

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

FLOODING UPDATE

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To update Cabinet on the latest position arising from the impact of the tidal surge on 5 December 2013 and the actions taken to date.
- 1.2 To detail the council's proposed response to the various Flood Support Schemes that central government have put in to secure funding for the area.
- 1.3 The key points in this report are as follows:
 - The tidal surge of 5 December impacted significantly across North Lincolnshire
 - The council responded in a number of ways to support affected communities, residents and businesses
 - The government has announced a number of flood relief schemes to help homeowners and businesses impacted by flooding between 1 December 2013 and 31 March 2014
 - The council will need to administer a number of these schemes
 - Government will fund the cost of the schemes.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 The tidal surge of 5 December and the associated flooding impacted on 348 residential properties in 17 separate communities across North Lincolnshire. Around 70 businesses were also affected. The council has actively responded since then during recovery phase of the incident. The following paragraphs provide some detail of the recovery effort.

2.2 Response Phase

- Crews were deployed to help in emptying flooded properties, assisting householders with the disposal of bulky waste during working week and weekends
- 117 bulky collections made which included separate items as well as whole household clearances

- Community skips - peak of 35 placed out at any one time with several exchanges of each one
- Approx. 1,000 tonnes of extra general flood waste disposed of
- Delivery of black sacks (13,200 issued), cleaning materials, wheelbarrows etc.
- Locating flooded properties including outlying properties
- Collation of properties flooded for cheque payments
- Cleaning of mud from paths around flooded properties - swept and power washed
- Sand bags issued - approx. 7,000
- Septic tanks emptied - approx. 60
- Road gullies empty / flushed - approx. 2 days spent gully emptying as a direct result of the floods
- Roads swept / resurfaced / rebuilt - approx. 3 days spent sweeping roads as a direct result of the floods
- Provided clean up support to a number of businesses.

2.3 The Environment Team also involved with other aspects of the clean-up including as follows:

- 140 sheep rescued
- 190 dead sheep recovered from ditch at Alkborough
- Approx. 3.5 miles of fencing to be replaced and over 2 miles of surfaced paths to be re-laid
- All footpaths on Humber bank between Barton and East Halton closed
- 300m of Far Ings Byway resurfaced.

2.4 A number of Highways repairs were completed:

- A1077 Emergency Repair Work and layby repairs £55,569
- A1077, South Ferriby Lift Bridge - £4,000 for repairs and cleaning to flood soaked electrical equipment
- C102, Amcotts to Garthorpe Road at Waterton Drain Outfall Culvert - £6,000 for remaking washed out verge over culvert and repair/replacement of associated safety barrier

2.5 **Financial assistance:**

The Council approved the following:

- Cabinet immediately approved the creation of a £100k scheme to provide £300 financial assistance to each household affected by the flooding
- An award of up to £1,000 payable as Community Support Grant. This is open to all householders who find themselves in crisis due to the flood. This is an existing fund to address urgent need, but takes account of ability of the household to deal with the situation either through insurance cover or own funds. This is a non-repayable grant. The householders' level of income and expenditure, and their ability to

obtain the funding independently, is taken into account in the assessment

- Up to £1,000 interest free loans repayable over five years available to those who can provide written evidence that they were unable to obtain insurance, could not obtain flood cover because of the location of their property, or have a large excess to pay for flood cover. Those who chose not to take out insurance are NOT entitled to this loan
- Council Tax Inspectors have also been visiting householders to determine the level of council tax discount available. Currently they've visited 157 properties where people had to move out. There are also a further 41 people that are or were still living in the property but parts of it are uninhabitable, i.e. living upstairs, or are now in a caravan in the grounds. These have been given the 50% discount. Those that stayed in for a few days then moved out are included in the above total of 157.

2.6 Local Community Response Support

There was an exceptional response by the individual communities and parish councils to the impact of the tidal surge. In addition the council supported the communities affected by a range of actions.

