

## Background

There is clear evidence that the UK's weather patterns will become more unpredictable and extreme. This will impact on communities and vulnerable people and there is an increasing need to ensure that they are resilient and can adapt to these changes.

Although the whole concept of community resilience is to allow communities to be able to prepare for and respond to extreme weather events themselves, support can be helpful to kick start this process, from producing a resilience plan, to bringing the community together and ensuring that there is an overarching body in place to oversee the scheme's development. Sustainability West Midlands is in a strong position to provide this support.

## Services

We offer differing levels of support, including all or some of the following:

1. Help to identify those communities that may be most at risk of climate disadvantage.
2. Facilitate an interactive kick-off workshop with key members of a community (e.g. Parish Councillors, local fire service officers, district/county councillors, community group members etc.), including service providers, to ascertain what the risks in the community are.
3. Develop a risk assessment for that community and produce a community Severe Weather Plan, identifying practical actions that can be taken to improve resilience.
4. Running a second workshop for the wider community on the contents of the plan and what this means for the community. This could be a separate workshop or a presentation given at an existing community event / meeting.
5. Raise awareness of the project subsequent to its completion via our communications channels (website, newsletter, Twitter etc.) as an example of good practice and develop a case study if appropriate.

## Expertise

Our team has extensive knowledge in the development of community resilience programmes and have produced assessments and run workshops on resilience for communities in the past. We also manage the West Midlands Climate Resilience Network and can draw upon expertise within this Network where appropriate.

