

## SGoRR (O) – Storm Arwen – 12:00 – 26/11/2021

### Attendees

SG Resilience – Redacted (Chair)  
Met Office – Redacted  
Transport Scotland – Redacted and Redacted  
EoS RRP – Redacted  
WoS RRP – Redacted  
NoS RRP – Redacted  
Scottish Ambulance Service – Redacted  
Fire Service – Redacted  
Police Scotland – Redacted  
Essential Services – Redacted

### Other

SG Organisational Readiness – Redacted, Redacted, Shirley Rogers  
SG Resilience – Redacted, Redacted, Redacted, Jim Kerr  
SG Comms – Redacted  
Redacted

### Agenda

#### **1. Welcome and introductions**

- Redacted provided overview of current weather warnings and updated attendees on plans for SGoRR(M) at 14:30.
- Redacted asked attendees to share appropriate contact details from organisations ahead of SGoRR(M).

#### **2. Met Office update**

- Redacted provided update from Met Office:
  - Focus on red weather warning but highlighted amber warning for rest of Scotland still in place.
  - Windy conditions across Scotland – unusual circumstances to see winds of this strength from this direction. Our infrastructure is built to stand west to south west winds – this is north to north east winds.
  - 80-90mph winds – leading to travel disruption, power outages, Christmas Markets and Caravan parks are particular concern. Potential of large waves affecting coastal communities.
  - These warnings are only in place over next 24 hours and should ease across Scotland during Saturday afternoon into Sunday.
  - Still to be aware of rain on low level and snow on high grounds.
  - Large waves expected in region of 9-10 metres. Brings potential for impact on coastal communities/roads and seafronts.

### **3. Transport Scotland update**

- Redacted and Redacted provided update:
  - Operational readiness have been preparing since Amber warning yesterday. Various calls taken place with partners throughout yesterday and this morning.
  - Multi-Agency Response Team working all day and tomorrow until end of warnings.
  - Discussion being had around A1 closure due to structure concerns.
  - Operation STAC will be activated from 14:00 today at Castle Kennedy. Public communications put out this morning regarding cancellation of services.
  - Main bridges closed to high sided vehicles and is being monitored.
  - All communications have been put out via Transport Scotland website/social media. Police Scotland reviewing their comms as weather warnings progress.
  - Rail industry in discussion on if/when closures will be necessary. East Coast Mainline will reduce to 50mph speed limit and will close between 17:00-midnight tonight.

### **4. RRP update**

#### EoS – Redacted

- Various meetings have happened with LRPs – Fife, East Lothian Council (coast), Scottish Borders activated bunker arrangements.
- No current issues/concerns – all reviewing what needs to be prepared. Nothing in particular raised as significant risk yet.

#### NoS – Redacted

- Lots of preparation done yesterday due to Amber warning.
- Grampian LRP met – main concern is coastal harbour in Moray coast area. All partners concentrating on Comms.
- Tayside LRP – currently meeting.
- Highlands & Islands LRP – all meeting, aware of warnings and preparing accordingly.
- Particular concern around Christmas activities and markets.
- Local authorities aware of concerns – comms are going out to caravan sites etc.

#### WoS – Redacted

- Ferry companies etc. are prepared.
- Prepared for snow in west.
- All comfortable and prepared.

### **5. Essential Services Update**

- Redacted provided update:

- Began preparing for Amber warning yesterday so partners are preparing for Red warning on back of that.
- All aware and prepared.
- Critical infrastructure – as far as aware all prepared and no concerns, but will check in on that this afternoon to ensure all operators aware.

**ACTION** – Redacted to give DFM update on engaging with key power sites at SGoRR (M) to provide reassurance.

## 6. Emergency Services

### Police Scotland – Redacted

- Amber warning prepared for red warning.
- National Oversight Group took place at 11:30 – all focus on safety measures and public comms (Christmas markets) and LRP engagements. All LRPs have been engaged with.
- Local policing in place, including road policing and have sufficient capacity and resource to put in place road closures etc.
- ACC Kenny McDonald on call ACC over weekend – well sighted on challenges.
- Public messaging going out – Transport Scotland think it would be useful to have an officer of Authority encouraging avoid travel.

