

**TITLE OF REPORT:** Revised Strategic Resilience Management Framework

**REPORT OF:** Colin Huntington, Acting Strategic Director – Communities and Environment

---

---

## **SUMMARY**

To provide the Committee with an overview of the revised Strategic Resilience Management Framework and a progress update.

---

---

### **Background**

1. As a reminder, resilience is the ability to anticipate risk, limit impact, respond and recover quickly and effectively from emergencies and disruptive events that affect organisations, businesses, individuals, families, neighbourhoods and communities, and is the joint responsibility of all officers within Gateshead Council.
2. The Resilience Strategy was first approved by the council in 2010. Subsequent reviews have taken place and the most recent iteration was endorsed by Gateshead Council's Cabinet in December 2017. Progress since then has been monitored on a six-monthly basis by the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
3. The Strategic Resilience and Emergency Planning Framework was produced to continue the work undertaken from the previous Resilience Strategy and to provide the future focus and direction for the council.

### **Strategic Resilience Management Framework**

4. The purpose of this revised framework is to outline the focus for Gateshead Council to continue to work in collaboration with our partners and communities over the next two years for emergency planning, resilience, response and recovery. This will ensure that the council continues to comply with statutory legislation and has the necessary capacity and capability to mitigate, prepare for, respond to and recover from emergency or major incident situations and use the learning to inform contingency planning.
5. The emphasis of this framework is to support the sustained development of a network of competent officers who are able to respond to emergencies and carry on embedding resilience into all aspects of service delivery.
6. The framework contains background information; Strategic Vision for Resilience and Emergency Planning; statutory legislative requirements and national context; the Northumbria Local Resilience Forum; Gateshead Council Emergency Response Arrangements; Training and Exercising; Council Liability; Local Governance Arrangements; Future Focus; Quality Assurance, Service Key Objectives and; Key Priorities.

7. The revised framework includes the following revisions:
  - Updated national context and Local Resilience Forum arrangements
  - Alignment to the Council's Thrive Agenda
  - Revision of the Local Governance Arrangements
  - Proposal for a future Local Government Association Peer Review
  - Updated service key objectives and priorities for 2019-2021
8. A copy of the revised framework is attached as appendix 1.

### **Service Key Objectives and Key Priorities**

9. Service Key Objectives have been developed to ensure there is compliance with the Civil Contingencies Act (2004) and help achieve the strategic vision with continuous review that will align to the Council's Service Business Planning Process and individual Appraisal and Development Sessions.
10. In addition, key priorities have been developed that identifies our emerging issues and areas of work that we will focus on over the next two years.

### **Thrive Agenda**

11. The revised framework will contribute to achieving to three of the five pledges of the Council's Thrive agenda:
  - Put people and families at the heart of everything we do
  - Support our communities to support themselves and each other
  - Work together and fight for a better future for Gateshead

### **Emergency Planning, Resilience and Response - Progress Update**

12. Since the year-end Assessment of Performance and Delivery Report was presented to committee members in June 2019, additional highlights include:
  - The Council's Resilience and Emergency Planning Team has developed a Community Emergency Guidance document, which aims to:
    - Provide emergency contact details for a range of situations and the type of assistance that can be provided
    - Enable residents and business proprietors to be better prepared to protect themselves and their properties
    - Provide opportunities to volunteer as Community Resilience Wardens
    - The document has been added to the Council website and can be found at <https://www.gateshead.gov.uk/article/11953/Community-emergency-guidance>
  - A recruitment campaign is underway for additional staff volunteers to join the council's emergency response team which will ensure continued resilience and maintaining of capacity and capability
  - The Council has implemented a new on-line digital logging system for use during incidents and emergency situations. Training and awareness sessions are currently ongoing for members of the emergency response team.

## **Recommendations**

13. Overview and Scrutiny Committee is requested to:

- Consider and comment on the report and revised framework
- Indicate whether it is satisfied with the progress achieved
- Agree to receive a progress report in April 2020.

---

**Contact:** David Patterson

**Ext:** 2807