

27 MAR 2022

Donegal Civil Defence Plan 2023 – 2025

Legislative Requirement for Local Authority Civil Defence Plans

In accordance with Section 12 of the 2012 Civil Defence Act, each local authority is required to prepare and submit a civil defence plan to the Minister for Defence:

Role of Civil Defence

This plan should be prepared in line with 'Civil Defence Towards 2030' which sets out Government policy in relation to Civil Defence. Towards 2030 states that Civil Defence will continue to be developed around its central strategic objective of supporting the Principal Response Agencies in a variety of emergency and non-emergency situations.

Over the years Civil Defence volunteers have been utilised in a variety of community support roles at local level. Where resources permit and with the agreement of the Local Authority, Civil Defence will continue to support appropriate community events.

Integration of Civil Defence into the Local Authorities emergency management system

(a) Towards 2030 states that 'Provision should be made to appoint the Civil Defence Officer to each Local Authority's Crisis Management Team'.

Please confirm that this is the case in your local authority. YES

(b) Towards 2030 also states that 'Provision should be made in each Local Authority Major Emergency Management Plan for the inclusion of Civil Defence resources'

Please confirm that this is the case in your local authority: YES

Section 1: Services

Towards 2030 sets out the five core services of Civil Defence. Under each of the core services listed below indicate the roles your Civil Defence Unit will provide in 2023-2025.

a. ***"Emergency Response"***

What roles are set out for Civil Defence in your local authority Major Emergency Plans?

1	Have available a trained and equipped Auxiliary Fire Service available to assist the Local Authority Fire Service with Gorse Fire Fighting – under the command and control of Donegal Fire Service.
2	Have available a fully operational AFS unit trained and equipped to support the Donegal Fire Service during Flood Events (to pump of flood waters, sandbagging, and assist with necessary evacuations).

3	As part of the Local Authority flood plan, assist the LA Housing section with the establishment of rest centres during incidents of severe weather evacuations.
4	Provision of onsite welfare crew to assist the PRA's response personnel and the survivors at any local major emergency incident site, to include Medical Support, CISM, Transport and Rest & Refreshments services to the rescue personnel, injured or relatives.
5	Assist the Local Authority in the roles set out for Civil Defence within the Local Authority Major Emergency Plan.
6	Provide appropriate training to have sufficient trained personnel and equipment available and in a state of preparedness to undertake Radiation Monitoring through soil and grass sampling, and measurement of gamma radiation levels in conjunction with Civil Defence and the RPII
7	Provide appropriate training to have sufficient trained water rescue unit, available and in a state of preparedness to assist the Dept. of Agriculture with a Avian Influenza outbreak

b. ***"Search and Rescue"***

What Search and Rescue services will your Unit provide in 2023-2025?

1	Drone Unit – Provision of trained licensed Drone Pilots & Operators.
2	Have available a trained and appropriately equipped Missing Person Urban Search Team, available to assist the Principal Response agencies when the need arises.
3	Have available a trained Swift Water Rescue Unit to respond when tasked by the PRA's
4	Have available a water based missing person search response team and boat unit to be available to respond, when tasked by the PRA's
5	Provision of safety boat cover at non - emergency community water-based events

c. ***"Medical Response"***

What Medical Response services will your Unit provide in 2023-2025?

1	Provision of Ambulance and Medical cover at non- emergency community events when resources allow.
2	Provision of Ambulance and Medical to assist NAS and other agencies with patient transfers by arrangement.
3	Provision of medical support to the Irish Blood Transfusion Service monthly blood clinics
4	Have available a PHECC trained skilled unit to assist NAS / HSE in any public health incident

d. **“Community Assistance”**

What Community Assistance services will your Unit provide in 2023-2025? In addition to the services outlined at points a, b and c, we will provide the following services;

1	<i>Delivering of meals and wheels during severe weather incidents of frost and snow to the vulnerable and housebound in the community.</i>
2	Transportation of medical staff to assist house bound patients in the community.
3	Transportation of home care support workers to assist vulnerable and house bound patients in the community
4	Be in a state of preparedness to assist the PRA's for any public health event, COVID, Swine Flu etc

e. **“Radiation Monitoring Service”.**

Please confirm that your Unit will provide a Radiation Monitoring Service in conjunction with the Department of Defence? YES

Other Services

Individual Local Authorities who are responsible for Civil Defence operations may wish to undertake additional “Other Services” other than those within the five Core Services set out. If they do, they should ensure they have undertaken risk assessments, have appropriate policies in place and relevant training has been provided to volunteers.

The Local Authority must consult with the Department of Defence **before** undertaking other services to ensure they are covered by Civil Defence insurance. The Department of Defence centrally insures Civil Defence.

Donegal Civil Defence will be delivering no ‘other services’ during this time period.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Section 2: Volunteers.

Q1. Our Civil Defence Unit requires ____65____ (insert number) active volunteers to provide the required level of service.

The Unit currently has __65__ (insert number) active volunteers who all meet the Minimum Training Standard as set out in Circular 12 of 2019.

In order to provide the required level of Civil Defence Service, including allowing for turnover in existing volunteers, we plan to recruit the following numbers of volunteers over the three year period

	2023	2024	2025
Number of new Volunteers to be recruited	12	20	20

Section 3: Civil Defence Equipment.

Q2. What is the Civil Defence Units, Vehicle and Boat Requirements to fulfil your core services as set out in Section 1.

