



National Conference on Societal Resilience

Society in Resilience: Young people, families, and civil society

24-25 February 2026, The University of Manchester, UK

Day 1 Programme, Whitworth Hall – 24 February 2026

10.30am	Registration opens and time for mingling
11.30 - 12.30	Networking early lunch
12.30 - 12.50	Conference opens and welcome Duncan Shaw , Co-Chair NCSR+, Alliance Manchester Business School
Session 1: Young people in resilience to disruption	
Moderator: Duncan Shaw , Co-Chair NCSR+, Alliance Manchester Business School	
12.50 - 1.10	Working with young people on societal resilience Martin Parham , Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute
1.10 - 2.10	Panel Discussion: Young people in resilience Group of young people sharing their views
2.10 - 2.40	Networking refreshment break
2.40 - 3.20	Table discussions
3.20 - 3.30	Reviewing the table feedback
Session 2: Civil Society in resilience to disruption – Operation Water Outage (Part 1)	
Moderator: Lianna Roast , UK Resilience Academy	
3.30 - 3.35	Introductory video
3.35 - 3.50	Societal resilience in Operation Water Outage Villő Lelkes , Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
3.50 - 4.30	Table discussions
4.30 - 4.40	Reviewing the table feedback
4.40 - 4.50	Time for a breather. Needs and offers board
4.50 - 5.10	Resilience volunteers supporting water outage Melvin Hartley , Hampshire and Isle of Wight Local Resilience Forum
Session 3: NCSR+ module	
5.10 - 5.25	NCSR+ Module 4: Civil society capability Kelly Smith and Duncan Shaw , NCSR+, Alliance Manchester Business School
Conference Day 1 close	
5.25 - 5.30	Looking to tomorrow
5.30 - 6.00	Room available for spontaneous meetings
6.00 - 7.00	Free time
7.00 - late	Networking dinner (if pre-booked)

In association with:



Find out more about the National Consortium for Societal Resilience [UK+]: www.ams.ac.uk/ncsr



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Day 2 Programme, Whitworth Hall – 25 February 2026

8.20am	Registration opens and time for mingling
8.45 - 9.05	Welcome and opening to Day 2 For £1 spent on societal resilience, society benefits from £xx of public value Duncan Shaw , Co-Chair NCSR+, Alliance Manchester Business School
Session 4: Communities in resilience to disruption	
Moderator: Chris Scott , Co-Chair NCSR+, West Sussex County Council	
9.10 - 9.30	From the ground up: Co-designing hyperlocal Community Emergency Hubs Paul Cull , Monash University Accident Research Centre, Australia
9.30 - 9.50	Community Emergency Hubs in Blaenau-Gwent Deanne Griffiths and George Humphreys , Gwent Local Resilience Forum
9.50 - 10.20	Q&A across tables and with presenters
10.20 - 10.50	Networking refreshment break
Session 5: Families in resilience to disruption – Lightning Talks	
Moderator: Henry Barnes , British Red Cross	
10.50 - 11.30	Bethan Morgan , Staffordshire Resilience Forum Jesse Noon , Communities Prepared Melissa Kenney , Abri Housing Group
11.30 - 12.00	Q&A across tables and with presenters
12.00 - 1.10	Networking lunch
Session 6: Civil Society in resilience to disruption – Operation Water Outage (Part 2)	
Moderator: Lianna Roast , UK Resilience Academy	
1.10 - 1.15	Introductory video
1.15 - 1.30	Societal resilience in a Level 4 water emergency Kim Williams , South West Water
1.30 - 2.10	Table discussions
2.10 - 2.40	Q&A across tables and with presenters
2.40 - 3.00	Networking refreshment break
Session 7: The opportunity ahead and how we grab it – Lightning Talks	
Moderator: Robyn Knox , VCS Emergencies Partnership	
3.00 - 3.50	Stuart Armstrong , Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Becky Heginbotham-Blount , Co-Chair NCSR+, Suffolk Resilience Forum Andy Heath , Cabinet Office
Conference close	
3.50 - 4.00	Looking forward Duncan Shaw , Co-Chair NCSR+, Alliance Manchester Business School

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