



79 Clare Green Road *Radiation Emergency Response Plan*

This document outlines the actions to be taken if the local authority alerts the Home to a radiation emergency

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Preparation

All members of staff will be required to read this document and the local authority prior information leaflet on joining the staff.

This plan will be discussed every time the Home carries out a fire alarm test. With it being read through and discussed in adequate detail to ensure that everyone is aware of the plan and knows how to recognise and respond to the alert. If any weakness is identified the plan will be updated.

A Ready Box will be maintained and stored in the Office, clearly labelled and ready for use. Its contents will be reviewed and refreshed (if needed) with every fire alarm test.

Initiation

The plan will be initiated by receiving an alert from the local Authority on the telephone line land or via broadcast or social media.

The senior staff member on duty when the alert is received is responsible for ensuring that the plan is invoked and that people on site are kept informed and safe.

First Actions

The person receiving the alarm will note the advice given (probably to take shelter) and immediately inform all staff members present.

Staff will work together to ensure that the everyone on site goes indoors without delay.

Staff will work together to ensure that all doors and windows are shut and that all heating systems or air conditioning systems that might draw air in from outside are switched off.

Instructions on how to shut down heating and ventilation systems are attached to this plan.

Continuing actions

The senior staff member present will take control.

They will verify that everyone is indoors and that the building is sealed (doors and windows shut, heating and air conditioning off).

They will take what steps they think appropriate to prepare those present to shelter indoors for up to 48 hours. This will include:

- Determining how to keep the Children occupied and trying to prevent them becoming disturbed by the situation.
- Confirming that there is adequate food in the house for up to 48 hours.
- Confirming that there is a 48-hour supply of any medicines required by the children, staff and visitors.
- Determining hygiene, sleeping and staff rest period arrangements should it become necessary.
- Contacting parents/guardians to discuss the situation and reassure.
- Contacting the local authorities for advice in good time if there seems to be a problem developing.
- Considering how the site would be evacuated (What to take, where to go and how to get there) based on local authority advice on the day and the existing evacuation plan.
- There will be 4 children to 8 staff members insuring 2:1 for any emergencies or evacuations.

They will detail someone to monitor local radio and council social media for further information about the event and any updated council advice.

They will update staff if the situation changes.

They will anticipate problems that might arise and manage them within the resources available.

The local authority prior information leaflet will be circulated to adults present to brief them on the Council's expectations.

The Home has no powers to detain anyone unwilling to stay but will strongly discourage anyone from leaving. If there is an immediate emergency that requires anyone to leave the premises, they will be provided with a face mask and encouraged to wear it while travelling.

Evacuation

It is very unlikely that an evacuation would be necessary but if that does happen, the local authority advice on the day will be combined with the existing evacuation plan to determine the way ahead. If appropriate this will be discussed with the local authority or social services before being enacted.

End of event and recovery

The Council, working with AWE and the Emergency Services will determine when to rescind the shelter advice.

When this message is received, the Home will return to normal with the senior staff member present making the initial arrangements.

Summary of prior information

From the local authority website.

What to do in the unlikely event of a radiation emergency at an AWE site

If you get a call or find out that there is a radiation emergency about AWE, then follow the steps below:

- **go in** - go indoors and follow the advice below
- **stay in** - close and stay away from all windows and doors - damp down or put out fires and turn off any fans that could draw air from outside
- **tune in** - tune in to local radio and TV - advice and updates will also be given on news websites and social media
- **don't use your phone** - don't use your landline or mobile unless there is a separate emergency - this could overload the system and should be left clear for the emergency services
- **don't leave the area** - don't leave the area unless told to do so by the emergency services - you will be much safer indoors

To find out more information about what you should do if there is a radiation emergency at AWE Aldermaston or Burghfield, please see the instructions and advice in the REPPiR Public Information Booklet.

Local Radio Stations

Local radio and TV stations to tune	
Heart Berkshire	97.0, (Reading) and 102.9 MHz (Basingstoke and Whitechurch) MHz. DAB: 12D (Reading and Basingstoke) <i>Broadcast area: Berkshire and north Hampshire</i>
BBC Radio Berkshire	Frequency: 94.6 MHz, 95.4 MHz, 104.1 MHz, 104.4 MHz; DAB: 12D; Freeview: 719 <i>Broadcast area: Berkshire, northern Hampshire, parts of Buckinghamshire and parts of southern Oxfordshire</i>
Greatest Hits Radio Berkshire & North Hampshire	107.6 MHz FM
The Breeze (Newbury)	105.6 and 107.4 MHz FM
BBC Radio Solent (Hampshire)	96.1 and 103.8 MHz FM
The Breeze (Reading)	107 MHz FM
BBC South	
ITV Meridian	

Appendix 1 - How to Self-Decontaminate after a Radiation Emergency

This is from the UKHSA website (17/02/2025). Further information and advice on the need to decontaminate and the technique to use may be given on the day.

