

Somerset Flood Summit

Outcome Action Plan

Steering Group recommendations	Proposed Action	Who will be responsible for action?	What is the desired outcome?	What resource(s) will be required?	Date to be completed by
That the report on the economic impact of the 2012 flooding events is report to the Steering Group as soon as is practicable.					
That discussions with the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) are initiated to look at the contribution the business community across the region can make to improving the infrastructure - it was not only Somerset that was adversely affected when the mainline train route was compromised by flooding around Curry Moor / Lyng and Burrowbridge and that national bodies such as Network Rail should be actively involved in these solution based discussions.					
In addition, it is recommended that all opportunities to secure Partnership Funding (under the Defra Flood and Coastal Erosion Resilience Partnership Funding initiative) are actively pursued.					

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<p>That Somerset is actively represented by all agencies, including our MPs in government level discussions to ensure that insurance against flooding remains widely available and affordable and the Insurance industry is encouraged to positively engage in flood management discussions to ensure better flood prevention.</p>					
<p>That a press protocol is devised, advising those dealing with media enquiries how to respond effectively and to promote the 'Somerset is open for business' message at times of flooding</p>					
<p>That in order to support the Lead Flood Authority in preparing the necessary strategy and policy documents as required by the Flood and Water Management Act, drafts of key documents are submitted to the Steering Group for consideration at an appropriate stage. This will ensure effective consultation with the constituent district authorities and that the pertinent issues already identified by this review are reflected in the emerging strategies.</p>					

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<p>That further work is undertaken to look at how the £ 461,000 allocated by Defra to Somerset County Council as a Lead Flood authority money is committed and what accountability measures are in place? Also, how is this figure calculated and is it adequate based on the risks /actions identified in the Somerset local flood risk management strategy?</p>					
<p>That the Steering Group considers the work that the Environment Agency and the Lead Flood Authority(SCC) have been doing to generate a new generation of surface water flood maps for England in compliance with the Flood Risk Regulations 2009.</p>					
<p>That discussions are had as soon as possible to identify practical and innovative sources of funding for a renewed programme of dredging in Somerset and that further work is carried out to ascertain the exact cost of dredging and realistic funding options. Such discussions would move beyond the more familiar</p>					

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territory of who should pay for dredging to who actually can pay. Discussions on this topic should look at contributions from Statutory Flood Management agencies (EA, IDB's, Local authorities) as well as the business sector and community enterprises					
That a single 'Somerset Flooding Website' is created, to be hosted by the Lead Flood Authority to ensure effective consistent advice and information is given across the County.					
That a higher profile is given to the recently formed Community Resilience in Somerset Project to ensure that it supports as many communities as possible and that the Lead Flood Authority can use the project as a basis for implementing a more sustainable model similar to those operated in other areas such as North Somerset.					

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<p>That a further information event is held for Parish Councils and communities, facilitated by Avon and Somerset Police, Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue and Somerset County Council covering the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Liability - what can the public be empowered to do in times of flood and how is this achieved (road closures, flood alleviation etc) • What resources can be provided to communities – signage etc • Advice on the use of vehicles in flood water – 4x4 community response vehicles etc • Definitive information on Road Closures – and what happens if signage is ignored. 					
<p>That consideration is given by the Somerset Water Management Partnership (SWMP) to incorporating within its constitution the need for it to take a strategic overview of the issues raised at the Flooding Summit and in this report.</p>					

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That the Lead Flood Authority leads the preparation of a Riparian Owners Information Sheet to be made available to land owners and householders, containing information about Riparian responsibilities and sources of guidance or support.					

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