**ACTION** – Police Scotland to arrange media messaging from senior Police Officer. Update to be provided on this at SGoRR (M).

- To be aware of protest activity at Amazon Depot in Fife, weather issues may resolve this.

### Fire Scotland – Redacted (duty gold)

- Prepared with severe weather plan.
- Resources as expected with no issues.
- Full command team is on duty.
- Prepared for weather to hit and support communities as needed.

### SAS – Redacted

- All sighted on Red warnings.
- Good coverage over weekend. Their Command Centre open this evening and tomorrow morning. Gold and Silver commanders on call tonight.

## 7. Other business areas

**ACTION** – link with Health colleagues on impact on Vaccine programme and NHS staffing levels.

**ACTION** – link in with Major Events and to double check any large gatherings. Christmas markets etc., lots of infrastructure involved in this (Ferris wheels etc.) – ongoing engagement with LAs.

**ACTION** – Ask RRP's in touch with LA co-ordinators on this.

**6. Communications Redacted**

- Police Scotland messaging can be used by SG throughout day.

**ACTION** – to check in with Redacted on Ready Scotland Campaign.

**7. AOB**

SGoRR (M) is at 14:30 – team will come to team separately.

**8. Date/time of next meeting**

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**From:** SGoRR Information  
**Subject:** For Information - SGoRR update - Amber warning for wind from 1500 - 0900 Friday 26th November 2021

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**From:** SGoRR Information <SGoRRInformation@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** 26 November 2021 21:15  
**To:**  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** For Information - SGoRR update - Amber warning for wind from 1500 - 0900 Friday 26th November 2021

PS/DFM

Following the SGoR(M) at 14.30 – the DFM will wish to note the following updates:

#### Met Office update

The winds have strengthened across the north of the country, with gusts of 74mph recorded at Wick and Lossiemouth. Kinloss has seen a gust of 62mph.

The forecast is going to plan, with the strongest winds moving into the northeast and spreading southwards across the east coast over the next couple of hours. Gusts of 80-90mph are expected during a 5 to 6 hour period across exposed eastern coastal areas. The very strong winds, together with the unusual wind direction, brings the risk of significant impacts, including travel disruption, risk to public safety, power outages, structural damage, damage to temporary structures, including mobile homes, and large waves affecting coastal communities, harbours and sea fronts.

The Red Warning for Wind across eastern coastal areas is now valid and runs until 0200 on Saturday morning, with the wider Amber Warning for Wind across eastern Scotland valid now and running through to 0900 on Saturday morning. Yellow Warnings for Wind are in place for much of Scotland through to 1800 on Saturday, although this is a warning that covers much of the UK and Scotland will generally see the winds easing during Saturday afternoon.

In addition to the wind warnings, Yellow Warnings for Snow/Ice are in place for northern Scotland and the Southern Uplands through to 1000 on Saturday morning. Snow will largely accumulate on high ground, with any significant accumulations likely to be above 300-400m. However, areas above 100-200m could see 2 to 4cm in places, with rain more likely at lower levels.

#### East of Scotland RRP

The main thing in East Lothian is that 1100 houses are without power in the Torness, Haddington, North Berwick, Innerwick and Dungallass. It seems to be sporadic and rural. SPEN are aware but, for safety reasons, unable to progress repairs at the moment and this will likely be Saturday morning. Discussion around the need for a rest centre being established and this will continue to be discussed and made available if necessary. Salvation Army have offered to be in the area to provide hot food and water in the morning.

#### North of Scotland RRP

Grampian Area last met at 18.00 and is meeting again at 22.30. The impacts of debris on the roads, RTCs, bridge closures and unsafe structures are stretching the emergency services who are triaging calls. A number of power outages across the area and SSEN are tied in with CfP groups to ensure those who require assistance are prioritised. It is reported as busy but in hand.

Tayside area last met at 16.30 and is meeting again at 21.00. The current picture is similar to that in Grampian with responders and partners coping with what is, as was anticipated, a busy night.

