

Question from Shropshire Flood Action Group Forum (SFAGF)

Presented by Mr Bob Haddon Chairman and group members of the SFAGF

What funding has been made available to community groups in direct relationship to assisting communities with their Community Flood Action Plans? (3rd paragraph item 2.1) Shropshire Council are currently working with Telford & Wrekin Council to finalise a contract with the National Flood Forum (NFF) to jointly fund a dedicated NFF officer whose role will be to support communities affected by flooding across both Counties. Part of this role will be to work with Flood Action Groups on Community Flood Action Plans. The value of this contract is £115k over 3 years.

Shropshire Council are committed to supporting communities not only in the development of Community Flood Action Plans , but also in providing the tools to allow them to take action to help them become more resilient to future floods. Once communities produce action plans which have been approved by both the NFF and Shropshire Council, additional funding will be made available to supply the appropriate equipment to allow them to deliver their action plan effectively. It is not possible to put a value on this expenditure until all action plans have been completed.

What progress has been made on 6.1 Shropshire Council's response to the 2020 and 2021 flood events identified the need for improvements to the current procedures and the way that the Council responds to future Severe Weather Events. Work to update these plans is now underway.

Shropshire Council have commenced work on updating the Severe Weather Plan however due to resourcing issues within the Flood and Water Management Team it has not been possible to complete this piece of work. Work on the plan is ongoing.

Can you also state what progress has been made in creating greater links with flooded communities (4th paragraph item 7.2)

Following the 2020 floods Shropshire Council have worked with the National Flood Forum to support the establishment of 10 new Flood Action Groups in Shropshire,

and the Council continue to support a total of 22 groups County wide. As set out in the response to Q2.1, Shropshire Council are looking to better support these communities through the appointment of a dedicated NFF officer who will help these groups develop further, and deliver community flood action plans where there is a local need. Shropshire Council are committed to strengthening the relationships with communities going forward, and the Councils Flood Risk Management Team view community engagement as an integral part of their role and have helped the NFF facilitate discussions with other Risk Management Authorities on a range of topics in Multi-Agency Meetings.