed, economic losses, long term recovery, restriction on some foods if contaminated, loss of water supply, anxiety

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Businesses may be in the affected area, water utility networks disrupted, long term recovery

Businesses suspended or closed, economic losses, long term recovery, restriction on some foods if contaminated, loss of water supply, anxiety

Economic losses, transportation routes and water utilities affected, tourism affected, contaminated areas within the region

Advised to stay indoors or move to a safer area, illness, loss of income, restrictions of some foods if contaminated, loss of water supply, high levels of anxiety
Possible Consequences

- Pollution and contamination of inland watercourses and open water
- Damage to businesses, agricultural land and processes
- Health issues for people and animals
- Environmental pollution of coastlines and protected sites
- Prolonged restoration and recovery issues for homes, businesses and the environment
- Long-term damage to infrastructure
- Fewer tourists visiting the region
- Public anxiety

What the Lothian and Borders LRP members are doing:

- Working with multi-agency partners to test and exercise pollution and/or contamination related scenarios and recovery plans
- Promoting high standards to reduce the likelihood of instances occurring in the first place
- Working with partners to identify lessons from previous incidents and learn from them

What you can do:

- Follow advice of the public health and local authorities and keep up to date with media announcements
- Identify neighbours who may need help or who might be able to assist you if you need to evacuate your home
- Consider what you can safely do to assist during any clean-up operations

For more information:

- Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
  www.sepa.org.uk

More preparedness information can be found on page 17.
Potential Risks

Industrial Site Incidents

There are a wide variety of industrial sites throughout the Lothian and Borders LRP. Many of these use, store and/or transport hazardous materials as part of their daily business.

These are governed by strict safety regulations; however should an incident still occur, there are detailed emergency plans in place to deal with it and local responders will work closely to resolve the incident and keep the community informed of progress.

Examples of such incidents are:

- an explosion at an industrial site e.g. complex, plant, pipeline or facility
- a release of harmful materials

Advised to stay indoors or move to a safer area, loss of income, inability to get home, injury, illness, loss of life

Advised to stay indoors or move to a safer area, structural damage to home or business, no utilities, injury, illness, loss of life

No utilities, business may be in affected area, staffing levels affected, supply/distribution network affected

Businesses suspended or closed, economic losses, building damage, utilities supply disrupted, loss of life, long term recovery

Economic losses, utility supply disrupted, tourism affected
Possible Consequences

- Danger to life
- Public health issues and injuries
- People may be advised to stay indoors for safety purposes
- Possible evacuation of the affected area
- Potential for further incidents (e.g. fire or structural collapse)
- Damage to buildings and structures
- Disruption to fuel or utility supplies
- Economic loses
- Adverse impact on farm and agricultural produce
- Damage to environment including waterways and wildlife

What the Lothian and Borders LRP members are doing:

- Following guidance of regulators and working closely with site operators to produce, test and exercise multi-agency plans to provide emergency response assistance and recovery
- Working with multi-agency partners to respond effectively
- Identifying ways and means of communicating with the public before, during and after an incident
- Working with partners to identify lessons from previous incidents and to learn from them

What you can do:

- Listen to and follow instructions issued by site operators, emergency services and others during an incident
- Know and understand your children’s school arrangements on such matters
- Keep relevant phone numbers handy to stay in touch with people if you get separated

For more information:

- Ready Scotland - Are You Ready:
  www.readyscotland.org/are-you-ready/

More preparedness information can be found on page 17.
Potential Risks

Interruption to Utilities

The term ‘utilities’ is given to many of the essential services which modern society relies upon e.g. electricity, gas, water and telecommunications.

Many of these utilities are dependent on one another, e.g. electricity is required at water pumping stations and electricity is also required to allow many modern household telephones to function. It can also have a knock-on effect and create additional emergencies.

A utilities disruption may be caused by:

• severe weather
• industrial action
• an emergency affecting the national networks
• water contamination

- Unable to warm home or cook meals, possible evacuation, disruption to daily routine
- Possible evacuation, disruption to daily routine, unable to attend work, schools and colleges closed
- Businesses and organisations unable to operate
- Businesses suspended or closed, economic losses, risk to the vulnerable within the community, increased demand on emergency services
- Economic losses, travel disruptions
Possible Consequences

- No heating or electricity
- No drinking water and loss of sanitation
- Loss of telephone and internet network
- Businesses and organisations unable to operate without telecommunication
- Risk to the health of the vulnerable

What the Lothian and Borders LRP members are doing:

- Working with the utility companies to manage supply interruptions
- Identification of vulnerable people who will need special treatment in the event of a utilities outage
- Production of multi-agency plans to manage long-term utilities outages

What you can do:

- Know where the cut off points are for your utilities, in case of emergencies. It may be necessary to shut off the supply to every premises in the affected area
- Outages may come with forewarning. If this is the case consider how you can be prepared, e.g. fill the bath with water for general use and use bottled or boiled water for drinking, food preparation and cleaning teeth
- Keep an analogue telephone handy, e.g. a phone which does not require power and which works in a power cut

For more information:

- Ready Scotland - Loss of Utilities
  www.readyscotland.org/are-you-ready/loss-of-utilities

More preparedness information can be found on page 17.
Preparedness

There is much that you can do to make yourself, your family and business better prepared for emergencies or disruptive events.

