



COMMUNITY FLOOD SCHEMES

Community schemes are an excellent way to enhance a community's resilience to flooding. Each scheme is tailored to the specific needs of the area and can be scaled to suit the community's size and requirements. In addition to individual property flood resilience measures, a community scheme can be developed to provide further protection for the entire community. Most schemes will necessitate a flood survey and will likely require consultation with relevant agencies to ensure that any necessary permissions are obtained.

Terraced properties

A scheme could be as simple as ensuring that all the properties in a row of terraced houses install property level resilience measures such as demountable door barriers.

By doing this the risk of flood water seeping through the party wall of a neighbouring property is likely to be reduced.



Image: The Flood Hub

Flood walls

In some cases modifying or building a flood wall along a riverside or around a group of properties may be an effective way of protecting a community. It is likely that a flood risk assessment would need to be undertaken in order to ensure that the flood risk would not be significantly increased elsewhere in the area.



Flood wall below houses in Newtown Green cc-by-sa/2.0 - © Christine Johrstone - geograph.org.uk/27784181

Altering flow paths

When permanent solutions are not feasible, temporary flood barriers can be employed to redirect floodwater and protect properties. For example, barriers may be placed at the entrance of a cul-de-sac to safeguard a group of houses. On a larger scale, flow paths can be modified to channel water back to its original watercourse, using roads as temporary channels to minimise the amount of water that enters surrounding properties.



Image: The Flood Hub

Telemetry and warning systems

Community telemetry systems are valuable in areas prone to flooding that are not covered by the Environment Agency's flood warning service. These systems can simultaneously notify multiple properties of potential flooding. They can be installed in locations where rising water levels may indicate imminent flooding, providing residents with early warnings and giving them time to take action before the flooding occurs.



Image: © Vision Link

A community may be able to access funding from local organisations to help with their community resilience scheme. The members of the community involved may need to form a constituted group in order to show that they are an organised and willing group.