

**Devon Emergency Flood Resilience**

**Fund Guidelines**



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**Grant funding to help Devon Communities be better prepared in the event of flooding**

The Devon Community Resilience Board are pleased to announce a further opportunity to apply to our “fast Track” Devon Emergency Flood Resilience Fund. This latest programme is financed by the South West Regional Flood & Coastal Committee local levy funding and by the Flood and Coastal Risk Management Team at Devon County Council. It is part of our commitment to help communities prepare for and respond to emergencies.

**Purpose of fund and criteria**

Experience has shown that a wide range of small resilience measures can make a real difference both to the risk of flooding itself but particularly to the speed at which individual householders and communities as a whole can respond. These measures range from the provision of sandbag stores and other flood protection equipment, to road signs, tools and personal protective equipment.

It is important that the community sets out their own shopping list. Examples of resilience measures can be provided by the Devon Community Resilience Forum.

**Area of benefit**

The area of benefit will be Devon – NOT including Plymouth

**Who can apply**

The Fund is open for community groups, flood groups, parish/town councils etc. but not for individuals.

The Fund is available to groups with a community emergency plan or flood plan in place and made available through Devon Communities Together. If you do not yet have a plan in place you may still be eligible for a grant if you can show how the funding will support activity identified in a draft plan in development.

**How much can you apply for?**

Grants of up to £1,500.

**What can be applied for**

* Rapid purchase of simple flood equipment (temporary portable deployable flood barriers, sand bags, PVC sheeting, sand hoppers, sand store, tools (shovels, etc), signs, road signs, emergency blankets, torches , high visibility jackets, radios for volunteer wardens etc ). The grant recipient is responsible for ensuring the items purchased are fit for the intended purposes.
* Exceptionally, a contribution to small scale, practical works that will provide immediate benefit to the community. For example, opportunities to clear out local ditches will be considered where either the landowner is unknown or where the community believe that it won’t/can’t be done by the riparian owner.

This will be a one-off pioneer clearance ‘without prejudice’ to reduce flood risk to the community …not to relieve anyone of their riparian responsibilities i.e. Each small scale work proposal will have to be considered on a case by case basis.

There must be some initial dialogue with the Flood and Coastal Risk Management Team to check whether there might be any scope for such work. Please see next section for works that are not eligible. For small work enquiries, please contact the Flood and Coastal Risk Management mailbox: floodrisk@devon.gov.uk or call 01392 300 300 (ask for the Flood and Coast Risk Management Team)

**What cannot be applied for?**

* Studies or investigations to reduce flood risk – this scheme is to fund equipment and minor works that will provide immediate benefit to the community.
* Activities that are being promoted through the Devon County Council community self-help / Road Warden scheme, such as clearance of drains and the Snow Warden Schemes.
* Routine maintenance work or work that DCC is better placed to arrange, such as clearance of drains.  Please see links to the information on Highways drainage clearance, the Road Warden and Snow Warden scheme and the support that Highways can offer (i.e. H&S training) for such work : <https://new.devon.gov.uk/devonhighways/>
* Any works on public sewerage systems managed and maintained by South West Water
* Grants to clear private ditches that fall within riparian responsibilities and will only benefit that landowner rather than the wider community.
* General maintenance and repairs of flood defences, unless there is a significant risk of not doing so and ownership responsibilities are unclear.
* Individual property protection work, such as flood gates, flood boards and non-return valves etc. Enquiries for such improvements should be made direct to floodrisk@devon.gov.uk
* We cannot retrospectively fund items or work that has already been purchased and paid for.

**How can you apply?**

Download the Application Form from the Devon Community Resilience Forum area of the website: [www.devoncommunities.org.uk](http://www.devoncommunities.org.uk) or email info@devoncommunities.org.uk or call 01392 248919

Completed forms should be returned to Devon Communities Together as directed on the form.

There is no closing date for applications, however the fund is limited and we urge communities to make early applications as it will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

**Next Steps**

Applications will usually be processed within 14 days of receipt

You will be contacted by email to confirm approval of your application

With the exception of minor work, equipment must be purchased within a month of receiving grant approval, and evidence of expenditure will be required.

**How will payments be made?**

Payments will be made by bank transfer. The fund is unable to make payments direct to contractors/suppliers.

It should also be noted that the applicants remain responsible for all aspects of the work and DCT or the Devon Community Resilience Board will not intervene in disputes between applicants and suppliers and contractors. The Board cannot accept any liability for any damages, financial loss, etc. resulting from the group or parish and town councils’ activities.

**Additional Information:**

Prepare for a Flood

<https://www.gov.uk/prepare-for-a-flood/get-help-after-a-flood>

What to do before, during and after a flood

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/flooding-what-to-do-before-during-and-after-a-flood>

Sand bag leaflets

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sandbags-how-to-use-them-to-prepare-for-a-flood>

Health and Safety risk Assessment

It is advised that the community carries out a Health and Safety risk assessment before deploying any flood resilience measures.

For an application form or if you need more information please contact Devon Communities Together:

Email: info@devoncommunities.org.uk re: DCRF

Website: [www.devoncommunities.org.uk](http://www.devoncommunities.org.uk)

Phone: 01392 248919

