



Ballater Flood Recovery Plan January 2016

Contents

Section	Page No.
Contents and Document Control	
1 Introduction	3
2 Recovery – Purpose, Responsibility and Structure	3
3 Strategic Aim and Objectives	5
4. Impact Assessment	6
5 Recovery Phases... Phase 1 – Initial Recovery Phase 2 - Recovery Phase 3 - Medium/Long Term Recovery and Regeneration	7
6 Financial Implications and support	10
7 Governance, Monitoring & Reporting.	11
Appendix 1 Recovery Action Plan	

Document Control: Revision History

Revision No.	Date	Summary of Changes
1	23.02.16	Draft 1

Approved by:

NAME	TITLE	SIGNED	DATE
Janelle Clark	Ballater Recovery Group Lead

1. Introduction

In late December 2016 into early January 2016, Storm Frank (and two subsequent periods of persistent rainfall) resulted in unprecedented rainfall across Aberdeenshire causing widespread and large scale flooding for multiple areas. A major incident was declared on 2 occasions requiring large scale multi-agency response and recovery efforts. Significant damage was caused creating long term and high cost infrastructure and community impacts.

2. Recovery – Timeline, Purpose and Structure

Timeline

Around 2pm on 30 December 2015 widespread flooding throughout Ballater was reported including areas around the Golf Course, the Caravan Park, Golf Road, Dee Street, the A93 and Craigview Road. The river peaked at around 8pm with levels falling overnight.

Police Scotland chaired the multi-agency response phase of Storm Frank. At the 2pm on 31 December 2016, responsibility for the recovery phase passed to Aberdeenshire Council. The role of the Community was central to both the emergency and recovery phases. The Victoria & Albert Hall was initially set up as the rest centre with this moving to the Victoria Barracks. The V&A Halls remained as the command centre for Aberdeenshire Council and Emergency Services for the duration.

The first subsequent period of persistent rainfall on 1 January 2016 led to Police Scotland taking the leading again for any emergency response with a clear understanding that Storm Frank recovery remained with the Council.

The emergency response phase continued to be led by Police Scotland until 5 January 2016 whereby responsibility for the overall recovery from both incidents was passed to Aberdeenshire Council.

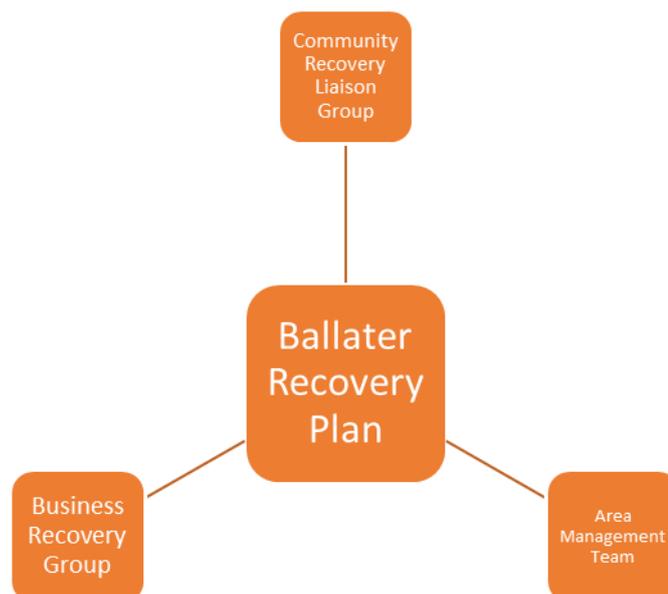
The second subsequent period of persistent rainfall led to Police Scotland taking the lead again on 6 January 2016 until 11 January 2016. The management of recovery activities in Deeside again remained with the Council and the Community.

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to identify the impact assessment detailing how the emergency has affected residents, businesses, infrastructure and the environment across the Ballater area and outline the actions for recovery that have been identified as priorities by the community of Ballater.

This document defines the strategic recovery objectives, provides an overview of how these objectives will be delivered and the capacity, financial implications and governance arrangements following the incident.

Structure



A Ballater Community Recovery Liaison Group (BCRLG) has been formed to inform and monitor progress on delivering the recovery plan.

Members of the group include representation from the following;

- Ballater & Crathie Community Council
- Ballater Royal Deeside
- Victoria & Albert Halls Trust
- Ballater Business Association
- Glenmuick Parish Church & St Kentigern's Episcopal Church
- GP, Ballater
- Ballater Community Enterprise Ltd
- Volunteer Distribution Centre
- Rotary Club
- Marr Area Partnership
- Aberdeenshire Council
- Cairngorms National Park Authority.
- Police Scotland
- Scottish Fire & Rescue Service

A sub group, the Ballater Business Recovery Group, has been formed to inform and monitor the actions in relation to businesses. The members include representatives from the following;

- Ballater Business Association
- Visit Royal Deeside
- Aberdeenshire Council
- Cairngorms National Park Authority
- Business in the Community Scotland.

3. Strategic Recovery Aim and Objectives

Strategic aim:

“Working with the local community to restore Ballater to normality”.

Strategic objectives

Working across the Council and the community to ensure:

- Local communities are engaged, consulted and supported at all stages of the recovery process.
- Appropriate partners and stakeholders are engaged, consulted and informed at all stages of the recovery process.
- The safety and welfare of all persons engaged in the delivery of the recovery programme.
- All infrastructure, assets and highways are repaired or enhanced.
- Business, economic and tourism recovery, confidence, support and promotion.
- The health, wellbeing and housing needs of communities are met.
- Community needs are matched to offers of support.
- Financial management arrangements are in place with recovery efforts complying with legal requirements.
- An effective communications strategy is in place.
- Appropriate governance and resources are in place to deliver the recovery programme.
- Effective liaison with elected members and Scottish Government departments.
- An impact assessment is conducted.
- An evaluation of the Aberdeenshire recovery programme is completed.

