



defra

Department for Environment
Food and Rural Affairs

Resilience Consultation Workshop

Introduction to the Resilience Grants Pilot Projects

Project Manager – John Goudie, Defra

Resilience Grants Pilot Projects

Content of the presentation:

- Development of the Terms of Reference
- Project management
- Approaches adopted
- Emerging findings from the work
- Key messages

Resilience Grants Pilot Projects – Development of the Terms of Reference



defra

Department for Environment
Food and Rural Affairs

- Total funding available £500,000
- Maximum grant of £5,000 per property of which up to 20% could be used for survey and administration costs
- Sites should cover a range of flooding types both inland and at the coast
- Funding was for both protection and/or resilience
- Aimed at properties where no community defence was available
- Projects encouraged to explore different approaches to making best use of the money allocated

Resilience Grants Pilot Projects – Selected sites

- Bleasby, Nottingham – £90,000
- Sandside, Kirkby-in-Furness, Cumbria – £90,000
- Sunderland Point, Morecambe, Lancs – £110,000
- The Dunhills Estate, Halton, Leeds – £90,000
- The Sands, Appleby, Cumbria – £80,000
- Uckfield, East Sussex – £30,000

Resilience Grants Pilot Projects – Project management

- Funding provided via contracts with lead authorities (all local authorities) managed by a Defra Project Manager
- Objectives and reporting requirements set out in the contracts
- Delivery was overseen by a project board with LA, EA and community representation
- Defra management was ‘light touch’

Resilience Grants Pilot Projects – Approaches adopted



defra
Department for Environment
Food and Rural Affairs

- Communities fully consulted and flood fairs held to improve understanding of problem and solutions
- Some projects provided full funding subject to £5k maximum whereas others were rationed (generally based on risk)
- Some procured a standard solution whereas others allowed selection from an approved list
- Some expected tendering contractors to carry out surveys while others organised separate surveys
- Some quasi-community approaches adopted where most cost-effective
- Attached properties expected to work to same standards as neighbours where protection chosen

Resilience Grants Pilot Projects – Emerging findings from the work



defra

Department for Environment
Food and Rural Affairs

- Range of cost of solutions typically:
£0-1k 10%, £1-2k 18%, £2-3k 38%, £3-4k 23%, £4-5k 5%, >£5k 7%
- Percentage take-up of grant high
- Awareness increased but not always resulted in action.
- Some action curtailed by grant availability. Better response seems to correlate with grant level
- Centralised procurement of standard solutions considered more cost-effective
- Installation by local firms preferred
- Protection preferred although resilience valued more where flooding is regular

Resilience Grants Pilot Projects – Key messages

- Adequate time must be allowed for community engagement, obtaining consents and procurement
- Administration and survey costs overall are significant
- National guidance for safety concerns recommended – structural and ventilation (gas).
- Industry expertise improvement needed

In-depth interviews with recipients of state-funded protection

Leeds and Gunthorpe, Nottinghamshire
(shortly after installation of gates and airbrick covers)

Increased
feeling of
safety

- We feel a bit safer, though not much (the protection is untested; we can't deploy measures when on holiday; fear water will come in another way)
- Protection is a sticking plaster; we want a cure!
- Makes us feel we've not been forgotten!
- We want justice!
- It's the state's fault; it should put it right.
- This will stigmatise the area / my house

Lack of
faith in
protection

Remaining
feeling of
injustice

Fear of
stigma