	Total Required Number	Current Number
SUV	1	4
Ambulances	1	2
Comms Vehicles (van)	0	1
Fire Tenders	1	1
Vans (standard)	1	0
Minibus	1	2
Trucks	0	0
Mobile Canteens	0	0
Other --please specify	0	1 Rescue Land Rover Defender with Winch and Stretcher
Total Vehicles	5	11
Boats	1	1 Deemed Unsuitable for local waters in last Marine Survey

Q3. What vehicles/ boats does your Civil Defence Unit plan to acquire (including replacement vehicles/ boats) over the next 3 years?

	2023	2024	2025
SUV	0	1	1
Ambulances	0	1 (4WD)	0
Comms Vehicles (van)	0	0	0
Fire Tenders	2 (1 additional & 1 replacement)	0	0
Vans (standard)	0	1	0
Minibus	1 replacement	0	0
Trucks	0	1	0
Mobile Canteens	0	0	0
Other – please specify			
Boats	1	0	0
Total	4	4	1

Q4. What other major items of equipment does your Civil Defence Unit plan to acquire (if any) over the next 3 years to fulfil core services as set out in Section 1?

Description of Equipment	Expected Year of acquisition
1. Water Cradle / Netting Stretcher for recovering deceased persons from the water following missing person searches. This would allow the rescuer to restrict the handling of the deceased, thus preserving evidence and reducing the risk of infection to the crew member.	2023
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	

Section 4: Training

Using the form below, please outline your Civil Defence Unit's training requirements in order to fulfil the core services as set out in Section 1.

CDOs are required to outline the Total Number of Volunteers (strength) and Instructors required to maintain that strength, in order to fulfil the core services as set out in Section 1. The figures submitted must include the current number of certified volunteers and instructors.

Following receipt of **all** Local Authority Civil Defence Plans, the Department of Defence will analyse and endeavour to meet the needs as outlined based on available resource

Training Requirements

Course Name	Number of Volunteers required (strength) to have effective capability in this discipline	Total number of Instructors required to maintain the strength*
Medical Response		
Cardiac First Response Community	65 (MTS)	4
Cardiac First Response Advanced	4	1
First Aid Response	43	3
Emergency First Response	14	2
Emergency Medical Technician	4	
Emergency Response		
Pump Operator (**Course under Development)	20	2
Basic Water Rescuer	16	
Lifeguard Competent User	36	
Water and Flood Awareness	36	
Swiftwater and Flood First Responder	12	
Marine / Water Based		
ISA/RYA National Power Boat Level 2 (Crew member)	16	
ISA/RYA Advanced Power Boat Level 3 (Coxwain)	4	
ISA / RYA Coastal Navigation	16	
Personal Survival Techniques (Maritime College)	16	
Sonar Operator	6	
Search and Rescue		
Missing Person Search Responder	22	
Missing Person Team Leader	6	
Search Management Software Operator (MAPX)	6	2
Missing Persons Search Manager	4	
Search Dog Handlers	0	
Drone Remote Pilot Training (Open Category)	4	
Drone Remote Pilot Training (Specific Category)	4	
Communications and Operational Support		
	65 (part of Local Mandatory training)	2
Radio Communications - L01 - Introductory Training	10	
Radio Communications - L02 - Net Operator	10	
Radio Communications - L03 - Advanced Operator Training	10	

Radio Communications - L04 - Network Controller	4	
Radio Communications - L05 - Dispatch and Information Management	4	
Marine VHF Short Range Certificate (SRC)	16	
Marine Band Restricted Operators Certificate (GMDSS)	6	
Vehicle Based		
Approved Driving Instructor		2
Severe Weather Off Road Driving Operator	20	
Radiation Monitoring		
Radiation Monitoring	4	
Welfare		
Food Safety and You Operative	12	2
Health & Safety (H&S)		
Manual Handling Operator	65 (MTS)	2
People Handling Operator	32	2
Miscellaneous		
Children First / Child Protection / TUSLA	65 (MTS)	
Designated Liaison Person (DLP) Training for Child Protection	2	
Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) - Peer to Peer Support	4	
Avian Influenza Training	8	
Rope Rescue (**Courses under Development)		
Responder / Operator (Level 1)	22	
Climber / Technician (Level 2)	22	
Team Leader / Safety Supervisor	6	
CDO / ACDO Courses		
Management of Water and Flood Incidents	2	
* Merged Cells means one instructor covers all levels Blacked out cells means no instructor capability provided at this time		
**Courses under Development Note: Full training details will be made available once the courses are fully developed and training syllabi designed. CDOs are requested to provide a training estimation for their Units at this time.		

MTS: Mandatory Training Services

Q5. Is there any additional training not listed above that is required by your Unit to deliver the Core Services as set out in Section 1? If so please complete table below.

Training Need	Core Service
EMT Upskilling	Medical Response

This Local Authority Civil Defence Plan, as required under Section 12 of the 2012 Civil Defence Act, is hereby submitted to the Minister for Defence on behalf of Donegal Local Authority.

Note the signed plan must be submitted to the Department of Defence (Civil Defence Branch, Benamore, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary), both in hard copy and electronically (civildefence@defence.ie) by **15th March 2023**.

Signed: Evelyn O'Sullivan
Civil Defence Officer

Date: 15th March 2023

Signed: [Signature]
Director of Services

Date: 6th April 2023

Signed: John G. McLaughlin
Chief Executive

Date: 7 March 2023