H&I area is fairing a little better. Local Emergency Coordinating Groups met in preparation yesterday and have remained in touch today but no formal groups have been stood up in response at this time.

#### West of Scotland RRP

Nothing to report. Resilience partners content with monitoring and treating as business as usual response.

#### Resilient Essential Services Team

Overview Customers Off Supply:

SSEN – 24,500

Scottish Power – 6305

Scottish Water – No issues reported

SGN – No issue reported

Telecoms – No issues reported

#### Communications

Further to messages issued yesterday and earlier today about the activation of the Ready Scotland marketing campaign, the campaign messaging has been amended to reflect the latest advice from Police Scotland.

#### **Further updates**

If there are any significant changes to the above we will update you as soon as possible, and if not we will update you again at the conclusion of the event on tomorrow (roughly 09.00).

Redacted

Response Officer  
Resilience Division  
Scottish Government  
Area 1R,  
St Andrew's House,  
Regent Road,  
Edinburgh,  
EH1 3DG

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From: On Behalf Of SGoRR Information

Sent: 25 November 2021 16:51

To:

Cc:

Subject: For Information - SGORR update - Amber warning for wind from 1500 - 0900 Friday 26th November 2021.

Deputy First Minister

First Minister

Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero, Energy and Transport

Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands

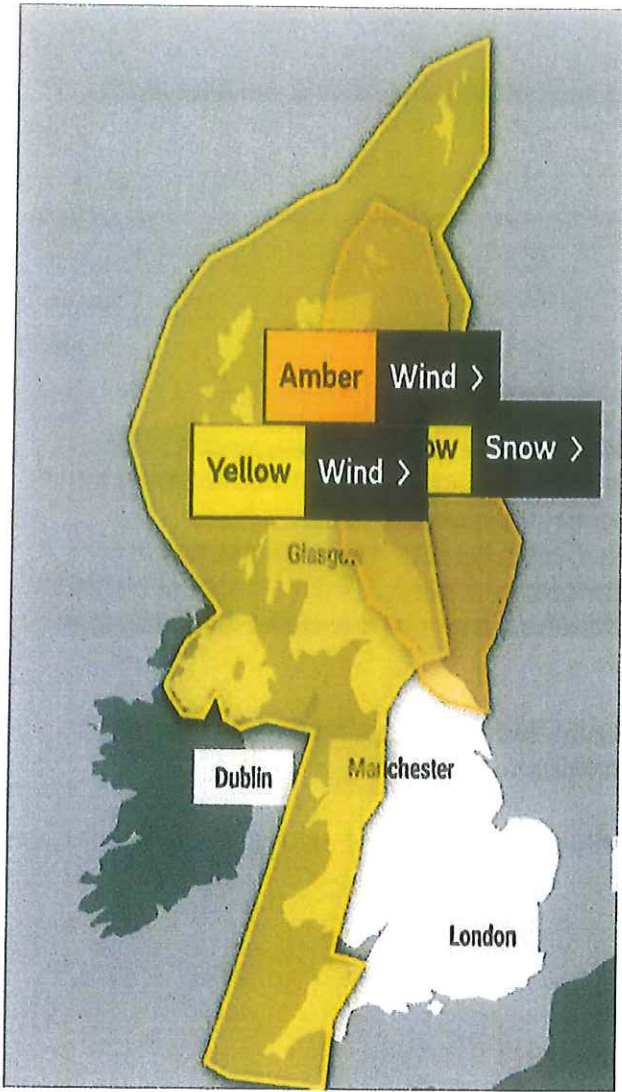
Others as per copy list

The Deputy First Minister will wish to note that due to Storm Arwen, an Amber warning for Wind has been put in place by the Met Office from 1500 tomorrow (Friday 26 Nov) to 0900 on Saturday. This warning affects northern and eastern Scotland, including Highland, Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, Moray, Angus, Clackmannanshire, Dundee, Fife, Falkirk, Perth and Kinross, Orkney, East Lothian, Edinburgh, Midlothian, Scottish Borders and West Lothian. Concurrent with this is a Yellow warning for Wind tomorrow expected to affect northern and western Scotland from 09.00 to 23.59.

