

Identifying 'Local Context'

Social

Are there any areas where people will be particularly resilient, why?

Are there areas or locations where people are more prepared through knowledge and understanding of risks?

Are there any communities that are particularly vulnerable for any reason?

- Socially deprived
- Their location – topography of the land, road and rail links etc
- Lack of communications
- Ethnicity and language barrier.

Community reliance on particular industries e.g. fishing, oil, whisky, farming, tourism etc

Environment

Are there areas that are worse affected by severe weather?

Would the landscape add to the problems of an emergency?

Are there any coastal features that are vulnerable? e.g. defences, low lying areas, erosion etc

Do we know the extent of the catchment areas and their threshold levels and resulting floodplain?

Are there any areas of low-lying land or uplands that could be of significance in emergencies?

Are there any protected natural sites or any species of rare animals or plants that are particularly vulnerable?

Are there any issues regarding livestock that would add to an emergency?

Infrastructure

Are there any regional or national centres that are crucial to the region or the country?

Are there any sole suppliers who maintain or provide crucial services to national or international companies or organisations?

Are there critical communications links that could be affected?

Are there any strategic roads, bridges, air, rail or sea links that we would depend upon in an emergency?

Are there any main hospitals or medical providers that are in vulnerable positions or could be jeopardised?

Can our major utilities be put at risk and where are the weaknesses?

Hazardous Sites

Would the locations of our COMAH sites add to an emergency situation, considering the surrounding environment?

Are there sites that could produce radiation, biological or chemical risks in the event of them being the cause, or being affected by an emergency?

Are there any major explosive risks that need to be considered?

Where would pollution have the greatest impact in the Highlands and Islands region and what type of pollution would be most detrimental?