

Flood Recovery Update - Hebden Bridge

Here To Help...

Hebden Bridge Hub: Hebden Bridge Town Hall. The hub will be open 10.00 - 1pm Monday and Thursday for access to loaned equipment and cleaning materials.

Access to grant forms and support from the Neighbourhood Co-ordinators office, Old Building, and Customer Support from 9.30 - 4.30, Monday and 9.30-4.30 Thursday (closed 12.30-1 for lunch) from the Office next to the café.



Shops and Premises affected, that are now reopen

Market Street & New Road -

Menagerie, Old Gate pub, Yorkshire Soap, Barclays Bank, Cresswells, Ribbon Circus, Mooch Café, Ryburn Brokers, Saker Wholefoods, Mattocks plumbing supplies, Beads (on Hangingroyd Lane), Kittie's Restaurant, Banyon Tree, Hat Therapy, Snug, the Co-op Supermarket, Ruby Shoesday,

J.K.'s Chinese takeaway, Valley Organics, The Bookcase, Hair Care, Earth Spirit, Oxfam, Eastern Spice, Café Solo, Old Tree House, Mark Hurst Opticians, Blazing Saddles, Finn Gledhill Solicitors, Hebden Cleaners, I-Phone, Holts Greengrocers, Willow Garden flower shop, Hair & There, the Closet, Peter David Properties, Valley Private Hire, Francine Turner Properties, Hebden Bridge Dental Care, Blow, Gina B's Glass.

Albert Street –

Independent Living, Print Bureau, Robertshaw Greenwood Funeral Directors, Quilt Cabin, Beauty by Grace, Zeitgeist Hair, Jacks Barbers, Bradbury Bathrooms, Squeeze Café, Colour Yorkshire, Circle of friends, WG Jewellers, Hebden Cook & Coffee Co., Zinnia Hair, Jules Pottery.

Crown Street –

Oasis, Nelson's Wine Bar, Fleur de Lys flower shop, Stephen Maskill Butchers, One Stop, Crown Inn, Riverstones Jewellers, Pennine Provisions, Crown Fish & Chips, Mountain Wild, Ebony Tattoo Studio, Boots the Chemist, Hiu Man Chinese takeaway, Overgate Charity Shop, Elizabeth's Hair Salon, Claire Sheehan Property.

Bridge Gate & George's Square –

Aya Sophia Greek Restaurant, Bamboo Clothing, Rendezvous Café, Fat Face Clothing, Anthony Turner Properties, Something Sweet, Noir, Shelter Charity Shop, Just Books, The Laundrette, S.K. Newsagents, Forbuoys Newsagents, Country Stores, Valentine's Café, Sauce Café, Rohan Clothing, Woodhead Butchers, Innovation Mill, the Barn, Brocante homeware, White Lion pub.



For up to date information about flooding, traffic and travel disruptions across the borough see www.eyecalderdale.com

Other Businesses

Park Life Café has reopened.

Waites Bakery will not be reopening but the premises will, under new ownership — Marshall Bakers and Confectioners.

Muse Music and **2 Tone Comics** are advertised as reopening in April.

The Arts Centre has a pop up shop at Abacus Framing, Mytholmroyd.

Kiddies Corner has some stock available from the Word of Mouth.

Spirals has relocated to the ground floor of Earth Spirit.

Afghan Rug Shop reopening soon.

Flying Saucer and **Silly Billy's** are operating pop-up shops from Mobility Living on Albert Street.

Rim Nam Thai Restaurant will be reopening after Easter.

Spiritualist Church is open as is the Library (top floor only)

Volunteering

Recovering from a flood is a lengthy process and some people are still needing a helping hand with things. There may be voluntary assistance to help with the clearing and disposal of flood damaged items, the removal of damaged floors, doors, fixtures and fittings, pressure washing and disinfecting of basements, drives and paths, clearing of gardens, garages and outbuildings. For more details including other things we may be able to assist with please contact Jae on 01422 264622 or email Jae.campbell@calderdale.gov.uk to see if we can help.



Grants

Repair and Renew Grant Scheme – for residents & businesses

Grants of up to £5,000 can be claimed to make homes and business premises more resilient against future flooding.

Work funded by the grant might include lifting electric meters, consumer units and plug sockets, concrete and tiled floor systems etc. Please see the examples of different types of work on the National Flood Forum's website www.nationalfloodforum.org.uk

If your home was affected by the flooding and you would like to apply for a grant you can obtain the guidance notes and application form from Mytholmroyd Hub or contact Customer First. They can also be downloaded from the Council's website: www.calderdale.gov.uk/environment/flooding/help-available

You must include an independent surveyor's report in your grant application, along with quotes for the work recommended in the surveyor's report. Up to £500 of the £5,000 grant can be claimed towards the cost of the survey. The cost of the survey can still be repaid if your application or the flood resilience work does not go ahead for any reason.

