



Disaster Action Generic Emergency Plan Summary

Contact Details

Pamela Dix, Executive Director of Disaster Action: 01483 799066

Website: www.disasteraction.org.uk

Overview of Activities following a Major Emergency

DA's contribution is relevant to those involved in: police family liaison; investigation and disaster victim identification; management of mass fatalities; international elements (i.e. FCO); humanitarian assistance; psychosocial and mental health services; and community and recovery working groups. DA's role is not that of a frontline responding organisation, but to provide guidance, advice and support to planners and responders and to support survivors and the bereaved.

Based on DA's experience, the kind of activities we could carry out include:

- Offering suggestions and guidance through informal discussion with those leading on particular aspects of response
- Providing information about DA, such as details of website and leaflets
- Advising on suitability, facilities and ambiance of assistance centres
- Providing a presence at assistance centres (personnel/leaflets)
- Reviewing and advising on suitability of mortuary viewing facilities
- Responding to telephone enquiries from those directly affected
- Offering support to those seeking contact with others with direct experience of disaster
- Signposting general enquirers to other individuals and organisations with relevant information and services
- Participating in conference calls
- Responding to requests for media interviews
- Participating in strategic and/or operational management meetings in relation to the human aspects of any response
- Advising on particular aspects of humanitarian assistance and outreach strategies, including for example the content of websites and leaflets
- Assisting with the setting up of survivor/bereaved support groups
- Offering advice and guidance on individual and group trauma support
- Advising on establishment and management of disaster appeal funds
- Advising on and attending information briefings and meetings for those directly affected
- Advising on and/or attending memorials and services
- Participating in debriefs/contributing to evaluation and review processes.

Leaflets and Resources

The following can be accessed and downloaded without charge from the DA website:

'When Disaster Strikes' – Leaflet series for Survivors and Bereaved

- The Immediate Aftermath for Relatives and Friends
- A Survivor in the Aftermath
- A Physically Injured Survivor in the Aftermath
- Overseas Disasters: the Immediate Aftermath
- Injury or death overseas
- Legal Representation after a Disaster
- Setting Up Family and/or Survivor Support Groups
- Setting up and Running an E-forum Discussion Group
- The Return of Personal Property
- Beyond the First Anniversary
- Reflections on Personal Experience of Disaster
- Interviews about Disaster Experience: Personal Reflections and Guidelines for Interviewers
- Inquests after a Disaster

Guidance for Responders

- Disaster Victim Identification: Issues for Families and Implications for Police Family Liaison Officers (FLOs) and Coroner's Officers (COs)
- Guidance on Management and Distribution of Disaster Trust Funds
- Helping to Bring People Together and Enabling the Development of Support Groups after Disaster
- Longer-term Support
- Working with Disaster Survivors and the Bereaved: Code of Practice on Privacy, Anonymity and Confidentiality
- Young People and Disasters