

## **Other Flood Support Schemes**

### **1. Farming Recovery Fund**

- 1.1 Grants can be used to contribute to the cost (up to 100 per cent) of the restoration of agricultural land. For example materials, contractors costs to remove debris, restore drainage and farm access and to restore grassland. It will not cover activity that would normally be covered by insurance or cover farmers own labour and machinery costs.
- 1.2 The Fund is open to all farm businesses that require support who have been identified by DEFRA as being within flood impacted areas.
- 1.3 The scheme opens on 28th February, application forms will be available from that date on [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) and applications should be sent to [frf@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:frf@defra.gsi.gov.uk) . Applications must be submitted by 9th May 2014, but can be made before that date.
- 1.4 Further details and guidance is available at [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/284236/farming-recovery-fund-guidance.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/284236/farming-recovery-fund-guidance.pdf)
- 1.5 Farmers can also receive support for longer term activity designed to help build resilience in the business once land is restored, through the £10 million Farming and Forestry Improvement Scheme launched (FFIS Round 3) on the 4th February with the application window open until 4th April. FFIS offers grants of between £2,500 and £35,000 and up to 50 per cent funding. DEFRA are looking to extend the application window for those farmers in areas most affected by flooding.

### **2. Support for Tourism Industry**

- 2.1 In addition to the Business Support package, developed by BIS, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport have announced a £2 million support package to help firms in flood-affected parts of England which rely on tourism.
- 2.2 The package takes the form of business advice and marketing activity and involves putting experts on the ground in flood hit areas to give practical advice and support to tourism businesses.
- 2.3 The advice will be offered to tourism and tourism related businesses at local workshops and drop in clinics. Businesses will be able to access up to 3 hours of support with an expert in key areas of advice following the events.
- 2.4 These are being organised locally by Destination Organisations and businesses should contact their local Destination Organisation in the first instance. The marketing activity is also being coordinated with local destinations; if businesses are interested in participating they should contact their local destinations organisation.
- 2.5 VisitEngland has launched an online toolkit offering advice to help businesses affected return to trading as soon as possible.

### **3. Time to Pay**

- 3.1 This scheme allowing affected businesses additional time to pay taxes.

3.2 It is applicable to anyone who owes taxes to HMRC, including VAT, PAYE and corporation tax.

3.3 Any business affected by the flooding can apply.

3.4 To apply phone 0300 200 3835 to speak to an advisor.

3.5 For further details contact the hotline set up by HMRC for those who have been affected by flooding and may have difficulties in meeting their tax liabilities. The helpline is: 0800 904 7900.

#### **4. Banking Sector Support**

4.1 There is also a commitment by several major banks to provide financial support to business and individual customers affected by the floods – this includes loan and mortgage payment holidays and extended credit to private customers and small businesses.

4.2 Banks and Building Societies participating include RBS, Lloyds, Barclays, HSBC, Santander and the Nationwide who are all offering a range of support programmes.