- Pop up local links sent in the four worst affected areas
- Attended Parish Council meetings during December and January as requested
- Free home to school transport for 12 displaced school children so that they don't have the trauma of changing schools
- Two coaches taking schoolchildren from Gunness and Burringham School to Willoughby Road infants because of the flooding
- Adult services referrals for a small number of residents
- Two Trading Standards Officers visited flooded areas with Police re door step crime
- Building Cleaning distributed over £800 of cleaning equipment to South Ferriby over three days 9, 10 and 11 December
- Donations from Sainsbury's (received 23 December) distributed week commencing 6 January 2014
- Key Individual Network member for Burringham was provided. Also put together a list of VCS groups who may be able to assist victims or the Council along with contact details and a very brief summary of the assistance they could provide
- 25 Emergency Link Officers deployed from Saturday 7 December to Friday 13 December to distribute leaflets and to undertake community impact questionnaires with residents of affected properties
- Advised and assisted around 35 families and individuals during the flood effort, including having officers spending time at the Pods, Barton Local Link and a full day at South Ferriby Village Hall
- We have used our own temporary accommodation for three families, one of whom is still there and likely to be there for some time

- Six individuals / families in bed and breakfast, all of whom have now returned home, gone to stay with families and friends or are being looked after by their own insurance company
- Alternative permanent accommodation for four families / individuals who were in their own privately rented accommodation
- We have intervened with two privately rented tenants to get their landlord / managing agent to offer them alternative accommodation.

2.7 **Government Flood Support Schemes**

The government has recently announced a number of flood support schemes and made funding available to help put them into effect. The government has introduced or amended 10 schemes to assist communities and businesses to recover and to help local authorities meet the costs associated with protecting lives and properties in the future. These are detailed in Appendix 1. The key schemes for Cabinet to consider are detailed below.

2.8 The **Bellwin Scheme** provides emergency financial assistance to councils incurring expenditure above a threshold in response to an emergency. Although the threshold has been lowered and 100% grant will be paid above this level, we have not incurred enough expenditure on eligible items to qualify.

2.9 Under the **Severe Weather Recovery scheme** £76.5m has been made available to contribute to costs incurred by councils to support their communities and repair highways infrastructure.

- We have been awarded a grant of £242,603 under the communities' element funded by DCLG
- Also we have been awarded a grant from the Department of Transport of £646,578 for the highways costs.

2.10 A '**Repair and Renew**' grant fund will provide up to £5000 per flood affected property to fund additional flood resilience and resistance measures. This is for measures over and above normal repairs. We are developing this scheme. Details are attached in Appendix B.

2.11 **Business rate relief** of 100% can be granted for three months for flooded properties which suffered an impact on business activity. The 100% relief will be awarded regardless of the actual length of time the business was affected. This discretionary relief is to be determined locally, using the discretionary relief powers introduced by The Localism Act 2011. In most cases the statutory 100% vacant property exemptions apply and relief will only be awarded when an exemption is not applicable. It is proposed that for a ratepayer to be entitled to the discretionary 'flood' relief the following conditions must be met;

- for any day between 1 December 2013 and 31 March 2014 the hereditament has been flooded in whole or in part as a result of adverse weather conditions; and
- on that day, as a result of the flooding at the hereditament, the business activity undertaken at the hereditament was adversely affected; and
- the rateable of the hereditament on that day was less than £10 million; and
- the hereditament is not occupied by the Council

2.12 A **Council Tax Relief** scheme has also been announced, but locally the Cabinet member has already approved an initial relief scheme of 100% for three months followed by 50% for a further nine months, for taxpayers who have vacated their dwelling. A 50% allowance is granted to taxpayers in partial occupancy.

The Council has the powers required to introduce a local discount for particular circumstances or by category of property. It is intended to replace the existing discounts and allowance with a 100% discount for six months. The vacant and unoccupied and awaiting repairs discount and allowance will remain available for a further six months at 50% once the 100% discount for six months ends. It is recommended to be eligible for a 100% discount a taxpayer must meet the following criteria;

- Flood water entered the dwelling on 5 December 2013; and
- The dwelling is recorded on the council's central flood list; and
- The dwelling is unoccupied, substantially unfurnished and building works are required to make it habitable; or
- Parts of the dwelling are uninhabitable but the taxpayer has chosen to remain in residence, either in the property itself or in a caravan within the same curtilage.

