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Emergency Services

999 – The main emergency number

This is the emergency number for police, ambulance, fire brigade, coastguard, cliff rescue, mountain rescue, cave rescue, etc. Note the important word 'EMERGENCY'. This number should be used only when urgent attendance by the emergency services is required – for example someone is seriously ill or injured, or a crime is in progress.

Calls are free, and 999 can be dialled from a locked mobile phone.

NB 112 operates exactly the same as 999. The important thing about 112 is that it will work on a mobile phone anywhere in the world. In the UK, 112 also works on landline phones.

See separate emergency contact questions for more detailed information and non-emergencies.

Last update on Thursday 16 Aug 2018 by Alan Comber.