There is also a Yellow warning for Snow from 14.00 to 23.59 tomorrow affecting high ground in Highland, Angus, Perth and Kinross, Aberdeenshire and Moray.

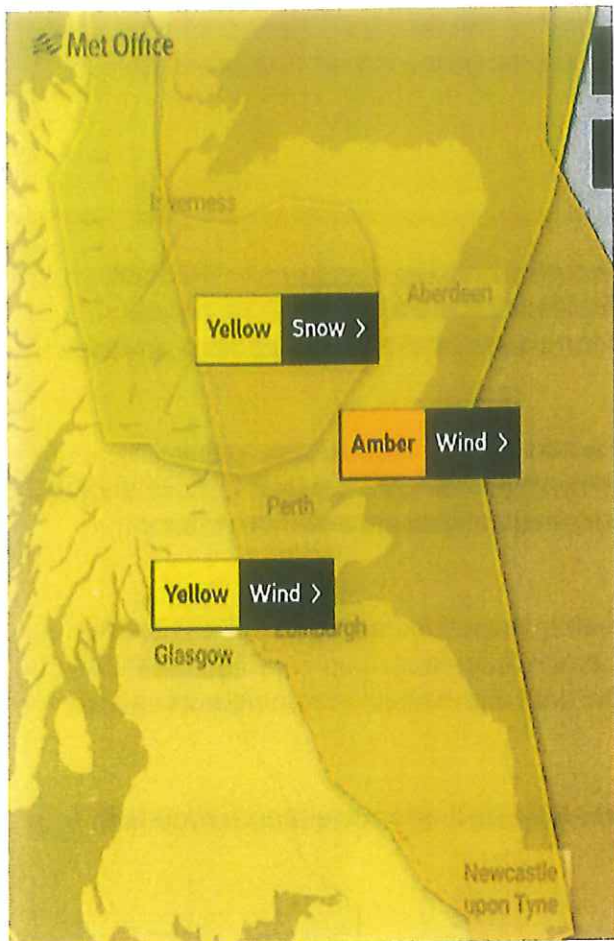
I can provide the following update on the current situation.

### **Summary of weather situation**



In detail:





The core briefing from Met Office is as follows:

Much of Scotland will experience very windy conditions during Friday and into Saturday, and a generally cold few days, with the return of wintry hazards of snow and ice in places.

- Winds will initially strengthen across northern Scotland and the Isles during Friday morning, before developing further south during Friday afternoon and evening. They will ease from the far north during the early hours of Saturday, though persisting across much of the country through much of Saturday morning before gradually easing during the afternoon.
- The winds will be from a north to northeasterly direction, and it's quite unusual to get such strong winds from that direction. Areas exposed to the north and northeast are likely to see strongest winds, with the potential for impacts in areas that are normally sheltered from the strongest winds (e.g. harbours), which tend to come from the west or southwest.
- There is the potential for cross border travel disruption, particularly on the eastern side of the country, with the Amber Warning extending into northeast England.
- Gust speeds of 50-60mph are expected quite widely across Scotland, with 70-80mph possible in more exposed locations.
- Both the Yellow Warnings and the Amber Warning highlight the potential for Medium impacts, including possible transport disruption, risks to public safety, damage to buildings and temporary structures and outages to utilities.

The full details of the warning can be found on the [Met Office website](#).

### Flood risk

SEPA are not currently forecasting floods, but are monitoring the situation. It's a neap tide, so a problematic tidal surge is unlikely,- however there are likely to be big waves that could cause safety issues along the coast.

### **SGORR and partners**

We have been in contact today with our usual resilience partners, and in particular the RRP and Essential Services teams, to ensure we receive swift notification of any disruption. All partners have well established plans in place, continue to monitor the situation and stand ready to respond as appropriate.

The Resilient Essential Services Team have reached out to the relevant utilities, requesting any additional preparedness information and early notification of any issues. SSEN (North of Scotland) has moved resource and staff into place according to plan to mitigate any impacts from strong winds.

Transport Scotland's Multi-Agency Response Team will monitor conditions throughout the amber warning period. The Transport Scotland Resilience Room will be stood up from 0900 – 2000 tomorrow and arrangements are being put in place to deal with the possible impacts across the transport network.

