

Axminster Emergency Plan

This plan has been created by Axminster Town Council so that, in the event of an emergency incident occurring, there is a list of useful information for residents of Axminster.

This plan has been created to allow for self-help response. This plan was created following consultation of a working party of Axminster town council.

What is an emergency?

An emergency is defined as “An incident arising, with or without warning, threatening or causing death or serious disruption to significant numbers of people, property or the environment, in excess of that which can be dealt with by public services operating under normal conditions and requiring the special mobilisation and organisation of these services and the deployment of local authority staff and resources”.

Who is responsible in the event of an emergency?

The **police** have overall responsibility for control and co-ordination in an emergency situation. This is known as Gold (Strategic), Silver (Tactical) or Bronze (Operational) Command. Local Authorities such as East Devon District Council and Devon County Council provide support to the police in the event of an emergency.

Axminster Town Council has no current supporting role in the event of an emergency, however what resources it does have can be made available to gold, silver or bronze command.

What Emergencies did the Axminster Town Council Emergency Plan Working Party Consider?

Following consultation with relevant stakeholders the working party agreed that the following were areas that may lead to an emergency:

- Natural Disaster:
 - Severe weather incidents
 - Flooding
 - Drought
 - Heatwave
 - Freezing (Including Ice, Snow)
 - Landslip
- Vehicle related incidents, including trains.

- Major leaks/spill – Chemical/biological
- Fuel/Gas leaks or spills
- Pandemic

What Resources does Axminster Town Council have that can be provided to the community in the event of an emergency?

Axminster Town council has very limited resources which can be made available:

- The Guildhall Building, Located at 5 West Street, Axminster EX13 5NX
 - This building can be used as a temporary emergency refuge.
- Sandbags (Approx Number 1000), some filled, mostly unfilled.
 - Filled sandbags are stored at the following locations:
 - Axminster Guildhall, Chard Road storage unit
 - Empty Sandbags can be collected from:
 - Axminster Guildhall (during opening hours)

Specific contact Points

In event of emergency the public should call the following as appropriate (Unless otherwise stated all numbers are open 24/7:

- Emergency services, Ambulance, Fire Service, Police on 999
- Electricity: National Grid 0800 6783 105
- Gas: British Gas 0800 111 999
- Environment Agency: Flooding 0800 80 70 60
- Network Rail Emergency line: 0345 6000 650
- East Devon District Council: 01404 515616
- Devon County Council: 0345 155 1015
- Devon County Council Highways: 0345 155 1004
- South West Water: 0344 346 2020 (Business hours)
- South West Water Leaks: 0800 230 0561
- Met Office 0370 900 0100 (Business Hours)
- NHS Direct Non-emergency advice 111