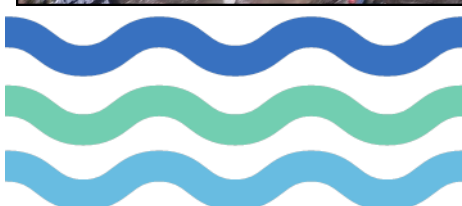
Deadlines for expressions of interest and applications have now been removed.

We'd still like to know if you are intending on applying. Please complete the online Expression of Interest Form on our webpage (see above) You then need to arrange for an independent survey to find out about the work that could be done before you get quotes.

When you've got all the information you need for your application together please send it all in as follows:

By email to: business@calderdale.gov.uk (for residential and business premises)

By post to: Repair and Renew Grant Application, Northgate House, Northgate, Halifax, HX1 1UN



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£500 Hardship Fund – for residents

If your home was flooded, a one off payment of £500 per household is available.

This grant aims to support your recovery costs, e.g. repairs or paying for alternative accommodation. In the majority of cases, the payment will be made to the person who is named as the council tax payer in the property – in rented accommodation this will be the tenant.

If you believe that you are eligible for the grant please email business@calderdale.gov.uk or call **01422 393631**.

Discretionary Housing Payment scheme - for residents

Anyone who has had to leave their home temporarily due to flooding and is in receipt of Housing Benefit may be able to get additional assistance with the following:

- Bond payments if moving into a private tenancy, removal costs and a shortfall in rent if temporarily moving into a property larger than the household needs.

Please note that the above applies to people who live on a boat as their main accommodation and who were also affected by the flooding. More information can be obtained through Customer First.

Council Tax relief - for residents

Where we know properties have been flooded, you will automatically be eligible for Council Tax relief for a minimum of 3 months and a maximum of 6 months. This will apply to both occupied and partly occupied properties.

If you have had to move out of your property because it was flooded, you must contact us for the extended council tax exemption and tell us when you will return to your property. Second homes and empty properties cannot claim the discount, unless there are exceptional circumstances.



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For further information contact

business@calderdale.gov.uk or call **01422 393631**.

Support for Business

Businesses in Calderdale are eligible to apply for a business flood recovery grant of up to £2,500 to help businesses get up and running.

An application form must be completed and submitted to Calderdale Council for processing, along with a completed and signed BACS form. For more information or to apply contact the business team on **01422 392222** or business@calderdale.gov.uk

Further funding from Community Foundation for Calderdale (CFFC)

Community Foundation for Calderdale Grants

Links to all of the following grants are on the home page of the CFFC website – www.cffc.co.uk.

Alternatively, please contact us on **01422 349700** for assistance.

£200 Emergency Grants

These grants are still available for any household affected directly or indirectly by the floods or to help individuals with loss of earnings if their employer was flooded.

£300 Displacement Grants

For residents who were displaced from their homes to assist with the additional costs of removal/ additional expenses incurred if relocated to a hotel, etc.

Phase 2 Grants

2nd phase is to help families and individuals towards the cost of replacing essential items, to help them resettle in their homes. Householders are requested to ask for assistance with essential items only, as we wish to support as many people as possible. We may not pay the full amount requested but we will try to make contributions and supply some goods directly. These grants will still be available later in the year when many displaced residents will be returning to their homes.

Community Premises

Hope Baptist Church

“With ceiling collapse in November and flooding in December, we feel like we’ve been hit from above and below. However, we are making progress and will be partially open from Easter.

Volunteer support and agreement with our insurers now allows us to get on with restoration work in the community rooms at the back of the chapel. Although it may be months before the chapel problems are rectified, we are setting up the area beneath the rear gallery for services and other activities. The garden will also be pressed into use - including for an open air baptismal service on Easter Sunday, which harks back to the early days of Non-Conformism in the Calder Valley.

We would like to say a huge 'Thank You' to our friends at the White Lion who have been fantastic and generous hosts for our Sunday services and to the Town Hall, who found us a place to meet mid-week. “

Details of events and updates about progress can be found on: www.hope-baptist.org.uk & <https://www.facebook.com/groups/HopeChapelHebdenBridge/>



Visiting firemen and mosque volunteers helping following the floods

Hebden Bridge Library

Flood-waters damaged stock, fittings and building-fabric throughout the ground floor of Hebden Bridge Library in December 2015.

Stock, fittings and temporary access have provided a full library service from the first floor only since 25th January 2016 - the service can only be accessed currently by stairs (from Cheetham Street), and Hebden Bridge Town Hall has kindly become the temporary new home of Monday morning Rhymetime Busy Babies sessions until the library is fully restored.

