

How do emergency responders’ experiences with climate related disasters shape their attitudes towards future disaster preparedness and their mental health outcomes?

Understanding how climate disasters influence police officers’ mental wellbeing, their attitudes to disaster preparedness and what to consider in the future.

Key details

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Police region	East Midlands
Level of research	Masters
Project start date	April 2025
Date due for completion	July 2025

Research context

This study assesses how exposure to climate disasters (for example floods, wildfires and extreme storms) influences police officers’ attitudes towards future preparedness and their mental health. With the increasing frequency of climate-related events, it's crucial to explore these dynamics to better understand the likely mental health support needs and resilience of those on the front line.

This study aims to provide valuable insights into the challenges of being part of an emergency response team and what front line responders consider important for the future.

Research methodology

23/07/2025

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This study will use a quantitative research design with an online questionnaire as the primary data collection method. The study will use primary data collected through self-reported responses from emergency responders. The online data collection platform, Qualtrics, will be used.

Demographic and professional background information relevant to emergency response roles will be obtained but no personally identifiable information, such as participants' names, will be collected and responses will be anonymised and stored securely. The data will be analysed using descriptive statistics and correlation analysis to examine relationships between exposure to climate emergencies, preparedness attitudes and mental health outcomes.