

Our Ref: SJ

25 February 2009

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to tell you about a new government-funded scheme to help householders in flood-prone areas take steps to protect their homes against further flooding. On behalf of Wychavon District Council and Beckford Parish Council, I recommend the scheme to you and am seeking your support for it, in principle. You do not have to give a firm commitment at this stage. Please read this letter and let the Beckford Flood Working Group have your views by return so that we can take advantage of this offer from central government and we can make the application on your behalf.

Your property could potentially receive up to £7000 towards measures to protect against floodwater entering your home.

This scheme is open to groups of residents in flood affected areas and the government want the wider local community to be involved in the application process, which is why I am asking for your support for your local flood working group.

Basic conditions of the grants

- The main use of the property must be residential.
- River or stream flooding - floodwater must have entered buildings above ground floor level at least once since the beginning of 1998.
- Surface water flooding - floodwater must have entered buildings above ground floor level at least once since the beginning of 1998 and buildings must have been flooded at least twice since the start of 1988.

The grants would be payable to cover

- Protection measures only (such as sump pumps, one way valves, door or air brick seals etc, or;
- A mixture of protection and mitigation (such as walls or bunds to divert water flow etc) measures.

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Exclusions

- Mitigation measures alone will not be eligible.
- Sewer flooding, which is the responsibility of the water company is not covered.

If I tell you I'm interested now - what happens next?

Once we have received sufficient expressions of interest from residents, we would arrange and pay for a survey of your home, carried out by an independent consultant (Haycock Associates). They would conduct the survey and give you their assessment of the best way to protect your property and the government would pay up to £7000 towards the costs, if our bid for funding is successful.

Thank you and please register your support now.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Jordan', followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Steve Jordan
Head of Environmental Services