

Longford 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	Severe weather response.
2	Major emergency assist.
3	Transportation of displaced persons.
4	Evacuation.
5	Supporting PRA's as necessary.

6	Assisting LA with emergency rest centres where required.
7	Pandemic Response
8	

b. ***“Search and Rescue”***

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

1	Missing person search.
2	
3	
4	
5	

c. ***“Medical Response”***

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

1	Provision of medical cover at events.
2	Transportation of patients to support HSE if requested.
3	Assist agencies in emergencies.
4	Attend training exercises.
5	

d. ***“Community Assistance”***

What Community Assistance services will your Unit provide in 2023-2025?

1	Attending community events where resources allow.
2	Assisting LA with emergency rest centres.
3	Transportation of displaced persons.
4	Providing CFR training to Community groups where possible.
5	Promoting the work of CD within the Community.
6	Working with the agencies to support Community during emergencies.
7	<i>Pandemic response</i>

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.

Please list below any other Services your Local Authority may undertake during the course of this three year plan.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Section 2: Volunteers.

Q1. Our Civil Defence Unit requires 45 active volunteers to provide the required level of service.

The Unit currently has 25 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	8	8	8

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	5	4
Ambulances	2	1
Comms Vehicles (van)	1	1
Fire Tenders	0	0
Vans (standard)	1	1
Minibus	1	1
Trucks	0	0
Mobile Canteens	0	0
Other – please specify		
Total Vehicles		
Boats	1	0

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	0
Comms Vehicles (van)	0	0	0
Fire Tenders	0	0	0
Vans (standard)	0	1	1
Minibus	0	1	0
Trucks	0	0	0
Mobile Canteens	0	0	0
Other – please specify	0	0	0
Boats			
Total		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. Upgrading of training equipment	2023 & 2024
2. Mapxx software & supporting equipment	2023
3. Upgrade to vehicles eg replacement tyres/Steps	2023 & 2024
4. Small RIB	2024/2025
5. Tent	2024
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 resources.

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	All (MTS)	4
Cardiac First Response Advanced	All EMTS	2
First Aid Response	15+	2
Emergency First Response	10+	2
Emergency Medical Technician	6+	
Emergency Response		
Pump Operator (**Course under Development)	4	1
Basic Water Rescuer	6+	
Lifejacket Competent User	6+	2
Water and Flood Awareness	15+	

Swiftwater and Flood First Responder	6+	
Marine / Water Based		
ISA/RYA National Power Boat Level 2 (Crew member)	6	
ISA/RYA Advanced Power Boat Level 3 (Coxwain)	6	
ISA / RYA Coastal Navigation	6	
Personal Survival Techniques (Maritime College)	12	
Sonar Operator	N/A	
Search and Rescue		
Missing Person Search Responder	15+	
Missing Person Team Leader	4+	2
Search Management Software Operator (MAPX)	4+	1
Missing Persons Search Manager	2	
Search Dog Handlers	0	
Drone Remote Pilot Training (Open Category)	N/A	
Drone Remote Pilot Training (Specific Category)	N/A	
Communications and Operational Support		
Radio Communications - L01 - Introductory Training	All	
Radio Communications - L02 - Net Operator	12+	
Radio Communications - L03 - Advanced Operator Training	6+	2
Radio Communications - L04 - Network Controller	6+	
Radio Communications - L05 - Dispatch and Information Management	6+	
Marine VHF Short Range Certificate (SRC)	N/A	
Marine Band Restricted Operators Certificate (GMDSS)	N/A	
Vehicle Based		
Approved Driving Instructor		1
Severe Weather Off Road Driving Operator		
Radiation Monitoring		
Radiation Monitoring	6+	
Welfare		
Food Safety and You Operative	6+	1
Health & Safety (H&S)		
Manual Handling Operator	ALL	2
People Handling Operator	15+	2
Miscellaneous		
Children First / Child Protection / TUSLA	All (MTS)	
Designated Liaison Person (DLP) Training for Child Protection	2	
Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) - Peer to Peer Support	2	
Avian Influenza Training	2	
Rope Rescue (**Courses under Development)		
Responder / Operator (Level 1)	6+	
Climber / Technician (Level 2)	6+	

Team Leader / Safety Supervisor	2	
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.		

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

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 Longford 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: Emma Reid
Civil Defence Officer

Date: 10/3/23

Signed: Dech Uí Dhuibh
~~Director of Services~~ Chief Fire Officer

Date: 10/3/23

Signed: P Mah
Chief Executive

Date: 13/3/23