2.13 The council has been awarded a grant of £400,000 under the **Business support scheme** to provide hardship funding for small and medium sized businesses (SMEs). The details of the scheme are attached as Appendix C. It can be used to support businesses both directly and indirectly affected by the floods.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

The options available to the Cabinet are as follows.

3.1 Approve the details of the specific support schemes identified above.

3.2 Propose alternative support.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1 The specific support schemes have been developed to take maximum advantage of the government support. It is important that we continue to support affected households and businesses. The proposals build on the work undertaken in the recovery stage of the incident. We have developed some local responses, starting with Cabinet's prompt decision to grant £300 per flooded household and the more wide ranging relief for council tax and business rates than the national minimum.

4.2 The proposal for the 'repair and renew' fund is time critical as much of the reinstatement work is already in hand. To gain full benefit from this scheme we will consult with affected households and oversee surveys to ensure prompt access to the grant for eligible activity.

4.3 Proposals for alternative support will have to ensure they meet the government's wide definitions of what does it cover and who can apply. We have developed local response channels.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)

Financial

5.1 The council has been awarded grants of £1,289,181 from the government's flood support schemes. We will also be responsible for administering the repair and renew grant fund. Further Government support will come from the rate and council tax relief schemes. These are estimated at £57,000. In addition Natural England has provided a one off grant of £91,000 to the council to contribute to the restoration of Alkborough Flats.

The financial position continues to change as schemes and funding are being finalised. Appendix D provides an overview of the current known positions on spending and funding commitments. Provisional indications are that spending commitments of £1.983m are predicted together with funding support of £1.437m but these positions may change as further details unfold.

Staffing, Property and IT

5.2 There are no staffing, property or IT related implications to consider.

6. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

6.1 Not applicable directly from this report. Detailed implementation for the specific elements will be undertaken when the specific detail is approved.

7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

7.1 None.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 That Cabinet note the recovery actions taken to date.

8.2 That Cabinet note the grant awards of £646k for highways costs, £400k for business support and £243k for communities from central government.

8.3 That Cabinet considers the proposed support schemes.

8.4 That Cabinet approves the new business rate relief and council tax discount schemes.

8.5 That Cabinet approves the Business Support scheme and the Repair and Renew schemes.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Civic Centre
Ashby Road
SCUNTHORPE
North Lincolnshire
DN16 1AB

Author: Simon Driver

Date: 21 March 2014

Background Papers used in the preparation of this report

Flood Response and Recovery Action note 20 January 2014

Flood Support Schemes: DCLG March 2014



Department for
Communities and
Local Government

Flood Support Schemes

Funding available from central government

Contents

1.	Introduction	2
2.	Bellwin Scheme	2
3.	Severe Weather Recovery Scheme	3
4.	Farming Recovery Fund	4
5.	'Repair and Renew' grant	5
6.	Business Rate relief	5
7.	Council Tax relief	6
8.	Business Support Scheme	6
9.	Flood Relief Fund for Sport	7
10.	Support for Tourism Industry	7
11.	Time to Pay	8
12.	Banking Sector Support	8

1. Introduction

1.1 Why have we produced this guide?

On 5th and 6th December 2013, the worst tidal surges in 60 years struck the east coast of England, leaving a trail of destruction and flooded properties. In addition to the December tidal surges, the country has experienced the wettest winter in over 250 years. This has resulted in many areas of the country remaining on high alert for extended periods as the emergency services, supported by local authorities, statutory agencies and local residents have battled to protect communities.

In view of the exceptional circumstances and the scale of the damage caused by the extreme winter weather the Government has activated a range of schemes to assist those communities to recover and to meet the costs associated with protecting lives and properties in the future.

1.2 Who is the guide aimed at?

This guide outlines what support is available to eligible local authorities, households and businesses affected by the extreme weather conditions since the beginning of December 2013 and how they can apply.

