



Severe Weather Recovery Scheme: Tranche 3 – Terms of the Scheme

Local authority areas in England affected by flooding caused by the severe weather between 1st April 2013 and 31st March 2014

1. These notes set out the terms under which the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government is prepared to make available a third tranche of Severe Weather Recovery Scheme Grant to local authorities in England under Section 31 of the Local Government Finance Act 2003, in respect of their costs to support their communities in dealing with recovery from flood damage caused by severe weather between 1st April 2013 and 31st March 2014 inclusive.

Eligible Authorities

2. Local authorities, who have been affected by the severe weather between 1st April 2013 and 31st March 2014 inclusive, can claim for assistance under this scheme, subject to meeting criteria set out at paragraph 7 below. Eligible local authorities¹ under this scheme are:
 - District Councils
 - County Councils
 - London Borough councils
 - The Common Council of the City of London
 - The Council of the Isles of Scilly
3. Eligible Local Authorities should make their applications to the Department for Communities and Local Government by 5pm on 30th January 2015 (details at paragraph 13 below)

¹ Includes unitary counties, unitary districts and metropolitan boroughs in England

Scope of scheme

4. The funding available under this scheme is to contribute to costs incurred by local authorities in supporting affected communities during the recovery phase.
5. For this scheme, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government will pay a grant to eligible local authorities in England who apply for funding.

Eligible Expenditure

6. Expenditure that has been incurred by Local Authorities on, or in connection with, recovery from the impacts of severe weather on property and communities and is not ineligible by reason of paragraph 10 below.
7. In order to qualify for grant under this scheme, local authorities must be able to demonstrate that:
 - a) they have incurred expenditure on supporting their communities during the recovery phase following the severe weather between 1st April 2013 and 31st March 2014 inclusive. Qualifying activities may include one or more of the following:-
 - providing assistance for long-term displaced households,
 - placing households in temporary accommodation
 - support payments to flood affected households,
 - purchase / provision of new household items for those affected, provision of temporary caravans etc.
 - use of rest centres
 - tourism impacts
 - and**
 - b) that at least 10 residential and/or commercial properties have been reported as flooded (water having entered the property) in their local authority area.
8. Local authorities in two tier areas must confirm that they have taken all reasonable steps to ensure that the number of properties reported in their claim excludes those reported in claims submitted by neighbouring and constituent local authorities
9. Local authorities who have made a claim under the first two tranches of the Severe Weather Recovery Scheme (covering the periods 5th December 2013 –

7th February 2014 and 8th February 2014 – 30th May 2014 respectively) must confirm that none of the properties notified in any subsequent claim were included in their initial claims.

10. **Local authorities should not include expenditure for which a claim could have been made under their insurance arrangements.**

Distribution of grant

11. Grant will be distributed using a simple formula based on the number of residential and commercial properties affected (water having entered the property) as a proxy for scale of wider impacts.

Claims

12. Claim form *Recovery (03-14)* is to be used when making the claim. The claim should be signed by the authority's Chief Financial Officer and sent by email to 2014recovery@communities.gsi.gov.uk to arrive no later than **5 pm on Friday 30th January 2015**.
13. A final claim received after this deadline will be disregarded unless an extension to the deadline is agreed as a result of exceptional circumstances beyond an authority's control.
14. **The claim form must be certified by the Chief Financial Officer to the effect that it complies in all respects with the terms of this scheme.**
15. The Department for Communities and Local Government will check the claim form on receipt, and may request the authority for evidence to validate the claims submitted by authorities. When a claim has been accepted, the Department for Communities and Local Government will notify the local authority and confirm that payment of the agreed grant can be made.

**Department for Communities and Local Government
December 2014**