You can significantly reduce the risk by being informed and prepared.

Being aware of the risks in your local community will help you prepare for the consequences they may bring. By planning and preparing now, you can limit the impact an emergency could have on you, your family or business. There are many types of emergency situations that could disrupt your daily life including not being able to travel, get in touch with family members, colleagues and other people.

Some initial steps you can take:

- Identify the risks that might affect you, your home or business in your local area
- Research specific actions you can take to reduce the impact of those risks in areas of your life
- Identify somewhere your family can meet if you are evacuated or cannot return to your home
- Check your insurance cover in detail and keep a copy of the policy in a safe place
- Sign up to official social media feeds and apps such as those on page 16.
- Take time to help your elderly or vulnerable neighbours where possible
- Consider what you would do with your pets

In an emergency, there are many ways in which information is communicated to the public by the appropriate authorities. This can be via traditional sources like TV and radio but also by social media such as Twitter feeds, agency website updates and Facebook notifications.

Depending on the nature of the emergency, it is possible that electricity or telecommunication infrastructure may be affected.

It is good to know your local radio stations, as they will be broadcasting important information. You may wish to write down your local radio frequencies at the back of this document.

A good start is:

- BBC Radio Scotland: (92 – 95 FM) and 810 MW

* To find stations in your local area visit www.radio-now.co.uk/scot.htm

For more information, plan templates and checklists:

- Ready Scotland – Preparedness at Home:
  www.readyscotland.org/at-home/
- Ready Scotland – My Business
  www.readyscotland.org/my-business/
- Ready Scotland - My Community
  www.readyscotland.org/my-community/
# Personal Information

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<tr>
<th>Useful Contacts</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<td>Personal Emergency Contacts</td>
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<td>School</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Doctor</td>
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<td>Nearest hospital</td>
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<td>Pharmacy</td>
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<td>Minor ailment service</td>
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<td>Electrical Supplier</td>
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<td>Gas Supplier</td>
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<td>Phone Supplier</td>
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<td>Insurance Company</td>
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<td>Vet</td>
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<td>Bank</td>
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If you had to stay with someone else:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address &amp; Telephone</th>
<th>Details</th>
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Find Out More

In an emergency, always dial 999. For general police enquiries and non-emergency matters, dial 101.

Scottish Government
• Ready Scotland – Preparing for Emergencies: www.readyscotland.org

Business Resilience
• Ready Scotland – My Business www.readyscotland.org/my-business

Weather
• Met Office www.metoffice.gov.uk/publicsector/resilience/community-resilience

Environment
• Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) www.sepa.org.uk

Community Resilience
• Ready Scotland – Community www.readyscotland.org/my-community

Police
• Police Scotland www.scotland.police.uk/your-community/the-lothians-and-scottish-borders/
  www.scotland.police.uk/your-community/edinburgh/

Health
• NHS Lothians www.nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk
• NHS Borders www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk

Utilities – Electricity
• Scottish Power Energy Networks www.spenergynetworks.co.uk
• Scottish and Southern Energy Power Distribution www.ssepd.co.uk

Utilities – Gas
• Scottish Gas Networks www.sgn.co.uk

Utilities – Water
• Scottish Water www.scottishwater.co.uk

Telecommunications
• BT www.bt.com

Transportation
• Traffic Scotland https://trafficscotland.org
• Traveline Scotland www.travelinescotland.com

Voluntary Sector
• Ready Scotland – Voluntary Response www.readyscotland.org/voluntary-response/
Useful Apps

The following apps can be downloaded:

• Ready Scotland
  www.readyscotland.org/are-you-ready/smartphone-app/

• Met Office Weather
  www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather

• Travel Line
  www.travelinescotland.com/cms/content/Apps.xhtml

Social Media

• Ready Scotland Twitter @readyscotland

• Met Office Twitter @metoffice

• SSE in Scotland Twitter @hydroPD

• Traffic Scotland Twitter @trafficscotland

• Police Scotland Twitter @policescotland
  www.facebook.com/PoliceScotland

• Scottish Environment Protection Agency
  Twitter @ScottishEPA
  www.facebook.com/
  ScottishEnvironmentProtectionAgency
Local Authorities

1. City of Edinburgh Council
   www.edinburgh.gov.uk

2. East Lothian Council
   www.eastlothian.gov.uk

3. Midlothian Council
   www.midlothian.gov.uk

4. West Lothian Council
   www.westlothian.gov.uk

5. Scottish Borders Council
   www.scotborders.gov.uk
Contributors

- City of Edinburgh Council
- East Lothian Council
- Midlothian Council
- Scottish Borders Council
- West Lothian Council
- Police Scotland
- Scottish Fire & Rescue Service
- Scottish Ambulance Service
- NHS Borders
- NHS Lothians
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
- HR Coastguard (MCA)
- Met Office
- Scottish Water
- Transport Scotland
Notes