

Flood Defence Forum 10 May 2008, Crosfield Hall, Romsey

Summary of the talk by Julie James, Senior Emergency Planning Officer of Hampshire County Council

Hampshire Flood Plan

Triggers are:

- Warnings from the Environment Agency, the Met Office or Tidal information
- Notification of evacuation
- Emergency Services
- Local Authority switchboards

Differences between Test Valley Borough Council response and Hampshire County Council:

Test Valley Borough Council:

- Deploys liaison officer
- Activates the Emergency Control Centre
- Uses the expertise of Building Control Officers and Surveyors, Environmental Health, Highways Engineers

Hampshire County Council:

- Co-ordinates support to 11 districts
- Gathers information
- Provides members of the Emergency Planning team
- Alerts Highways Engineers e. g. unblocks drains
- Provides rest centres (Mountbatten School and Crosfield Hall currently designated in Romsey)
- Works with Voluntary Section, eg Red Cross, WRVS to give additional help

Joint objectives:

- Evacuation
- Rehousing
- Maintenance of critical services
- Keep public informed
- Return to normality as soon as possible
- Recommendation to use Trading Standards' accredited workmen

Proactive Work:

The legislation (Civil Contingencies Act 2004):

- Drives the Emergency Planning work.
- Risk Assessments carried out to enable priority planning; training & exercising
- Ongoing liaison with Parish Councils, Councillors and partners from organisations that have been affected by severe flooding.
- Constant review of planned response in the light of Climate Change and the recommendations of the Pitt Review.