

Activities: 9. Planning in our communities

1
hour

Planning in our communities

Purpose:

To explore how young people can be involved in the planning process to make their communities more resilient

Time: 1 hour 15 mins

Resources:

Slide on how emergencies planning works in Scotland, flip charts, pens, timer/stopwatch

Before running this session with young people you need to have researched how emergencies and resilience planning works in your local area. You could work with a local police officer, firefighter or local authority emergency planner to help bring this to life for young people.

This activity is focussed on locality communities but could easily be adapted for communities of interest and other groups such as religious, cultural communities or online communities.

1. Explain how emergencies planning works in your area, this could include RRP/LRPs, Community Councils, third sector groups etc. Explain what role young people currently play in emergencies planning. If you wanted to extend the activity, you could ask the young people to do their own investigation into how emergencies planning works in their area and then discuss the questions below in a follow up session.
2. Ask young people to work in small groups and discuss the following questions. Each group is to keep a note of their ideas and then share their approach back to the rest of the group. Each group will have a maximum of 2 minutes to share their approach.
 - a) Why are you interested in getting involved in emergencies planning in your communities?
 - b) What strengths/assets could you contribute to emergencies planning? For example – knowledge of how emergencies specifically affect young people, the best ways of sharing information with young people etc.
 - c) How would you like to be involved in emergencies planning in your communities?
 - d) What do you need to do next? Encourage young people to be as specific as possible when identifying what they need to do next. These next steps are dependent on how emergencies planning happens in your community but it could include making contact with the local community council or LRP to explore ways of working together.

Ask young people to make a note of their ideas on the flip chart and then develop their two-minute feedback presentation.

3. After 30 mins, let the groups know that they have 15 mins left and that they should start to pull together their 2-minute pitch of their approach.
4. Ask each group to share their approach. Each group has a maximum of two minutes to do this.
5. Ask the whole group if they have a preferred approach (you can do this through a vote). If there is a clear favourite then ask the group if there is anything missing from this preferred approach and anything they would like to add.
6. If there is no clear favourite, facilitate the group to develop a new shared approach using the ideas that the young people have come up with.