2. Bellwin Scheme

2.1 What is it?

Emergency financial assistance available to local authorities in England incurring expenditure above a qualifying threshold in response to an emergency or disaster involving destruction of, or danger to, life or property.

Enhancements have been made to the scheme to reflect the exceptional nature of recent storms and the role councils play as first responders. The changes will ensure that grant is paid at 100 per cent above threshold instead of 85 per cent; extend the eligible spending period until 30th May 2014; reduce thresholds for all County Councils and Unitary Authorities; allow upfront payments to councils to ease cash flow and allow upper tier authorities with responsibility for Fire Services to claim on a comparable basis to standalone Fire Authorities for fire related costs.

2.2 What does it cover?

Cost incurred by Councils on immediate actions they take in connection with a disaster or emergency.

2.3 Who can apply?

Any Local Authority as defined in Section 155 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

2.4 How can they apply?

Firstly by reporting the incident within one month by writing to Ade Ogunro, LGF-SRC, the Department for Communities and Local Government, Zone 5/H2 Eland

House, Bressenden Place, London SW1E 5DU (0303 444 1895; email Bellwin@communities.gsi.gov.uk).

The Local Authority must then complete all works in respect of which it intends to claim grant – normally within 2 months (but extended for the current scheme – to 6 months overall) and submit a claim unless otherwise specified by the Department, - one month after the end of the spending period. Claim form is at [www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/210955/The_Bellwin_Scheme - claim form.doc](http://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/210955/The_Bellwin_Scheme_-_claim_form.doc).

Further details can be found at <http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bellwin-scheme-2013-to-2014-guidance>.

3. Severe Weather Recovery Scheme

3.1 What is it?

A £76.5 million scheme funded jointly funded by Department for Communities and Local Government and the Department for Transport (DfT) to contribute to costs incurred by help local authorities to support their communities and repair highways infrastructure.

Initially a £7 million scheme, announced on 17th January 2014, but in recognition of pressures on Local Authorities and a prolonged Response period, the Scheme was enhanced to £40 million (announced on 26th February 2014) - £33.5 million for the highways element and £6.5 million for the communities element. The qualifying period for the communities' element of the grant has been extended, allowing for the fact that community support needs may take longer to be clarified.

On 9 March, DfT announced that it was increasing its contribution to the Severe Weather Recovery Scheme by a further £36.5 million to help repair damage caused to C and Unclassified roads.

3.2 What does it cover?

Recovery costs incurred by Councils on activities to support their communities and on local highway infrastructure repairs arising from the impact of the east coast tidal surge on 5th and 6th December and severe weather in early 2014. For the highways element the qualifying period ended on 7th February. For the communities' element, the qualifying period has been extended until the 30th May.

3.3 Who can apply?

Local Authorities in England except Somerset Councils for whom separate arrangements are being made.

3.4 How can they apply?

By single electronic application claim form (alongside guidance) is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/severe-weather-recovery-scheme>.

The scheme closed on 19th February for claims in respect of highway infrastructure. The closing date for applications in respect of support to communities is 6th June. Local authorities who have submitted a claim in respect of the period 5th December

2013 to 7th February 2014 can submit a further claim covering the period 8th February to 30th May for the communities' element.

4. Farming Recovery Fund

4.1 What is it?

A £10 million Fund announced by the Prime Minister on the 12th February with further details announced by at the NFU Annual General Meeting on 25th February by the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) minister, George Eustice MP. The DEFRA sponsored fund is designed to support farm businesses to restore flooded agricultural land and bring it back into production as quickly as possible.

4.2 What does it cover?

Grants can be used to contribute to the cost (up to 100 per cent) of the restoration of agricultural land. For example materials, contractors costs to remove debris, restore drainage and farm access and to restore grassland. It will not cover activity that would normally be covered by insurance or cover farmers own labour and machinery costs.

4.3 Who can apply?

All farm businesses that require support who have been identified by DEFRA as being within flood impacted areas.

