

Sanjay Johal (NFF Flood Resilience Officer)
Engaging Flood Risk Communities in Kent

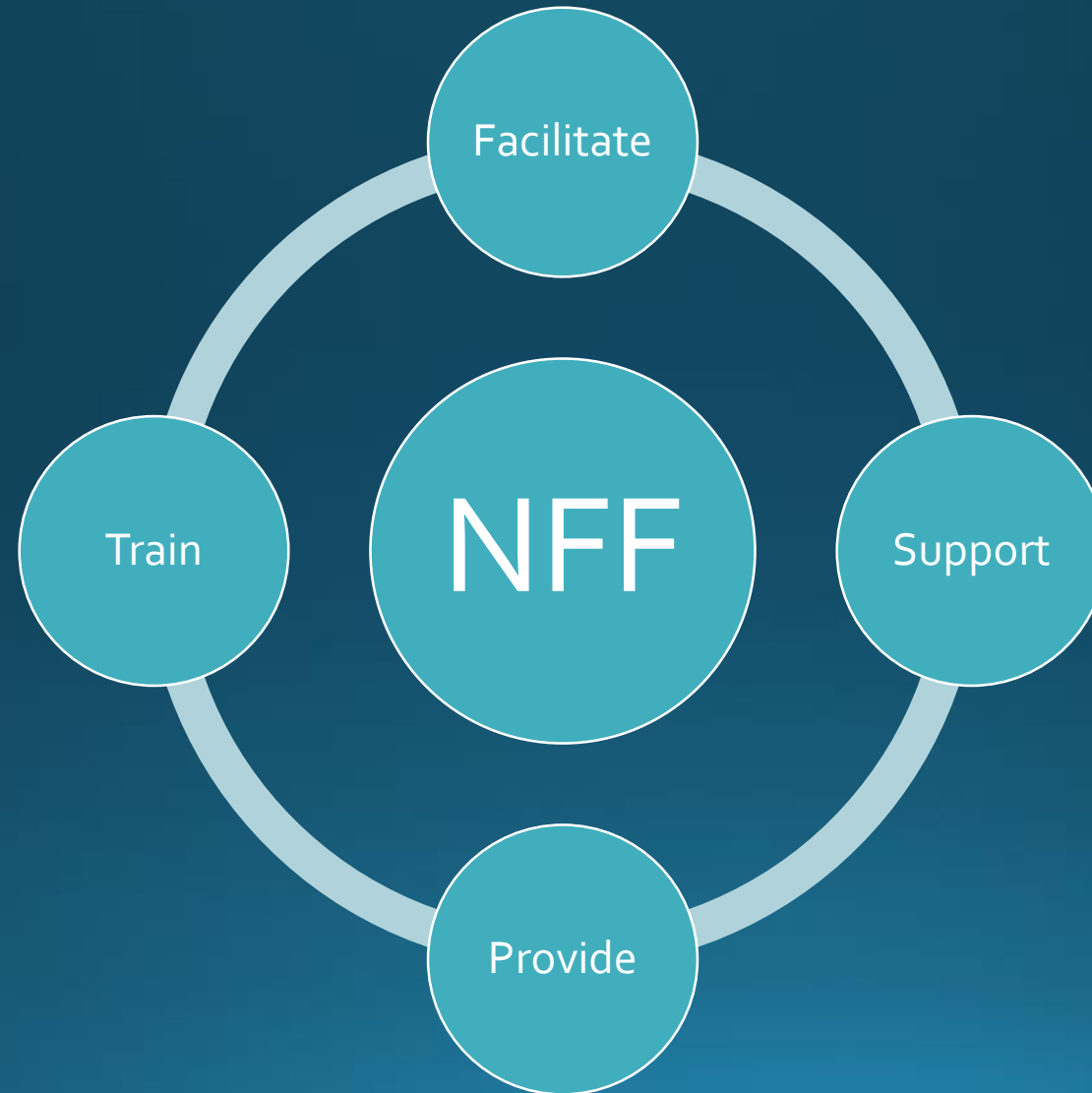
What is 'The National Flood Forum'?

