Background and Context

In the event of a significant disaster in Norfolk, Norfolk Community Foundation will work with the County Council led Recovery Group to coordinate a Disaster Fund Appeal for the relief of hardship resulting directly or indirectly from a disaster.

Through the Foundation's existing grant making infrastructure, grants will be made from the Disaster Appeal Fund to support:

- Voluntary organisations tackling the acute social issues resulting from the disaster.
- Community relief and rebuilding projects.

How the Topic was Handled

In the immediate aftermath of a disaster, Norfolk Community Foundation will work with the County Council Communications Department to coordinate with the local media, in particular the EDP, Radio Norfolk, and the Diocese of Norwich, to establish a disaster appeal. This will be the primary source of public funds for the disaster appeal. Norfolk Community Foundation will provide the central administrative body for the appeal and, as a charity, is able to claim Gift Aid on all donations from UK tax payers.

In addition to the public appeal, Norfolk Community Foundation will actively fundraise for the Disaster Appeal from a variety of local and national sources:

- The Foundation's database of individuals and companies.
- Local and national charitable trusts.
- European and National Funding Programmes.
- Community Fundraising events.

The Foundation aims to have the grant application processes available within three days of the occurrence of a disaster. Details of the fund, its guidelines and application forms will be disseminated to key agencies across the County and affected area. The Fund will also be promoted through the media.

The Foundation will establish a dedicated Disaster Fund Grants Committee which will meet weekly to make awards and to ensure that the funding criterion keeps pace with priority needs as they emerge. Delegated authority will also be given to the Committee Chairman to make awards on a daily basis in response to urgent appeals.

Lessons Identified

Not tested.

Contacts for Further Information

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Additional Documents

Norfolk Disaster Appeal Plan