4.4 How can they apply?

The scheme opens on 28th February, application forms will be available from that date on www.gov.uk and applications should be sent to frf@defra.gsi.gov.uk. Applications must be submitted by 9th May 2014, but can be made before that date.

Further details and guidance can be found at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/284236/farming-recovery-fund-guidance.pdf

4.5 Additional Support from DEFRA

Farmers can also receive support for longer term activity designed to help build resilience in the business once land is restored, through the £10 million Farming and Forestry Improvement Scheme launched (FFIS Round 3) on the 4th February with the application window open until 4 April. FFIS offers grants of between £2,500 and £35,000 and up to 50 per cent funding. DEFRA are looking to extend the application window for those farmers in areas most affected by flooding.

DEFRA is also looking at flexibilities around regulations and scheme rules over a range of activities.

5. 'Repair and Renew' grant

5.1 What is it?

A scheme providing up to £5,000 per flood affected home or business to pay to fund additional flood resilience or resistance measures for homes and businesses that have been flooded since 1st December 2013. The scheme will go live on 1st April 2014.

5.2 What does it cover?

Grants are intended to fund measures **over and above** repairs that would normally be covered by insurance.

5.3 Who can apply?

Owners of flood affected homes or businesses.

5.4 How can they apply?

By contacting your local authority. **Further details** can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/flood-support-package-for-homeowners-and-businesses>.

6. Business Rate relief

6.1 What is it?

A scheme providing for 100 per cent business rate relief for 3-months

6.2 What does it cover?

It will be for individual local billing authorities to adopt a local scheme and decide in each individual case when to grant relief under section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (as amended by the Localism Act).

6.3 Who can apply?

Owners of flood affected businesses meeting published criteria: - the hereditament has been flooded in whole or in part as a result of adverse weather conditions; and on that day, as a result of the flooding at the hereditament, the business activity undertaken at the hereditament was adversely affected; and that the rateable value of the hereditament on that day was less than £10 million.

6.4 How can they apply?

Businesses should apply to their local authority. **Further details** are at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/flood-support-package-for-homeowners-and-businesses>.

7. Council Tax relief

7.1 What is it?

A scheme to support councils to provide council tax rebates where homes have been flooded.

7.2 What does it cover?

Local authorities can use powers under section 13A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 to grant council tax discounts on properties which have been flooded.

7.3 Who can apply?

Householders whose home has been flooded by the winter severe weather events.

7.4 How can they apply?

Council tax payers should apply to their local authority. **Further details** can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/flood-support-package-for-homeowners-and-businesses>.

8. Business Support Scheme

8.1 What is it?

A £10 million scheme to provide hardship funding for SME businesses affected by the floods developed by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS).

8.2 What does it cover?

It is for local authorities to determine the type of things to provide grant for but could include: non-recoverable insurance excesses for repair or replacement of buildings, equipment and stock; removal of debris, additional business accommodation or extra staff costs; structural surveys, security measures, additional marketing, exceptional costs to improve access to/for suppliers and customers etc.

8.3 Who can apply?

Businesses affected by flooding since 1st December 2013 and that have sustained hardship and significant loss of trade as a result of the floods.

8.4 How can they apply?

Businesses should apply to their local authority, who will have been allocated additional funding for this purpose on the basis of an assessment of the number of businesses affected by the floods.

Further details can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/flood-support-package-for-homeowners-and-businesses>.

9. Flood Relief Fund for Sport

9.1 What is it?

A £5 million National Lottery Fund, run by Sport England to help restore pitches and repair sports facilities damaged by the recent floods and storms. There are two elements: one announced on 27th February for small grants of up to £2,000 for emergency repairs, and one for larger grants for longer-term, larger projects addressing more extensive damage which will take longer to repair.

9.2 What does it cover?

Repairs to damaged facilities such as football, rugby and cricket pitches, water sports centres, pavilions, changing rooms and floodlights.

9.3 Who can apply?

Sports clubs, local authorities and other community organisations.

9.4 How can they apply?

By completing the Interest Registration form and submitting it to Sport England through the following email address floodrelief@sportengland.org.