The ground floor is in the later stages of fully drying-out - and when *fully* dry, flood alleviation measures will be added to the fabric and fittings, to minimise the future impact of bad weather. Modifications to the ground floor library layout, which will make the library feel more open, spacious and relaxed, will complete the works, with a full reopening currently expected in early May 2016.

Hebden Royd Fire Station

Hebden Royd fire station succumbed to the flooding along with many other properties, the appliance had been moved to Halifax Fire station just in time but the station was completely written off, on Boxing day the fire crew were deployed from Halifax back into the Calder Valley, resources were very stretched and they were mobilised to life risk incidents only, responding to incidents proved extremely challenging as many roads were flooded and they were forced to take detours down farm tracks and bridleways.

It is estimated the station will not be restored to its former condition for at least 6 months, until then they are working in temporary porta cabins. The public can be reassured that despite their Spartan station they are at full capability ready to respond to 999 calls.



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Hebden Bridge Visitor Centre

Hebden Bridge Visitor Centre will be open throughout the Easter holidays at its permanent home at Butler`s Wharf.

It will then `pop up` in the Mobility shop at the end of Albert Street from Tuesday 5th April, to allow the centre to be refurbished after the flooding . The Visitor Centre is open from 10am – 5pm seven days a week and can be contacted by telephone on 07702925739 or by email at hebdenbridge@ybtbic.co.uk .

Upcoming Events

Heptonstall Flood Relief Pace Egg Play 2016: Good Friday 25th March in Weavers Square. Activities start from 11.15am

Hebden Bridge Duck Race Easter Monday: Annual duck race which brings vast crowds to the town. See the river turn yellow as up to 10,000 ducks enter the water for the race. . This year we are also running a sponsored race with monies raised going directly to flood relief. Tickets can be purchased in Hebden Bridge and www.hebdenbridgerotary.org.uk/duckrace

South Pennines Local Nature Partnership : The Science of Floods

Hebden Bridge Town Hall, Sunday 8th May 10am to 4pm, [Booking essential](#) but free. This event is a learning event - pure and simple. We have invited hydrologists, practitioners and experts from universities and the world of consultancy to inform the discussion around catchments and flooding.

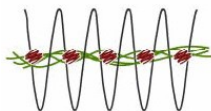
Hebden Royd Alternative Christmas Day

Hebden Bridge, Mytholmroyd and Cragg Vale are hosting a Hebden Royd Alternative Christmas Day on Saturday 25 June 2016 – 6 months on from the devastating floods. There are all sorts of Christmas themed events and attractions planned for the day.



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There's loads to do in Calderdale this spring and summer. See our Events & Festivals guide <http://ow.ly/Zyc0L>



UpperCalderValleyRenaissance
weaving communities together

Business Flood Recovery Team

24 hours after Boxing Day the UCVR formed a Business Flood Recovery Team by bringing together the leaders of the three business networks in Todmorden, Mytholmroyd and Hebden Bridge.

We already knew that following the experience of 2012, many businesses, despite getting open again, were still struggling to get back to profitability 18 months later. So it was decided we needed plan a strategy for supporting businesses over the longer-term this time. To do this the UCVR team has and continues to work closely with the business networks and Calderdale` Business Team.

Our first task was to assist in early collecting data from flooded businesses regarding their immediate needs. We conducted a survey and fed that into Calderdale for presentation to Government. Our second level of activity was to work on setting up a mentoring scheme for businesses to access help from other larger business to assist in the recovery process.

We also brokered the joint Economic Impact Survey project between Leeds University and Calderdale council, which we hope will support the council`s flood commission in taking the case to Government for economic support for businesses in the Valley, to not only aid recovery but plan for sustainability, should we endure further flooding in the next 5 years.

Our volunteer staff have already put in over 600 hours since Boxing Day, and we will continue to work for businesses to try to reduce the recovery period. Eventually we hope to form a permanent Business Development Team from the current position.

UCVR Business Recovery Team are based in Hebden Bridge Town Hall. Tel 01422 417286. Email Info@ucvr.org.uk Or visit the website

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Support

Local flood groups

Following the flooding in 2012 local flood groups were set up in Todmorden, Hebden Bridge and Mytholmroyd.

The Flood Groups are run by volunteers to promote the interests of local residents, raise awareness of flooding issues in the local community and work on practical flood projects such as writing community flood plans and establishing local flood stores. The groups meet regularly and their meetings are open to all members of the local community.

To find out more about the groups and their forthcoming meetings, email:

- Hebden Bridge Flood Group, hebden@cvcsg.org
- Mytholmroyd Flood Group, mytholmroyd@cvcsg.org

Flood wardens

Local people are also able to volunteer to be on stand-by as flood wardens: to be the "eyes and ears" on the ground during a flood incident, ensuring that flood warning messages reach local communities and are acted upon. Flood wardens also help local communities in the aftermath of flooding. If you would like to volunteer, email your local flood group.