Local resilience partnerships are meeting this afternoon to ensure all appropriate preparation is in place.

### **Public Communications**

Resilience communications partners are actively coordinating advice ahead of the storm, and stand ready to respond to any emerging issues.

The Ready Scotland public information campaign has been activated today, to raise awareness of the forecast and encourage the public to take sensible measures to keep safe in the run-up to and during. Digital (currently live) and local radio channels (live from 16:00 today) will be used to target the areas covered by the current amber weather warnings. On the advice of resilience partners, in addition to the usual messaging for high wind scenarios the campaign will highlight: 1) intersectional risk with snow on high ground; 2) risk of large waves and spray at the coast; and 3) the unusual direction of the wind. The campaign will stand down at 09:00 on Saturday.

Transport Scotland have issued a Ministerial news release, which includes travel and safety advice, and stand ready to take any broadcast bids that come in - [Amber wind warning \(1\)](#) ([transport.gov.scot](http://transport.gov.scot))

The Scottish Government has also issued social content this afternoon, directing the public to the advice of key partners, and Traffic Scotland are sharing information on weather warnings and updates across all platforms as per tried and tested methods.

### **Further updates**

If there are any significant changes to the above we will update you as soon as possible, and if not we will update you again at 19.00 on Friday (26.11) and at the conclusion of the event on Saturday (roughly 09.00)

Regards

Redacted

Head of Response Team  
Resilience Division  
Scottish Government



[REDACTED]

**From:** SGoRR Information  
**Sent:** 28 November 2021 20:18  
**To:** SGoRR Information  
**Subject:** SGoR (M) Storm Arwen - Actions

**Categories:** For Information

For info

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**From:** SGoRR Information  
**Sent:** 28 November 2021 17:49  
**To:** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Covid Recovery (DFMCSCR@gov.scot) <DFMCSCR@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero, Energy and Transport <CabSecNetZET@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing & Local Government <CabSecSJHLG@gov.scot>; Rogers S (Shirley) <Shirley.Rogers@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@scotland.gsi.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; NoS RRP <NoSRRP@gov.scot>; EoS RRP <EoSRRP@gov.scot>; WoS RRP <WoSRRP@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@transport.gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@transport.gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; TS Resilience Mailbox <tsresilience@transport.gov.scot>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; 'Shona.Robison.msp@parliament.scot' <Shona.Robison.msp@parliament.scot>; Ben Macpherson <Ben.Macpherson.msp@parliament.scot>; [REDACTED]@transport.gov.scot>  
**Subject:** SGoR (M) Storm Arwen

All

Please see below:

**Actions from SGoRR (M) – 28/11/2021 – 16:00**

- [REDACTED] – DFM would like geographic illustration of areas affected by power outages. [REDACTED] sent attached link: <https://powertrack.ssen.co.uk/powertrack>
- NoS RRP – Consider further national resource and mutual aid requirements from other public agencies, including use of mobile facilities.
- All RRP – identify what further interventions are needed to ensure credible welfare support in place:
  - RRP to share with SGoRR plans on how to move to address this more challenges phase.
  - RRP to identify any external assistance to assist in addressing these issues.
- [REDACTED] and Cabinet Secretaries/Ministers – immediate escalation of pressure to Mobile Telecoms providers to support over next few days.
- [REDACTED] – get stronger intelligence from Scottish Water on water supply issues and how they're remedying the situation.
- [REDACTED] – Draft NR for DFM clearance and put out tonight. NR to indicate SGoRR been briefed about scale and severity and greater duration of challenge than was first expected. Dialogue with power companies to be assured about resources to resolve issues. Compliment RRP to support supply, further assistance will be offered due to longer duration. Concentrating on getting supply restored as soon as possible and support for welfare.