Small grants for emergency repairs are available now. The scheme for larger repairs opened on 24th March and will be open until the autumn. **Further details** can be found at www.sportengland.org/floodfund.

10. Support for Tourism Industry

In addition to the Business Support package developed by BIS, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport have announced a £2 million support package to help firms in flood-affected parts of England which rely on tourism.

The package takes the form of business advice and marketing activity and involves putting experts on the ground in flood hit areas to give practical advice and support to tourism businesses.

The advice will be offered to tourism and tourism related businesses at local workshops and drop in clinics. Businesses will be able to access up to 3 hours of support with an expert in key areas of advice following the events.

These are being organised locally by Destination Organisations and businesses should contact their local Destination Organisation in the first instance. The marketing activity is also being coordinated with local destinations and if businesses are interested in participating should contact their local destinations organisation.

Further details VisitEngland has launched an [online toolkit](#) offering advice to help businesses affected return to trading as soon as possible.

11. Time to Pay

11.1 What is it?

A scheme allowing affected businesses additional time to pay taxes.

11.2 What does it cover?

All taxes owed to HMRC, including VAT, PAYE and corporation tax.

11.3 Who can apply?

Any business affected by the flooding.

11.4 How can they apply?

By phoning 0300 200 3835 and discussing with an adviser. **For further details** contact the hotline set up by HMRC for those who have been affected by flooding and may have difficulties in meeting their tax liabilities. The helpline is: 0800 904 7900.

12. Banking Sector Support

There is also a commitment by several major banks to provide financial support to business and individual customers affected by the floods – this includes loan and mortgage payment holidays and extended credit to private customers and small businesses. Participating Banks and Building Societies include **RBS, Lloyds, Barclays, HSBC, Santander** and the **Nationwide** offering a range of support programmes.

The North Lincolnshire Business Flood Support Scheme

Following the recent flood events across the country the government has provided financial support to assist businesses recovering from the affects of the floods.

The North Lincolnshire Business Flood Support scheme is a discretionary grant providing up to £2,500 for eligible businesses to assist with immediate recovery needs including repair and renewals, clean up costs, removal of debris, structural surveys, security measures, materials, equipment, stock and exceptional costs to help continued trading such as additional business accommodation or extra staff costs. Support will not be provided to duplicate expenditure covered by insurance, but can include non-recoverable insurance excesses.

Eligibility

- Businesses must be flood affected, within a recognised flooded area
 - either having direct water damage
 - suffered an impact resulting from another business that has been affected (eg supplier, purchaser, etc)
 - has suffered from a loss in trading as a result of flooding
- Be a business entity operating in the administrative area of North Lincolnshire Council
- Must be an SME* (ie less than 250 employees)

Evidence of business operation will be required for self-employed, sole trader, etc, and you must have a business bank account.

Eligible Costs

Costs can be claimed for repair to premises, damaged property and other elements such as equipment, stock, furniture, fixtures, clearing soiled property and clean up costs. Losses must be for items used in the normal course of the business operations.

The maximum amount of grant is £2,500 (exclusive of VAT if recoverable) per business however in exceptional circumstances a discretionary top-up may be awarded. An application form should be completed and original proofs of purchase will be required to this value.

A written case must be provided where a claim is being made for loss of income or trade as a result of either:

- a direct result of flooding
- another business being affected by flooding
- or general trade reduction

providing evidence such as trading accounts, letters or emails to substantiate loss of orders, etc.

Decision Making Process

Applications should be made on the official application form provided and documentary evidence attached (original copies required which will be returned).

Completed paperwork should be forwarded to: Business Flood Support Grant, Economic Development, North Lincolnshire Council, Civic Centre, Ashby Road, Scunthorpe, DN16 1AB.

On receipt of the application you will be contacted and given a reference number. You may be required to provide additional information as appropriate and a visit from a member of the team may take place to substantiate your claim.

A decision should be made within 15 working days (subject to all necessary evidence and information being provided) however we aim to process claims as quickly as possible.

You will be notified in writing of the decision and if successful a BACS payment will be made to your bank account.