River stewardship

The Upper Calder Valley River Stewardship scheme enables local residents to volunteer and carry out practical flood resilience and environmental enhancement in and around the waterways in the Upper Calder Valley. The group run practical activities which serve as an introduction to the themes of river stewardship.

Details of forthcoming volunteer events are available at Calder Future. To volunteer for this project contact Gavin Roberts at Calder Futures, email calderfuture@gmail.com.



Calderdale Council Customer First

You can Contact Customer First to report all sorts of things.

To help deal with your request quickly and effectively, go **online** to report a problem or request a service.

Alternatively, you can e-mail:

customer.first@calderdale.gov.uk or you can telephone our Customer First team who are split into three specialist areas:

- **01422 288001** – for all your general enquiries
- **01422 288002** – for all your Street Care questions and queries
- **01422 288003** – for all your Council Tax and Benefits queries.

The Contact Centre , Horton Street, Halifax, is open Monday to Thursday, 8.45 am to 5.30 pm
Friday, 8.45 am to 5 pm

If you need to contact the Council urgently when Council offices are closed, you can contact our emergency service on **01422 288000**.



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Keep an Eye on Calderdale

For up to date information about flooding, weather and traffic disruptions across the Borough visit www.eyeoncalderdale.com



Council creates £3 million flood fund

Calderdale Council will create a flood recovery and resilience fund worth £3 million after the budget was approved at Annual Budget Council on Monday 29 February 2016 at Halifax Town Hall.

As the Council is now facing exceptional financial challenges the budget includes a 1.95% rise in Council Tax in 2016/17. Council Tax in Calderdale has only risen by 1% in total over the last six years.

An additional 2% Social Care Precept will also be added to Council Tax payments to enable the Council to continue to fund high quality social care at a time when demand is steadily rising. The Social Care Precept was introduced by the Government to help fund this growth.

The Leader of Calderdale Council, Cllr Tim Swift, said: *"We are continuing to face massive reductions in the financial support which we receive from the government. As a result we need to find further savings of £22.3 million by 2018/19."*

"The scale of the reductions in government support will continue until 2020, when revenue support grant will virtually cease."

"At the same time we are leading the recovery from the most devastating flooding in Calderdale in recent history, affecting homes and businesses from Walsden to Brighouse. We must do all we can to help our communities to rebuild and thrive."

"To meet these unprecedented challenges we have developed a new strategy to ensure we are able to continue delivering our vital frontline services whilst maintaining our financial stability in these uncertain times."

The Council will continue to provide responsible, flexible and appropriate care for vulnerable people, both young and old. Major front line services, which keep communities safe, maintain our parks and keep neighbourhoods clean, will also be protected.

The budget, which covers the next three financial years, from 2016/17 to 2018/19, is available to view at www.calderdale.gov.uk/budget



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Replacement bins

If you lost your wheelie bin and recycling material in the floods, the Council will replace these free of charge (usual charge is £30 for a wheelie bin). You can either ring Customer First on **01422 288001** or come into the flood office and we will request replacements for you.

Citizen's Advice Calderdale

The telephone advice line has been relocated to Todmorden following the flooding of their offices in Hebden Bridge, but they are still offering their usual service. Please contact them on **01422 842848**. They have specialist appointments available for debt and benefit advice, and generalist advice on nearly everything else. They continue to offer open door services at locations throughout Calderdale. Details are on their website at www.calderdalecab.org.uk. Information on a wide variety of subjects can be found at: www.citizensadvice.org.uk.



Talking Therapies

Insight Healthcare Talking Therapies provides help to people with anxiety, depression and other similar difficulties. If you have been affected by the floods and would like someone to talk to, make an appointment on **0300 555 0191** this service is free and confidential.



Hebden Therapy Centre

The Hebden Therapy Centre is offering free meditation on a Thursday evening and free therapies for anyone affected by the floods. Please contact Ceinwyn or Louise on (01422) 842424 or 07475 404704.

Flood Alerts

If you live in a flood warning area and have a landline you can receive **free** flood alerts from the Environment Agency when there is a risk of river flooding to property. If you would like to unsubscribe from this service or change the way you receive warnings, contact the Environment Agency:

Online:

<https://fwd.environment-agency.gov.uk/app/olr/home>

Telephone:

Floodline **0845 988 1188** or **0345 988 1188**.

A big THANK YOU to everyone who helped and volunteered.

During the boxing day floods and the aftermath, an amazing amount of people came and volunteered from giving out hot drinks, food and cleaning supplies, donating furniture, filling skips, clearing mud, the list is endless, A lot of people came and went from near and far, If you were one of the many volunteers who came and helped out however big or small, the community of Hebden Bridge is extremely grateful and are truly thankful for the support and kindness that so many strangers showed to one another.



This newsletter was produced by Calderdale Council and has been distributed by volunteers.

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