

## Each volunteer receives training in:

### On road Driving

- Institute of Advanced Motoring qualified.
- Competent and experienced in severe weather driving inc snow, ice and flooding.

### Off-Road Driving

COTAG has developed bespoke off-road driving courses conducted on our dedicated training ground. In addition to industry-standard tuition, each driver must complete a minimum of **20 hours** driving in an off-road environment before being assessed by the team's examiners. This standard must be maintained by regular attendance at team training sessions. All volunteers learn to operate their vehicles in various hazardous off-road conditions, including flood water and deep snow. They will also learn to read terrain hazards to ensure safe passage.

### Safe Winching and Vehicle Recovery

All COTAG volunteers are trained in the safe use of recovery equipment and vehicle-mounted winches to enable recovery of stranded vehicles or to clear routes of obstacles such as fallen trees etc.

### First Aid

- Emergency First Aid at Work (min.)

### VHF/UHF Radio

- Radio Society of Great Britain licensed radio user

### Winter Survival and Water Safety

### Navigation

## Funding partners

COTAG is extremely grateful to our funding partners who have very generously provided the means to sustain our organisation.



To volunteer, donate, or see how COTAG could support your organisation, please contact us at [www.COTAG.net](http://www.COTAG.net)

More information and examples of COTAG operations can be found at [www.facebook.com/COTAG4x4Response](https://www.facebook.com/COTAG4x4Response)



## Supporting our community in times of need



Scottish Charity No: SC037191

# COTAG

## 4x4 RESPONSE

The Community Off-Road Transport Action Group (COTAG) was founded in 2004 and is a member of the nationwide UK 4x4 Response network, established to support emergency services and communities in times of need.



COTAG serves the Grampian region with a team of dedicated volunteers, each highly trained in the safe use of 4x4 vehicles and associated equipment, on and off the public highway.

Although not an emergency or rescue service, COTAG's speciality is the provision of logistics and vehicle-borne support in severe weather or a civil emergency.



Deep Water Wading Training

### What support can COTAG provide?

COTAG volunteers are united by a common interest to serve their local communities. Potential taskings include:

- The delivery of urgent medical supplies, food or fuel to families living in remote areas.
- Evacuation of personnel or members of the public from potentially hazardous situations.
- Transport of healthcare personnel or patients.
- Recovery of stranded personnel or vehicles.
- Transport of Emergency Services or Local Authority personnel and equipment.
- Assistance during search operations over rough terrain or in remote areas.
- Establishing a radio communications network.
- Route reconnaissance and reporting.
- Transportation and distribution of flood defence materials including sand bags.
- Supporting traffic control at incidents or road closures on the public highway

For their own safety and that of partners and members of the public, all COTAG volunteers are vetted by Police Scotland.



### Other services

COTAG's capabilities in communications and first aid coupled with the ability to reach otherwise inaccessible places can be invaluable to organisers of charitable hill walking, running and mountain biking events in remote areas where effective marshalling and safety support are essential. Please get in touch if COTAG could offer support to your event.

## PARTNERS



*COTAG holds special arrangements with Police Scotland, SFRS, NHS Grampian and local councils*

COTAG supports Police Scotland, NHS Grampian, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service and the Grampian Resilience Partnership. Any of these organisations may call for COTAG assistance during times of severe weather or a civil emergency. Additionally, COTAG works closely with the Grampian Emergency Planning Unit and a number of charities.

### Environmental Awareness

Preservation of the environment is a priority for COTAG and our Environmental Policy ensures that ground disturbance and environmental footprint are minimised through the planning and completion of operations..

