



Winter Preparations: Improving Hampshire's flood resilience

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Hampshire
County Council

Winter weather



Wind?
Snow?
Rain?



Need to be prepared for all of the above and apply learning from past extreme weather episodes...



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Cumbria, Nov 2009

Workington Bridge, nr Cockermouth, collapsed.

EA described the rainfall levels as “*unprecedented*” (Seathwaite Farm recorded 12.3 inches in just 24 hours)





Met Office

New rainfall records for:

24-hour period	48-hour period
341.4mm recorded at Honister Pass recorded in the 24-hours to 6pm on 5 December 2015.	405mm rainfall recorded at Thirlmere in the 38 hours to 8am on 6 December 2015.
322.6mm was recorded at Thirlmere and also beat the previous record.	

Cumbria, Dec 2015

Storm Desmond brings more **“unprecedented”** rainfall, leading to:

- a number of fatalities;
- around 5,000 properties damaged;
- main road and rail links closed;
- 100s of homes still without power.

PM “flood defences weren’t enough and we need to review the approach..” (7th Dec)





“You can never completely protect all communities. What you can do is make the best judgments about the most appropriate ways to protect the maximum number of people in a given place.” Sir James Bevan, Chief Executive, Environment Agency (Today Programme, 7th December 2015)



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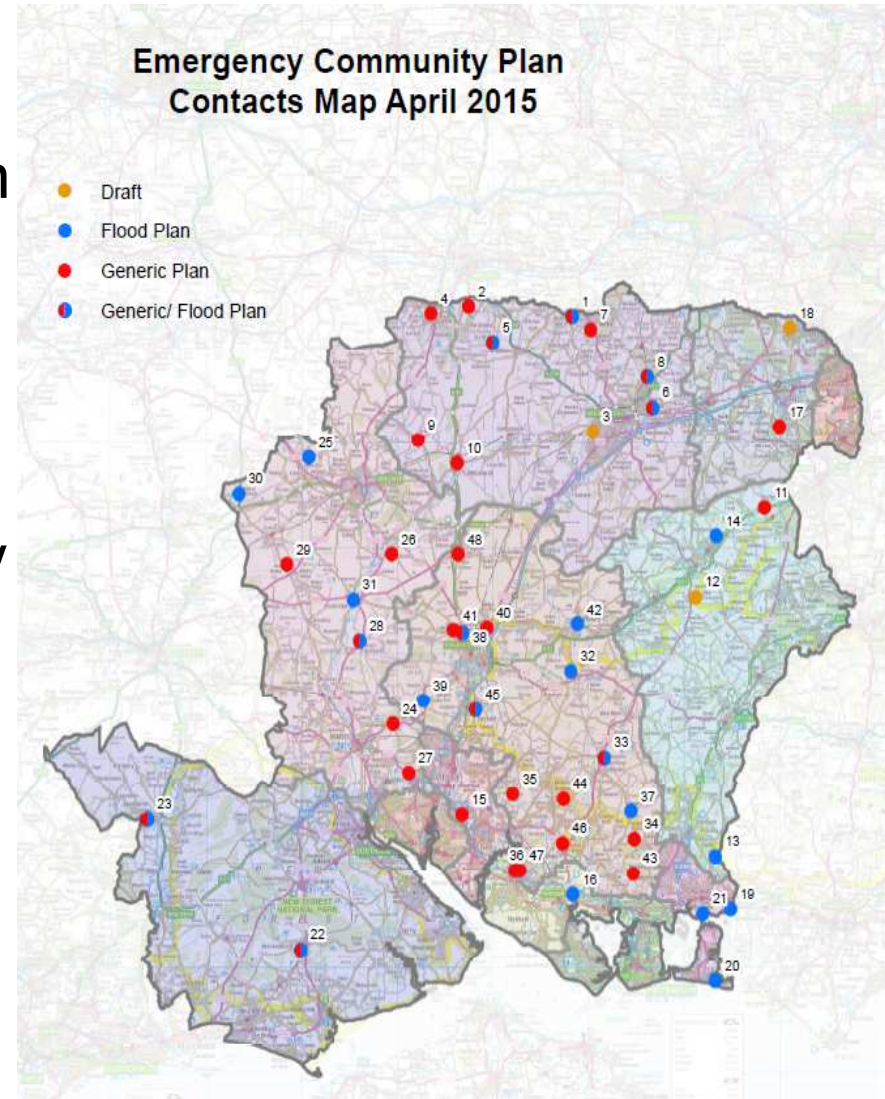
Hampshire Highways – minimising flood risk

- Known 'wet spots' targeted through Summer and Autumn
Additional ditching / grip / gully cleansing has been completed on known flooding/high risk sites (2000 gullies)
- Highway gullies routinely cleansed - with some having multiple cleanses (180,000 gullies)
- Extra emergency crews and tankers / jetters on standby when heavy rain forecast
- Empty/filled sandbag stocks replenished



Preparations by local communities

- Flood Action Groups set up
- Emergency Community Plans in place (including flood risk reduction measures, local leads, useful contacts)
- Empower individuals to help themselves eg through Property Level Protection
- Improved maintenance of ordinary watercourses, encouraged by proactive FWM team and a more efficient enforcement process



Increasing Flood Resilience across Hampshire

- Wide range of work underway from local community projects to major schemes (eg at Hambledon and Romsey)
- Multi agency approach respond to complex nature of flooding eg Wickham = fluvial, groundwater, and sewage infiltration)
- Six-year capital investment programme to 2021 - **indicative** funding for 12 local schemes, each subject to full business cases
- National formula for FDGiA significant challenge for Hampshire



Increasing Flood Resilience across Hampshire

- Catchment based approach –
Test & Itchen pilots, not restricted by administrative boundaries, but a holistic / comprehensive approach involving all partners
- Government introduced a limited ‘small schemes’ pathfinder - we are one of six areas to secure funding - £77,500 to support initial work on package of schemes in Bourne Valley, then subject to FDGiA process
- Provide evidence base on socio-economic impact (eg Portsmouth University Research on closure of A32 at Farringdon)
- Potential to resubmit to Government a groundwater pathfinder.