

The Community Asset Register



Objectives

Following this input, partner agencies will have an understanding of:

- What the Community Asset Register (CAR) is
- The types of assets within the register
- When the CAR will be used
- How to access the register
- How to request an asset/volunteer from the register



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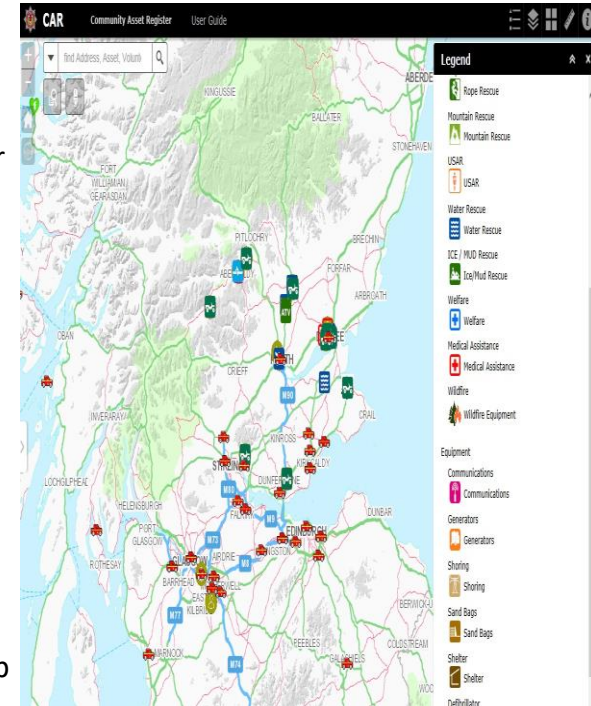
What is the Community Asset Register?

The Community Asset Register (CAR) is a Scotland wide database of volunteers willing to help during an emergency incident/event. The database plots assets on a map so if an emergency incident/event occurs, we can identify those who could help. Assets can be people with either skills or equipment.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) manage and host CAR, however the following organisations may also access it when responding to emergencies:

- Police Scotland
- National Health Services (Scotland)
- Scottish Ambulance Service
- Maritime & Coastguard Agency
- Local Authorities
- The Scottish Environment Protection Agency

The CAR gives members of the public and other voluntary groups the opportunity to offer help to their communities in support of the Emergency Services and other Category 1 responders, under the umbrella of Scottish Resilience.



What are the assets?

Assets are the skills or equipment added to the register. Volunteers are the individuals, organised groups and business owners with the skills or equipment.

We speak to volunteers to understand what equipment and skills they have, so we know what we can safely ask them to do.

Current assets registered include:

- Water rescue - boats, life jackets and floatation aids
- Vehicles - 4X4s, lorries, tankers and horse trailers
- Communications - VHF and CB radios
- Aircraft - drones and small planes
- Land clearance - chainsaws and all terrain clearance machines
- Medical - first aid kits and stretchers
- Sandbags
- Usar/Rope Rescue/Mountain rescue
- Shelter

When will the CAR be used?

Partner agencies may ask a volunteer to support if they can:

- Support or enhance an emergency response
- Intervene more quickly than similar Emergency Services and other Category 1 responders' assets
- Provide equipment or skills the Emergency Services and other Category 1 responders don't have.

To date, volunteers have supported incidents by:

- Providing 4x4 transport during disruptive weather
- Helping to clear vegetation to stop fire spread
- Providing drone support at incidents.

There's no obligation on volunteers to provide support. If we believe a volunteer could help, we are able to ask if they're available. If they are, we explain where they should go and what they should do.

Volunteers acting under our instruction, are insured and can claim certain expenses, such as mileage, however we don't pay hourly rates for their time.



CAR Requests

The CAR will be accessed and mobilised by SFRS Operations Control (OC). OC will identify requirements with the requester, access the CAR database and draw up a list of potential assets.

Details to be agreed include:

- Tasks to be performed
- Likely duration of the deployment time for community assets
- Number / type of asset(s) required
- Rendezvous point (RVP) for community assets
- Safe route to the RVP if required.

CAR assets will be contacted by OC to confirm availability and, where available, passed mobilisation / deployment instructions.

Verification of requests

For reasons of information security, access to the CAR is only be granted to verified partner organisations. A list of these partners, together with contact details, shall be available within each SFRS OC.

On receipt of a telephone call requesting access to the CAR, the name of the requesting organisation is cross checked with this list.

Identity can be verified in one of the following ways:

- The request comes through on a designated line which can be identified as a category 1 responder;
- The incoming number of the call is on the list of available numbers from the organisation concerned; or
- A return call to one of the named contacts from the organisation concerned is made to confirm the validity of the request.

If the caller's identity cannot be verified as coming from one of these identified partner organisations, the information is not be shared until authorisation is sought from a duty SFRS NILO.

Golspie wildfire



- The alarm was raised at 12.04am on Saturday 7 July.
- SFRS attended the incident for 7 days.
- Crews from 25 stations across North SDA contained and extinguished the fire, supported by a CAR asset.

Golspie wildfire



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g4hieOWHm6E>

- Cameron MacRae of Groundclear Ltd had recently joined the register. An ex-Police Officer with 27 years service, he wanted to support his local community.
- He was contacted by SFRS to attend. He create a 13ft wide, half-a-mile long firebreak to stop the fire spreading.
- His intervention was critical to preventing the fire spreading further.

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Any questions?



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