

# Emergency Planning

ECC Member Induction

22<sup>nd</sup> July 2026

# Your Panel Today



**Jo Tyler**

Emergency Planning & Resilience Manager

20+years of experience in resilience work, including 15 years with Essex County Council, and prior roles across commercial sector, and emergency services.



**Rob Teatheredge**

Lead Emergency Planning & Resilience Consultant.

20 years of experience in emergency-sector work, including 11 years with Essex County Council, and prior career in the maritime sector.



**Steve Dickson**

Lead Emergency Planning & Resilience Consultant.

15 years of experience in resilience work, including 13 years with Essex County Council, and prior career in the voluntary sector.

# Introduction

**Aim:** Members understand their role before, during, and after an emergency, and can see why this matters to the people and place of Essex, and to the Council.

**Objectives:**

- Be assured about why the council prepares for emergencies
- Understand the important role the council plays during and following emergencies
- Differentiate the critical roles that All Members and Political Leadership play
- Advised on how council Officers coordinate emergencies and collaborate with partners



Source: Essex Record Office. Photo Credit: Southend Standard

# Council Preparedness

|                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Emergency      | <i>"An event, situation or incident which threatens <b>serious damage to human welfare</b> in <b>a place</b> in the UK, the <b>environment</b> of a place in the UK, or the <b>security of the UK</b> or of a place in the UK."</i> |
| Major Incident | <i>"An event or situation with a <b>range of serious consequences</b> which requires <b>special arrangements</b> to be implemented by one or more emergency responder agency."</i>                                                  |



**Moral / Humanitarian**



**Financial**



**Legal**

# Council Role in Emergencies

|                                                      |                                                                                                                           |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Community support and humanitarian assistance</b> | Meeting the immediate, short, medium, and longer-term needs of those affected                                             |
| <b>Communications</b>                                | Providing public information, in line with the agreed multi-agency communications strategy                                |
| <b>Coordinate voluntary sector</b>                   | Where numerous organisations are involved                                                                                 |
| <b>Partner agency support</b>                        | Working in partnership with wider responders, ensuring a joined-up response                                               |
| <b>Coordinate local authority response</b>           | Where an incident affects multiple Lower Tier Local Authorities, ECC may play a coordinating role                         |
| <b>Lead the recovery</b>                             | Coordinating longer-term recovery and renewal, including supporting communities to become more resilient                  |
| <b>Service-specific priorities</b>                   | Activities required by legislation, e.g., mortuary capability, safeguarding, investigation and enforcement, public health |

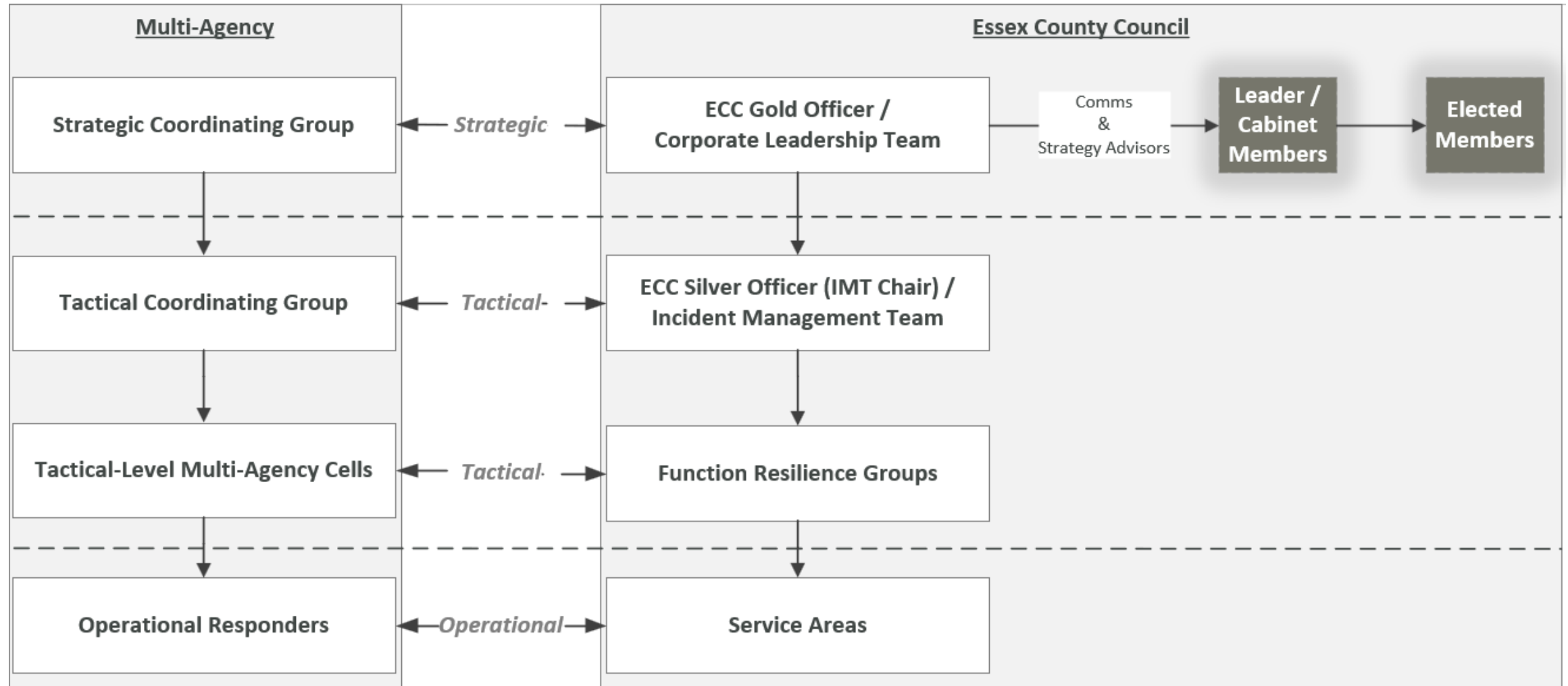
# Role of Members: Before (Prepare)