Evidence

Examples of evidence may include:

Invoices, receipts, bank statements, accounts, orders, communication correspondence, photographs, surveyor reports, order books, insurance claims, etc.

* The definitions of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises are summarised as follows:

Category	Headcount	Turnover	or	Balance Sheet Total
Medium Sized	Fewer than 250	Not exceeding €50m		Not exceeding €43m
Small	Fewer than 50	Not exceeding €10m		Not exceeding €10m
Micro	Fewer than 10	Not exceeding €2m		Not exceeding €2m

Appendix C



Flood Repair and Renew Grant

This is a scheme to provide grants of up to £5,000 to flooded homeowners. The grant is to fund additional flood resilience or resistance measures with the aim of future proofing properties against flooding and ensuring affordable insurance.

The scheme is to fund measures that improve the property's resilience or resistance to flooding, over and above repairs that would be normally covered by insurance.

Special consideration is given to group or community schemes where resources are being pooled to protect a block or a significant number of properties (which could include a mix of domestic and business properties).

Who is eligible?

All those householders who have suffered flood damage between 1 December 2013 and 31 March 2014. Applicants will have to be able to show **that habitable internal areas of their property** have been flood damaged. Where the damage is restricted to external areas only; including gardens, outhouses, garages or sheds, the property will not qualify.

Any person wishing to apply for the repair and renew grant must satisfy the following criteria:-

- They must own the property that is the subject of the assistance or be responsible for the repair of the fabric of the property;
- The interior of the applicants property must have been damaged by flooding between 1 December 2013 and 31 March 2014;
- In deciding if a property is eligible for funding and to avoid duplication, the Council may take into account the following:-
 - if there is a planned community-level scheme that would reduce the risk below "significant" and would be completed prior to December 2018; or
 - That the property is benefiting from an existing or agreed Property Level Protection Scheme.

What works are eligible for assistance?

- The grant is for "resilience and resistance" measures to reduce the risk of future flooding and/or minimise the impact of future flooding. It will not cover standard repairs that should be met by insurance or to provide compensation.
- The application may be made retrospectively following the installation of measures. However, in such circumstances the homeowner does so at their own risk given that their application may not be approved or only partially approved.

- A tailored survey report detailing the works recommended to improve the resilience and/or resistance of the property for the future may be obtained before an application is submitted. The cost of the survey, up to a maximum of £500, may be retrospectively claimed as part of the grant application. However, the survey would be carried out at the homeowners own risk as the Council would be unable to guarantee that the application would be successful.
- Applicants should utilise advice on the Property-Protection-Adviser website (<http://nationalfloodforum.org.uk/property-level-protection-community-tool/>) and other guidance (please see Annex A for an indicative but not exhaustive list of flood resistance measures), to help select the most appropriate resilience and/or resistance measures for the nature of the flood risk to their property.
- For eligible properties, any measures recommended by the Property-Protection-Adviser or contained in Annex A should be eligible for assistance provided the measures are deemed appropriate and reasonable.
- The final decision on whether grant funding will be provided for particular measures and whether they are reasonable and appropriate is at the discretion of the Council but could include factors such as location, age and characteristics of the property and the cause of the flooding.
- The maximum amount of grant is up to £5,000 (including VAT) but, where appropriate, or where works are for a lesser amount, or the costs can be offset by the homeowners insurance claim, the grant amount will be reduced accordingly.
- Only one application per affected property will be allowed and applicants will have to provide three like for like quotes for the proposed works to ensure value for money. There is an expectation that the cheapest of the quotes will be the one used for the purpose of the grant calculation unless there is a robust agreement for why that cannot be the case. Where the homeowner cannot obtain three like for like quotes, they will need to explain why on their application.
- Following completion of the work, receipts/invoices will be required and the Council will carry out a final inspection to confirm completion of the grant-aided work before any grant money is released. Where requested, the Council will be able to pay contractors directly for the work carried out as part of the grant.

How Do I Apply?