- Helps people to prepare for flooding
- Helps them to recover their lives when they have been flooded
- Works to ensure that flood risk communities are at the centre of policy making and operational delivery



Supporting and Representing Flood Risk Communities

What the NFF do?



The objectives of working with Flood Risk Communities in Kent:

- Improve the understanding of local flood risk within selected communities
- Support local communities to lead on, and actively manage, local flood risk
- Improve the communication between flood vulnerable communities and the appropriate risk management authorities
- Reduce flood risk through appropriate locally led flood risk management
- Improve the resilience of flood vulnerable communities
- Identify transferable best practice for future application in other areas

Risk Management Agencies Involved

Kent County
Council

Kent County
Council Highways
Department

Environment
Agency

Southern Water

Local councils

Internal drainage
boards

Kent Resilience
Team

Grass-roots: Why a flood action group?

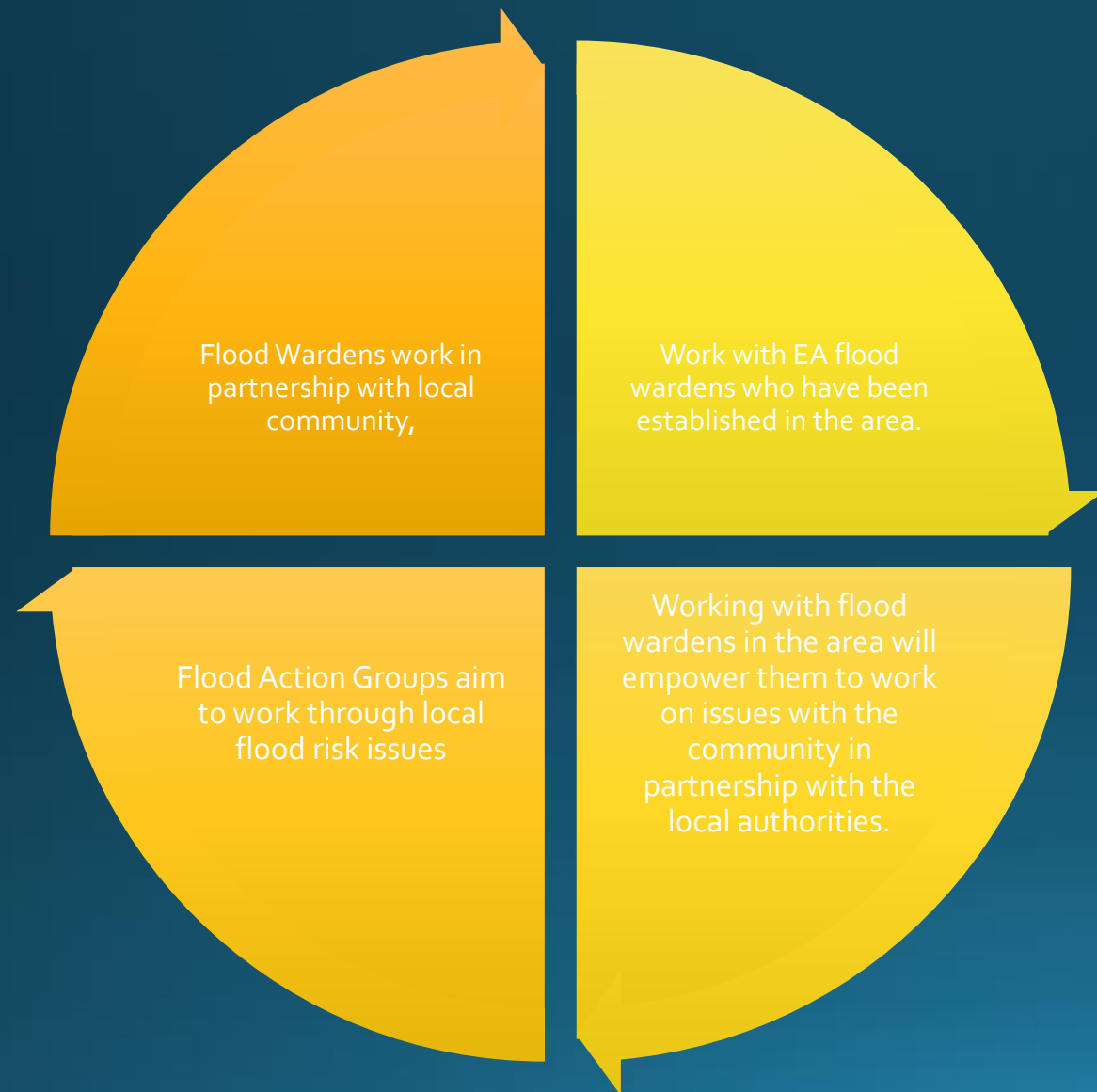


- Brings the community together
- Enables them to work in collective partnership with those that manage flood risk
- Supports how they can prepare to reduce the impact on their home & community
- Working with local voluntary groups to support flood action groups in instigating and supporting community emergency flood plans.



‘Supporting and Representing Flood Risk Communities’

Working with Flood Wardens



Areas I'm working in

Hildenborough

Ightham

Headcorn

Tonbridge

Tunbridge Wells

Five Oak Green

East Peckham

Iwade

Ightham

- Flood Action Group set up in 2017.
- The group have met multiple times with RMA's to discuss the flood risk in the community.
- One of the main areas of concern was riparian ownership and responsibility issues on the Busty.
- Flood Action Group held riparian owner evening event to discuss these issues and the event was a success.



Ightham



- The Flood Action Group have had a walkover of key areas of concern with KCC and identified an issue that KCC is rectifying.
- The Flood Action Group also conducted their first clean up day on the busy and surrounding areas.
- The Flood Action group are liaising with KCC who are delivering a PFR project on flood risk properties in Ightham

Headcorn

- Flood Action Group set up in 2017.
- The group have met multiple times with RMA's to discuss the flood risk in the community.
- One of the main areas of concern was surface water issues and development in the area.
- Flood Action Group have produced newsletter to inform community of their process





Headcorn Flood Action Group Newsletter

