

Creating Community Flood Protection

Introduction

When the community of Dallas (Moray) flooded in 2014 some 50 properties were affected. The challenge was to reduce the risk of future flooding. As one resident said *'living in constant fear of heavy rain and the damage this caused to my home is more than I can cope with again'*.



Property Level Flood Protection Exhibition

The Scottish Flood Forum met with the local community and ran a property flood protection exhibition where a wide range of products were demonstrated. This gave the community an opportunity to assess the merits and benefits of a variety of items. Residents indicated their initial preference and this formed the basis of a property survey to every flooded property in Dallas undertaken by the SFF.

Providing a property flood protection assessment gave a further opportunity to answer questions and to ensure people's preferences and product suitability were taken into account in their final decisions. The data was collated to allow us to investigate 'bulk buying' the flood protection products to keep prices as low as possible.

"Bulk Buying" for the Community

A number of specialist flood protection installation and supply companies were approached to cost both the supply and installation of the appropriate flood protection based on the survey findings. Although the overall costings were based on a bulk price, each home was priced individually by the suppliers.

The final process was to agree and accept the lowest and most cost effective price, and making arrangements for each home to pay for their order directly with the supplier. The process went really smoothly and the use of a local builder to install the flood protection products, further helped to reduce costs.

The Scottish Flood Forum facilitated and advised on the process including the administration however product choice and final decision making was undertaken by those using the scheme. The overall aim was to ensure the community "owned" the decisions made.

The outcome was a community working together to protect homes from flooding and at a price that was affordable to all.

For further information please contact the [Scottish Flood Forum](http://www.scottishfloodforum.org.uk).

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