4. Impact_Assessment

Ballater has a significant conservation area within the flood zone with 14 listed buildings having been affected.

Over 300 homes have been flooded and around 60 businesses including the golf club. The caravan park has been extensively damaged with around 40 caravans washed off the site.

The areas with the biggest impact were as follows with many other streets having a significant number of houses damaged;

Albert Road (parts)	Dee Bank Rd (All Street)
Anderson Road (All street)	New Patterson Cottages
Bridge Square	Richmond Place (All Street)
Bridge Streets (Parts)	Salsbury Road (All Street)
Braichlie Road (approx. half)	Victoria Road (parts)
Cornellan Square	Pannanich Road
Osprey Cottage	Fire Station
Dee Street (All Street)	Police Station
	Two Electric Sub Stations

There are 113 Council owned residential properties in Ballater, 57 affected by the floods.

Riverbanks all along the River Dee have been damaged and are littered with debris. Many livestock lost their lives and farm fences and fields all damaged.

Part of the A93 washed away and the Invercauld Bridge was so badly damaged the road had to be closed for emergency repairs.

Polhollick Bridge and Cambus O'May Bridge are closed due to extensive damage.

Around half of the pupils at Ballater Primary school have been affected as well as Aboyne Academy pupils.

	<p>5. The economic impact of the flooding is assessed and shared</p> <p>6. Ballater once again has a vibrant and prosperous economy.</p> <p>Infrastructure</p> <p>7. To assess flood damage</p> <p>8. To commence reconstruction phase</p> <p>9. To identify future resilience measures</p> <p>Environmental</p> <p>10. Reinstate Footpaths and core path network damaged by floods</p> <p>11. Management of the river network</p> <p>12. Improve appearance of village overall.</p> <p>Communication</p> <p>13. To communicate information and progress of recovery plan.</p> <p>14. To provide a coordinated and effective communication and marketing to promote Ballater and surrounding area.</p>	<p>AC SGovt</p> <p>AC Dee Catchment partnership</p> <p>AC</p>	<p>31.12.15 11.01.16</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Caravan Park re opens</p> <p>Utilities brought back into service Roads and Bridges repaired Footpaths repaired Flood defences repaired</p> <p>River banks cleared The fishery up and running as soon as possible.</p> <p>Community kept informed of progress Marketing campaign</p>
<p>Phase 3 Medium/Long Term Recovery and Regeneration Implementation of the medium/long term plan</p>	<p>Residents</p> <p>Business</p>			<p>All residents return to own property, dry and repaired</p> <p>All businesses return to normal with strong economy and public confidence</p>

	<p>Infrastructure</p> <p>Environment</p> <p>Communication</p>			<p>Major assets fully re-instated .</p> <p>Future flood resilience measures agreed and funded.</p> <p>All river and land activity operational.</p> <p>Recovery phase debriefed with 'learning from experience' captured.</p>
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6. Financial Implications and Support

Given the scale of widespread flooding and damage across Aberdeenshire, the financial impacts of the event are significant.

Recovery Phase

Work is ongoing to establish the full extent and costs of the damage caused and remedial action required to restore normality. Residents and Businesses are in discussion with insurance companies and landlords.

Detailed survey work is being undertaken across all affected areas with a number of options being developed to return affected areas back to normal. Once detailed cost estimates are known, they will be collated, reported and monitored as part of the recovery programme governance.

Funding support.

A number of flood recovery funds have been established.

Scottish Government Grant

Each flooded premises is entitled to a £1500 grant and businesses will be entitled to a £3000 grant. Applications should be sent direct online at:

<https://online.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/flooding-grant-scheme/>

Following further guidance received from the Scottish Government, Aberdeenshire Council have been given approval to accept flood grant applications for owners whose static caravans were flooded in the recent storms.

Scottish Government - Agricultural Floodbank Repair Scheme

Farmers who require support to restore man-made floodbanks on their farms can apply for this scheme. Funding will cover the standard costs of repairs, up to a cap of £20,000 per business, for farmers affected by flooding in during December and early January.

Applications will be accepted between 1 February and 29 February. Farmers will have until 30 June to complete works. Guidance and the application form can be found at:

<https://www.ruralpayments.org/publicsite/futures/topics/all-schemes/floodbank-repair-scheme/>

Ballater Charitable Chiels

The Ballater Charitable Chiels are distributing funds to flooded households. The Charitable Chiels can be contacted on 07772668017 to make an appointment.

Ballater and Deeside Flood Relief Fund

The Ballater and Deeside Rotary Club are distributing funds to provide assistance to the people and communities directly affected by the recent floods in Ballater and Deeside. The Rotary can be contacted by email: audrotary1010@gmail.com or Tel: 07724 144 355.

Foundation Scotland – Flood Recovery Fund

Financial support of up to £1000 is available to (1) individuals or families who are suffering financial hardship as a result of the recent flooding and (2) voluntary and community groups who are providing immediate relief to people, will be providing longer term community

rebuilding projects or have experienced significant structural and or flood damage. Further information can be found on their website:

<https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/flood-recovery-appeal/apply-for-funding/>, or contact the Grants Team on 0141 341 4960 or email grants@foundationscotland.org.uk

7. Governance, monitoring and reporting

The activity and progress of the Recovery Plan will be reported to and monitored by the BCRLG.

Progress will also be reported to the Aberdeenshire Strategic Recovery Group and Marr Area Committee.

Group	Date / Frequency
Ballater Community Recovery Liaison Group	Monthly
Aberdeenshire Council Strategic Recovery Group	Weekly
Marr Area Cttee	Quarterly