| All Elected Members (Divisional Councillors)                                        | Senior Councillors (Leader / Cabinet Members)                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Understand the role of Divisional Councillors and Senior Councillors in emergencies |                                                                                                                 |
| Engage with residents to support the development of community-informed resilience.  | Strategic direction + policy and funding decisions to ensure preparedness                                       |
|                                                                                     | Assurance of the council's emergency planning and business continuity arrangements                              |
|                                                                                     | Assure Local Resilience Forum performance, through effective monitoring, challenge, and influence               |
|                                                                                     | Build direct links with other council leaders, to enable rapid political communication + coordinated leadership |

# Role of Members: During (Response)

| All Elected Members (Divisional Councillors)                | Senior Councillors (Leader / Cabinet Members)        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Maintain record of actions, decisions, and key information  |                                                      |
| Community Leadership: Be visible and active within Division | Civic Leadership and Assurance                       |
| Effective Communication                                     | Public Face of the Council.                          |
| Local Intelligence and Community Insight                    | Information Flow across Members                      |
| Supporting Residents and Media Interactions                 | Engagement with Political and Community Stakeholders |
|                                                             | Government Representation                            |
|                                                             | Political Leadership of Early Recovery               |
|                                                             | Support to Staff and Volunteers                      |

# How Responders Coordinate



# Role of Members: After (Recovery)

| All Elected Members (Divisional Councillors) | Senior Councillors (Leader / Cabinet Members) |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Act as community representatives             | Provide visible Civic Leadership              |
| Be visible and supportive locally            | Oversee recovery governance                   |
| Support communication                        | Advocate for resources                        |
| Enable community contribution                | Maintain political coordination               |
| Support community cohesion and healing       | Ensure communities remain informed            |
| Support staff and partners                   | Champion learning and improvement             |
| Participate in reviews and scrutiny          | Be present for memorial and community events  |

# Summary

| Role                 | Description                                                                                                        |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Political Leadership | Ensuring ECC is meeting its obligations under legislation, in terms of preparing for and responding to emergencies |
| Civic Leadership     | Providing a focal point for the local area during an emergency                                                     |
| Community Leadership | Helping to increase community resilience, and supporting communities' emergency responses and through recovery     |

## Elected Members Emergency Response Information & Guidance

### Emergency Response Plan Annex 5

Version: 4.0  
Date: July 2026  
Classification: OFFICIAL

# Further Information: Members' Portal

 Essex County Council

Home / Guidance, resources and key documents / Emergency Planning

Emergency Planning

Elected Members Emergency  
Response Information & Guidance

Emergency Response Plan Annex 5

Version: 4.0

Local Government Association

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A councillor's guide to civil resilience



Our updated guidance is designed to support councils in strengthening their approach to civil resilience. It provides an overview of the council's responsibilities in this area, along with targeted sections outlining the role of senior councillors and ward councillors.

Community safety

06 Nov 2025 | LGA | 10.82

**Thank you for listening.**

**Q&A Opportunity.**



This information is issued by:  
Essex County Council

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