

Gavin Stevenson
Chief Executive
Dumfries and Galloway Council
Council Offices
English Street
Dumfries
DG1 2DD



Your ref:
Our ref: A12993474

17 December 2015

Dear Gavin,

Further to the announcement yesterday by the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Constitution and Economy, John Swinney, I am writing to offer Dumfries and Galloway Council funding of seven hundred thousand pounds (£700,000) revenue. This additional funding is being made available as a result of the impacts of the flooding caused by Storm Desmond, which represented a significant flood event for Scotland. It will be paid through the local government settlement as a redetermination, and paid out in the last 2 weeks of March 2016.

The funding is to be used by the Council to provide each flood affected household, business, or community group (such as rugby clubs etc) in the local authority area with a flat rate grant of £1,500 each for the following:

- To reimburse them for the opportunity cost of not receiving the full benefit of services they pay for through Council Tax /Business Rates while absent from their homes and while businesses have their trading disrupted;
- To enable people to protect their homes and businesses against future floods by installing new flood barriers, or by carrying out flood resilient repairs such as replacing doors and windows with water resistant alternatives, or moving electricity sockets up to a safer level, etc.

Only those households and businesses which were directly affected by the flooding i.e. which suffered inundation of water within their premises, will be eligible to apply for the grant.

The remainder of the funding is available to your authority in order to meet general reparation costs. You will also be able to use it to increase the flat rate grant at your discretion if you felt it was merited in individual cases, subject to ensuring that, for



businesses, it does not breach State Aid Rules. For the purposes of complying with State Aid Rules, we will treat any grant you provide to businesses as a notified aid scheme under article 50 of the GBER i.e *Aid to make good the damage caused by certain natural disasters*. If the aid would not meet the criteria of the regulation, then the funding could be offered as de-minimis aid, again we would advise contacting the Scottish Government State Aid team regarding this.

Yours sincerely

Judith Tracey
Head of Managing Flood Risk Team