If you were near to where the radiation emergency happened and were outside at the time, your clothes, skin and hair might have been contaminated with radioactive materials. The emergency services will provide information on the locations where this applies via channels such as the radio, television, internet and social media.

Removing this contamination will help to protect your health by reducing your radiation exposure. It will also help to prevent the contamination of the building that you are sheltering in, therefore reducing exposure of anyone else in the building. Contamination with radioactive material is not something that you can see, so it is important that, if you are advised to self-decontaminate, you do this as soon as possible, even if you think you are clean.

This self-decontamination should take place where you have taken shelter or, if you have already left the affected area, where you are located when you find out about the radiation emergency.

Studies show that simply taking off your outer clothing can remove around 90% of the contamination.

Do not use conditioner when washing your hair, as this can bind contamination to hair. Simple soaps or mild shampoos are effective for removing contamination.

Step 1: Go inside and remove your outer layers of clothing

1. Get inside a building as soon as possible.
2. Do not move around too much and limit your contact with other people until you've decontaminated yourself.
3. If a clean face mask or face covering is immediately available, put it on.
4. Take off your outer layer of clothes and shoes. Cut off clothing where necessary to avoid removing anything over your head.
5. Avoid touching the outside of your clothing with your skin.
6. Put your clothing and face covering in a plastic bag or other sealable container, seal it and place it away from people.

Step 2: Wash yourself

Mains water (water in the shower or taps) is safe to use. Shower if you can.

If you can shower:

7. Wash your body, face and hair using soap and shampoo. Use warm water.
8. Do not use conditioner as it may fix contaminants to your hair.
9. Keep your mouth and eyes closed when washing your hair and face.
10. Do not scrub your skin or wounds. You can use a sponge or a wash cloth. If you use a sponge or a wash cloth, dispose of it in a sealed bag and place it away from people.

If you cannot shower:

11. Wash your hands, face, hair and other exposed body parts at a sink or tap.
12. Use soap and plenty of water. Do not use conditioner as it may fix contaminants to your hair.
13. Keep your mouth and eyes closed when washing your hair and face.

If you cannot use a sink or tap:

14. Use a moist wipe, clean wet cloth or damp paper towel to wipe the parts of your body that were uncovered.
15. Pay special attention to your hands and face. Gently wipe your eyelids and around your mouth, moving outwards and away from your nose and mouth. Blow your nose. Do not scrub your skin or wounds.
16. Place any waste materials in a plastic bag or other sealable container, seal it and place it away from people.

Step 3: Put on clean clothes

17. Put on clean clothes that have been stored indoors.
18. Do not put contaminated clothes back on.

Step 4: Helping others and pets

19. Wear waterproof gloves and a face mask if possible.
20. Keep cuts and scrapes covered to keep radioactive material away from open wounds.
21. Put any waste from cleaning other people or pets in a plastic bag or other sealable container. Seal the bag or container and place it away from people.
22. Rewash your hands, face and parts of your body that were uncovered.

Appendix 2 – Ready kit

The Care Home Manager is responsible for ensuring that the land line phone is in working order and that the home has sufficient food and other provisions to manage for 48 hours without anybody going in or out.

The following “Ready Kit” will be available at all times. The food will be stored in the kitchen (rotated so that it does not go out of date) and the remaining equipment in a crate in the Office.

The Home’s Office contains contact lists including:

- Parent/guardian contact for all of the Children,
- Staff contact details,
- Emergency and social services;
- Key suppliers.

Parents/guardians will be contacted to discuss the situation and reassure.

Off-duty staff will be contacted to prevent them trying to get into work while the shelter advice is extant.

Suppliers due to make deliveries will be contacted to delay delivery until such time as the shelter advice is withdrawn.

Item	Present
Food for at least two days	
A battery radio (with spare batteries) or a wind-up radio,	
Two wind-up torches,	
A range of mobile phone chargers,	
A quantity of black bin bags,	
Several rolls of blue wipe paper or equivalent,	
Copies of the Public information leaflet,	
Tissues & sealable plastic bags for used tissues. Marker pen to label bags. (If nose blows are asked for).	
Covid-style face masks (FFP2 NR/N95) (x20)	