



**WEST OXFORDSHIRE  
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

## **Flooding - July 2007: A summary**

During July 2007 West Oxfordshire suffered its worse floods for years. Rainfall levels were the highest since records began and a total of 126.2mm of rain was recorded at RAF Brize Norton's weather station on 20 July. The previous record at that location was 79.5mm in 1968.

In the region of 1631 homes and 72 businesses were flooded across West Oxfordshire. During those 5 days we issued approximately 30,000 sandbags, dealt with 632 emergency phone calls and well over 1600 routine calls, double the total for the previous week.

This website received almost 22,800 visits - three times the normal number - with people anxious to find out the latest news on the weather and road conditions locally.

120 Council staff were involved in providing emergency support and our grounds and cleansing crews worked around the clock filling and distributing sandbags to residents and clearing flood damaged goods from the highways. Goods were still being collected by the crews nearly 4 weeks after the event.

150 residents took refuge at one of the four rest centres set up at Witney, Carterton and Long Hanborough and 60 residents were provided with temporary accommodation at various locations in and around the district.

The Government later announced a fund to help flood-hit residents get back on their feet. West Oxfordshire District Council distributed Flood Relief Funding to the owners of flooded properties following the 2007 incident as follows:

- 1137 grants at £250 - £284,250
- 301 hardship grants totalling £155,050

The Council also administered the Red Cross grants for Oxfordshire. A total of £141,000 Red Cross Grant has been paid to 69 West Oxfordshire households. This scheme has now closed.

Since the 2007 floods the Council and the Environment Agency have carried out a number of flood reviews.

More information can be found on our flooding web pages: [www.westoxon.gov.uk/flooding](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/flooding)