



Midlands Highway Alliance Plus

Digital and Environment

Wednesday 17 September 2025

Annual
Event
2025



Planning for a Resilient Network

A journey of continuous improvement

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Background

- 2023-24 saw worst flooding for 20 years in Nottinghamshire
- Multiple events including Storm Babet & Storm Henk
- Considerable pressure on delivery of service due to duration of events
- Excellent response but there were lessons to be learnt
- WSP appointed to work with NCC and ViaEM on review



Process

- Review of the whole system looking at
 - People Resilience
 - Understanding Weather
 - Data and Information
 - Resilience
 - Communication
- Desk top study, interviews (including neighbours), workshop event to develop action plan.
- 3rd party challenge deemed invaluable



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What did we learn ?

- Very committed team and a good response to events but:
 - Over reliance on particular individuals
 - Some documents needed updating
 - New arrangement with Via needed clarity of responsibility
 - Opportunity to use technology to better support decision making
 - Opportunity to enhance communication with neighbours



And What have we done?

- Initial work fed back to management team then time given for reflection
- Workshop used to give Management Team space to think away from “normal activities”.
- Action Plan developed based on themes – short, medium and long-term targets
 - Clear owners of actions identified.
- Monitoring process for Action Plan put in place through Via management meetings



And What have we done – People Resilience?

- Most Authorities have long term employees who have the experience and network knowledge to deal with an emergency event but there are risks associated with this.
- A pool of Nominated People has been clearly Identified to reduce the risk of “single point of failure”
- Training to be delivered to the Nominated People



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And What have we done – Understanding Weather?

- Logging of weather event impacts across the year introduced to better understand patterns and implications.
- Review of Flood Sensor availability across the public sector and potential introduction on key highway locations by LHA.



And What have we done – Data and Information?

- Review and further development of key documentation linked to event response including:
 - Key information on known problem locations
 - Regular update of key contacts with neighbours.
- Review of Resilient Network to consider key locations such as major river crossings.
- Review of Critical Infrastructure list.
- Development of response scenarios for known problem areas.



And What have we done - Resilience?

- Ensure resilience is considered as part of all maintenance and enhancement schemes
- Opportunity taken to review and update Winter Service Plan although this is a regular even anyway.



And What have we done - Communication?

- Review of communication protocols within the service and with operational neighbours during and after events.
- Develop use of One.Network to identify road closures as close to real time as possible.
- Develop communications platform to support Via and NCC staff and keep an ongoing view of any event available.



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Thank You

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