If you think you might be eligible for assistance from the Repair and Renew Grant, then you can:-

- Apply via the Council's website, www.northlincs.gov.uk/ by completing an expression of interest form and sending that back to us by email – housing@northlincs.gov.uk or by post to Operational Housing, Church Square House, PO Box 42, Scunthorpe DN15 6XQ. We will then contact you to discuss the grant further.

- Alternatively, you can contact Liz Webster on 01724 297000 to discuss the grant further.

Annex A – eligible work

1. The kinds of measures that could be considered are set out below. This is an indicative list; different measures will be appropriate for different properties at different stages in the repair process. The list includes both resistance measures (designed to keep the water out) and resilience measures (internal modifications intended to reduce the cost of any damage from flood water).

2. There is also a lot of useful advice on the Environment Agency [website](#) but the best starting point for those who are new to understanding flood risk is the National Flood Forum website. The National Flood Forum website sets out a [step-by-step](#) process for householders and links to a wide range of other sources of information, including the “[Blue Pages](#)”, which list a range of flood products and service providers.

3. The site includes a [Property-Protection-Adviser](#), which will give a clear idea about the kind of measures that might need to be fitted and their likely cost. The Adviser asks users a few simple questions about the property and will produce a tailored report that takes into account the age and type of property. For eligible properties, any measures recommended by the Property Protection Adviser or listed below will automatically qualify for funding from the Repair and Renew Grant scheme. This list is not, however, intended to be exhaustive.

Indicative list of possible measures

Property Level-Measures	Indicative Cost Range £'s
Airbrick cover	20 – 40
Sewerage Bung	30 – 50
Toilet Pan Seal	60 – 80
Self-closing airbrick	50 – 90
Non-return valves 12mm overflow pipe	70 – 110
Silicone gel around openings for cables etc.	80 – 120
Repair mortar	80 – 120
Non-return valves 40mm utility waste pipe	80 – 120
Re-pointing external walls with water resistant mortar	150 – 250
Waterproof external walls	200 – 400
Sump Pump	400 – 600
Non-return valves 110mm soil waste pipe	550 – 650
Demountable Door Guards	500 – 900
Demountable Window Guards	500 – 900
Replace sand-cement screeds on solid concrete slabs (with dense screed)	670 – 740

Replace ovens with raised, built-under type	700 – 780
Replace mineral insulation within walls with closed cell insulation.	720 – 800
Move electrics well above likely flood level	760 – 840
Replace chipboard flooring with treated timber floorboards	920 – 1020
Mount boilers on wall	1080 – 1200
Automatic Door Guards	1000 – 2000
Move service meters above likely flood level	1620 – 1800
Garage/Driveway Barrier	2000 – 3000
Replace floor including joists with treated timber to make it water resilient	3490 – 3850
Replace gypsum plaster with water resistant material, such as lime	4280 – 4740
Replace chipboard kitchen/bathroom units with plastic units	5000 – 5520
Install chemical damp-proof course below joist level	6250 – 6910
Replace timber floor with solid concrete	8210 - 9070

APPENDIX D FORECAST FINANCIAL IMPACT

Expenditure Incurred/Proposed	£000
<u>Immediate Relief:</u>	
Staff flood relief	15
Provision of emergency materials	17
Provision of emergency services	48
<u>Urgent Work:</u>	
A1077 repair work	56
Overtime and materials	109
<u>Longer-Term Reinstatement:</u>	
Alkborough Flats	160
Humber Bridge viewing area	35
Future highways schemes	520
£300 flood relief grants	104
Business Support Grants	400
Community Grants	15
Council Tax discounts	106
Business Rate relief	105
Repair and Renew Grant	TBC
School/public building repairs	293
<i>Total Forecast Expenditure</i>	<u>1983</u>

External Funding	£000
Bellwin Scheme	0
SWRS - DCLG Element	243
SWRS - DfT Element	646
Repair and Renew Grant	TBC
Business Rate relief	4
Council Tax relief	53
Business Support Scheme	400
Natural England (Alkborough)	91
	<u>1437</u>

Council Funding	£000
Balance to be funded by Council	<u>546</u>
<i>Total Funding Requirement</i>	<u>1983</u>