- All attendees – Provide updates to SGoRR by 20:45 this evening on issues discussed, including where we are with reconnections/how many are off supply.
- SGoRR – To send update to DFM and others around 21:00 this evening (following conclusion of Aberdeenshire LRP at 20:00).
- SGoRR – To provide follow up briefings on issues in morning and beyond.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Response Officer  
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EH1 3DG

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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**From:** SGoRR Information  
**Sent:** 29 November 2021 19:17  
**To:** Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero, Energy and Transport; Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing & Local Government; Rogers S (Shirley); [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] NoS RRP; EoS RRP; WoS RRP; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] TS Resilience Mailbox; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Covid Recovery; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] 'ACCLocalPolicingNorth@scotland.pnn.police.uk'; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] Transport Emergencies Mailbox; Minister for Social Security and Local Government  
**Cc:** SGoRR Information  
**Subject:** Storm Arwen - SGoR(M) - Actions  
**Categories:** For Monitoring

Good evening

Please see below actions for this afternoon's SGoR(M) meeting.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Response Team  
Additional Deaths & Care for People Lead

[REDACTED]

- **SGoRR** to articulate a clear expectation that Tayside LRP should reconvene to coordinate activity across the area;
- **SGoRR** to ensure contact with [REDACTED] at SPEN, regarding information provision, is made;
- **REST** to follow up with Scottish Water regarding arrangements on providing water to premises currently off supply;
- **RRPs** to contact TS for assistance with clearing roads, if necessary;
- **Comms** to arrange NR to issue in DFM's name;
- **SGoRR** to establish reporting rhythm for duration of Storm Arwen activation.

[REDACTED]

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**From:** SGoRR02  
**Sent:** 03 December 2021 12:03  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] SGoRR Information  
**Subject:** SGoRR (O) readout 031221

**Importance:** High

**Categories:** For Information

All – given the time pressure please accept the likely very rough edges.

[REDACTED]

### Readout of SGoRR (O) 3 Dec 21

- Shirley Rodgers introduced the meeting recognising the huge amount of activity that is ongoing re a significant outage.
- **MET Office update from [REDACTED]** the usual mixed bag of winter weather is expected. Strong winds (approx. 40mph) expected Saturday and Sunday. Snow expected at higher levels. Given the impacts of Storm Arwen the impacts from further (if less severe) weather may be disproportionate e.g. trees being weakened etc. Tue Wed is giving further cause for concern with rain, hill snow and strong winds expected.
- **SSEN [REDACTED]** SSEN will be closely monitoring the weather which could present further difficulties to power supply issues. Approx 1600 customers remain offline with 1300 in the Aberdeen area, of these approx. 600 will require door to door visits.
- Good progress has been made on faults overnight, however windblown debris is causing some issues.
- The Majority of high voltage faults have been fixed and low voltage faults are being mapped and customers are being contacted.
- SSEN aim to reduce the number of customers without power to 500 (working overnight) with all customers to be fully connected by COP Saturday.
- **Telecomms:** Telecoms have faced significant challenges due to Storm Arwen. Landlines remain in a good place with only 159 landline customers affected by the storm. Mobile communications remain more challenging but the situation is improving. SG is in close liaison with telecoms companies re impacted sites. 10 sites covering Airwaves have been impacted However it is important to note that no impacts have been felt by the emergency services due to this issue.
- Generators are being deployed by SSEN where they can be usefully applied, not all sites can utilise generators.
- SSEN have been in close communications with telecommunication companies to identify critical cell sites, which has been welcomed. DCS and BEIS are linked in and discussions on this will be taken forward for future consideration.
- **MOD:** 146 military personnel are on task. 3 vulnerable people have been reached and relocated for medical reasons. 82% of doors have been served as at time of writing but conditions have been severe.
- **LRPs (Grampian):** Currently approx. 1300 customers without power with the vast majority expected to be reached today. MACA will expire on Sunday (PM) and this will be kept under review – it was noted that the risk to life/welfare increases as the power continues to be off. Vulnerable people are being identified and 90% of those identified have been reached. Concerns were raised about predicted adverse weather including localised flooding.
- **LRP (Tayside)** Perth and Kinross currently has 51 households without power and Angus has 91. LRP is being well supported by SSEN (details from LRP on distribution of affected properties attached)

- **SG comms:** Focus has been on the MOD response. Once all power has been restored the FM will likely make a statement and highlight a review of lessons learned.

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