

Community Flood Schemes



Community schemes are a great way to increase a community's resilience to flooding. Each scheme will be bespoke to that area and can be as big or as small as required to suit the community. Some residents may take some actions of their own to make their properties more resilient by installing property level resilience products. A community scheme may then be considered to further protect the community as a whole.

Most schemes will require a flood survey to be carried out, and it is likely that the scheme will require consultation with relevant agencies to ensure that any necessary permissions are obtained.

Terraced properties

A scheme could be as simple as ensuring that all the properties in a row of terraced houses install property level resilience measures such as demountable door barriers.

By doing this the risk of flood water seeping through the party wall of a neighbouring property is likely to be reduced.

Flood walls

In some cases modifying or building a flood wall along a riverside or around a group of properties may be an effective way of protecting a community.

It is likely that a flood risk assessment would need to be undertaken in order to ensure that the flood risk would not be significantly increased elsewhere in the area.

Altering flow paths

Where permanent solutions are not appropriate, temporary flood barriers may be used to redirect flood water and protect properties.

This could be across a cul-de-sac entrance to protect a group of houses. Or at a larger scale, flow paths can be altered to redirect water back to the watercourse, using roads as temporary channels to minimise the amount of water entering surrounding properties.

Telemetry and warning systems

Community telemetry systems are useful in areas that are prone to flooding, but are not covered by the Environment Agency's flood warning service, and can be used to notify multiple properties of flooding at the same time.

They can be installed in areas where rising water levels indicate possible flooding well before it happens, to give residents a warning and time to take action before flooding happens.

A community may be able to access funding from local organisations to help with their community resilience scheme. The members of the community involved may need to form a constituted group in order to show that they are an organised and willing group

Newground are working with the Environment Agency to support communities across the North-West in developing community flood schemes.