

DEVONPORT LOCAL LIAISON COMMITTEE REPORT FEBRUARY 2023



Exercise Short Sermon

Between May and September 2022, the triannual multi-agency emergency response exercise for the Devonport Site (Exercise Short Sermon), was delivered for the first time, in a modular format. The modular method allowed multi-agency partners to consider the finer detail of their arrangements when exercising the response to an off-site nuclear emergency.

The exercise modules validated the response, transition to recovery and recovery from a nuclear emergency at the Devonport Site. On 5 September 2022, Plymouth City Council completed the final module of the test programme for Exercise Short Sermon 2022. On 7 December, The Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) confirmed that all seven modular tests, in addition to the evidence provided in support of the gap assessment, constituted the test of the Devonport off-site Emergency Plan.

In accordance with statutory regulations, the next Exercise Short Sermon will be completed prior to 5 September 2025.

Devonport off-site Emergency Plan (DOSEP)

Plymouth City Council's Civil Protection Service continues to meet its obligations to maintain the off-site emergency planning requirements as detailed in the Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations (REPPiR) 2019.

Following the successful test of the off-site emergency plan through Exercise Short Sermon 2022, the current version of DOSEP will be revised and further updated, incorporating learning from the exercise.

Stable Iodine Pre-distribution

The annual check of all locations (such as schools, colleges and early years' settings) where stable iodine tablets are pre-distributed was instigated in early October 2022. This review ensures the quantities held are correct for the number of people at each site. Plymouth City Council have developed an e-learning package for staff responsible for administering stable iodine at those sites. During the check, each organisation confirmed that their annual staff training programme will include the e-learning package.

Public Information

Plymouth City Council has a duty to let members of the public and businesses in the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone around the Devonport Site know, in advance, what they should do in the unlikely event of a nuclear emergency. This information is reissued every three years.

The public information was last reviewed in spring 2020, with the current edition of the public information booklet published and distributed in June 2020. Plymouth City Council is working in partnership with the Ministry of Defence, Devonport Royal Dockyard Limited, Cornwall Council, Devon County Council and South Hams District Council to revise, update and distribute a new booklet to each home and business within the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone during June 2023.

In tandem with the booklet revision, the information available via the council's website will be updated. This includes details about how residents and businesses can sign up to the free emergency notification service, which will inform them of what to do, in the unlikely event of a nuclear emergency.

The current edition of the booklet and the registration link can be found on the Plymouth City Council website (www.plymouth.gov.uk/emergencies).