A COMMUNITY WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP TO ALLEVIATE HEADCORN'S FLOOD RISK

IN THIS ISSUE

APRIL 2018

What is a Flood Action Group?

The group was formed in April 2017 and has steadily worked towards making some real progress with some of the issues related to flooding in and around the village. We are a core of local people from Headcorn who act as representatives to reduce flood risk in our area. We hold Multi Agency Meetings to identify key issues & are working in partnership with the agencies & authorities that manage flood risk. (Kent County Council, Southern Water, Environment Agency, Emergency services & National Flood Forum).



Members of the Flood Action Group



Meeting with the agencies

- What have the Flood Action Group been up to?
- Updates on flood works
- Trouble getting home insurance?
- Riparian Law
- Resilience plan (*how to cope with the event when it happens*)
- Why Join the Flood Action Group?

Riparian Law

If you own land or property next to a brook, river, stream or ditch you are a 'riparian landowner'. Please use link for 'Living on the edge' booklet to check your rights & responsibilities:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/riverside-ownership-rights-and-responsibilities>

5.2 Million

is in 6 homes in the UK are at serious risk of flooding. That's 5.2million households

parliament.uk EFRAC Report 2016-17:

"More frequent, more intense storms resulting from climate change will in future put more people at risk."

Fast
Facts

Headcorn

- Flood Action Group liaised with Southern Water and had a stand at a public engagement event set up in May.
- Group also set to have community day in the future and to set up resilience meetings with KRT.

Hildenborough



Group have met with RMA's.



Issues around the Medway Flood Action Plan are to be addressed.



The group is made up of representatives of local community, flood warden and Parish Council.



Flood Action Group Liaising with EA to support them with upcoming drop-in session to discuss Leigh FSA scheme

Tunbridge Wells

Group was established in Spring 2018 year and are working in partnership approach with all RMA's

Flood Events from 2017 meant that some residents only moved back into their properties just before Easter 2018.

Group is made up of local residents and local business owners with support from MP.

Work going forward



To arrange meetings with other Flood Risk communities in Kent to start engagement.



Begin the self sufficiency process



Hold further multi-agency meetings with Flood Action Groups



Begin to get established Flood Action Groups to start thinking about their community resilience plans

Questions

