

Date: 12.03.2025

Rev. D

Nuclear Emergency Plan (End User)

Site Address:

19 Grovelands Road, Reading, RG7 1EE

Introduction

This document relates to the Place of Worship, located at: 19 Grovelands Road, Reading, RG7 1EE. The property falls within the 'Detailed Emergency Planning Zone' (DEPZ) around the Atomic Weapon Establishment (AWE) located at Burghfield, which has radioactive material.

What could happen at AWE?

According to AWE, there is no risk of a Chernobyl or Fukushima nuclear reactor type incident since there are no reactors on site. However, should a significant accident result in an uncontrolled fire or explosion in a building where radioactive materials are being handled, there is a possibility that it could lead to the release of radioactive particles into the environment. If such an event were to take place, a radiation emergency may be declared.

In the event of a radiation emergency being declared, people in the area around the affected AWE site could be exposed to radioactive particles which have been carried downwind in a 'plume'. The exact direction and extent of any plume will depend on the weather conditions at the time. This means that the amount of ionising radiation someone may be exposed to after an accident will vary considerably. This depends on how much radioactive material is released and the weather conditions at the time, including whether they are downwind of the affected location and the strength of the wind.

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Aim & Objective:

The aim and objective of this plan is to provide detailed information on what to do in the event of an emergency situation at AWE, and to ensure appropriate arrangements are in place of the unlikely event of a radiation emergency.

Distribution of the Plan:

The plan will be made readily available to any members of the congregation wishing to attend the Place of Worship.

A hard copy of the plan will be located in the building at all times, and responsible members including the Trustees will be aware of exactly where it is kept. The location will also be identified on the public notice board within the building.

Management of the Plan:

The plan will be reviewed and revised as necessary on the following basis:

- (a) The plan will remain under continual review and will be updated as necessary as details change. It will however undergo a full formal review on a 3 yearly basis
- (b) Following any major incident or near incident at AWE
- (c) Following any change of advice from AWE/ Wokingham Borough Council

The following persons are responsible for the monitoring, review and activation of the Plan.

Role:	Name:	Telephone:
Trustee (Chair)		
Trustee		
Trustee		
Trustee		
Trustee		

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How will I know there is an emergency?

Every household and business in the area will automatically receive a pre-recorded telephone message (landline only) from the AWE Alerting System.

Who on-site will be notified:

The members of the congregation, including the Trustees, will be most likely to receive the alert via telephone, and will be responsible for coordinating the immediate response on-site and alerting everyone on the premises.

Other ways you may be alerted:

Local radio and TV stations will broadcast messages, and emergency responders will use news websites and social media to issue advice to the public. Other alerting systems may also be used such as the Government's Emergency Alerts.

Please follow the advice IMMEDIATELY

Local radio and TV stations to tune	
Heart Berkshire	97.0, (Reading) and 102.9 MHz (Basingstoke and Whitchurch) 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
BBC Radio Solent (Hampshire)	96.1 and 103.8 MHz FM
BBC South	
ITV Meridian	

What to do in an emergency:

1. If you are outside anywhere on the premises, you should go into the building immediately, and stay there.
This is because contamination levels are likely to be higher outside buildings than inside. Staying inside is the most important advice because the fabric of the building will provide a layer of protection against any ionising radiation and will reduce exposure to any radioactive particles.
2. If you are outside and in the downwind area, as advised by the emergency services, at the time of the incident, you may benefit from decontaminating yourself. To do this follow the below steps four steps

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

- Get inside a building as soon as possible.
- Do not move around too much and limit your contact with other people until you've decontaminated yourself.
- If a clean face mask or face covering is immediately available, put it on.
- Take off your outer layer of clothes and shoes. Cut off clothing where necessary to avoid removing anything over your head.
- Avoid touching the outside of your clothing with your skin.
- 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

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

Step 3: Put on clean clothes

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

Step 4: Helping others and pets

- Wear waterproof gloves and a face mask if possible.
- Keep cuts and scrapes covered to keep radioactive material away from open wounds.
- 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.
- Rewash your hands, face and parts of your body that were uncovered.

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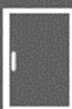
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3. As a precautionary measure, everyone within the DEPZ area will be advised to shelter in the initial response stages of a radiation emergency. Sheltering may be necessary for up to 48 hours.
4. Keep any Pets inside. If any were outside at the time of the emergency these should be kept separate in a room or building.
5. Close all windows and doors to stop radioactive particles from entering the building
6. Turn off air-conditioning units using the main controller adjacent to the building occupation switch. These may draw air in from outside so should be shut down to minimise the risk of particles entering the building.
7. Observe news websites or listen to local radio for instructions/updates. During an emergency, updates will be broadcast regularly.
8. Do not make phone calls by landline or mobile, or use mobile data. The duty Team Leader will advise you on how to connect to the Wifi for personal communications. This is important because the phone system could be overloaded, preventing the emergency services and other responders from receiving or making calls, or from contacting you. You can still call 999 in an emergency.
9. Stay where you are. The main risk at AWE is from Alpha radiation, which is why you will be safer to stay where you are rather than travelling around outside; vehicles provide less protection against ionising radiation than houses and other solid buildings. If you try to leave the area, roads could quickly become gridlocked and prevent access for emergency services. By leaving, you could also end up in an area with more radioactive contamination. It is very unlikely that an evacuation would be necessary but, if that does happen, details of what to do will be given.

Notice to be displayed on-site.

What to do in the 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 in air from outside. If you are not at home, go into the nearest permanent building and take off your outer layer of clothing, wash your hands, face, and other exposed body parts.
	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.

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Provision for Sheltering:

A landline will be connected to the building, which will be able to receive emergency alerts. There will also be a wired broadband connection to the premises.

All Personnel using the Place of Worship should shelter inside the building. Food and drink inside will be unaffected, as well as the mains water supply. There will always be a first-aid kit, containing basic medicines on-site.

The premises will have an emergency kit with provisions sufficient for at least 48hrs, which can be used for those sheltering.

This will include:

- Bottled water
- Packaged foods
- Sleeping bags
- Phone charging cables
- Sanitising wipes
- Foil blankets
- One-size-fits-all disposable coveralls
- FFP2 Disposable respirator masks

The building has toilets (including disabled) and baby change facilities.

The maximum number of persons on a given day will typically be:

Attendees	40-50
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Support for those Sheltering

The premises will have a reliable wired broadband connection, enabling those sheltering to access the internet to receive live updates on the situation, without putting pressure on the mobile network. It will also have a landline connection. Anyone sheltering will be able to connect to the Wifi in the building.

Preparations in advance of an AWE incident:

The Attendance Officer is responsible for having a knowledge of who is on site while the building is in use.

A register of key agencies and their contact details will be kept on the noticeboard in the Lobby, and this will be maintained by the caretaker, and reported back to a Trustee.

Evacuation routes will be checked on a monthly basis, including emergency lighting.

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Evacuation:

You should not evacuate unless you are told to do so. Normally, the safest place for you is in the building, which may be for several days depending on the situation. However, if you need to be evacuated urgently from the area, you will be told how this will be done, where to go and what you need to do by the emergency responders.

The site has adequate access and turning space for emergency vehicles should evacuation become necessary.

Recovery:

Following an emergency, we will liaise with Wokingham Borough Council, the emergency services and our insurers to assess any remediation work required to the premises to make it safe to use and operate as normal.

We will engage professional decontamination experts if advised, to thoroughly decontaminate the area to ensure the future safety of attendees. We will also replace all air-conditioning filters, venting systems and anything else that has been exposed to and/or could contain radioactive particles, but can't be decontaminated.