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HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday 26th October 2023

Dear Fellow Local Resident,

RE: Support with Flooding

I am very sorry that your home has been affected by the recent flooding, caused by Storm Babet. The flooding has caused widespread damage throughout Suffolk, and this was probably the worst flooding in our area for over 100 years. I believe the meteorological term for what has occurred is a weather bomb, and I suspect there is very little that could have been done to have prevented the floods. As you are probably aware, I was also personally impacted and had to abandon my car and carry my young family to safety, and my constituency office was flooded and remains unusable.

I am grateful to the many community volunteers who have rallied to support the residents and businesses that have been affected. I have spent the last few days visiting homes in the area to offer my help and support to those in need and I have raised the urgent need for support for Suffolk's flood-impacted homes directly with the Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak. Thanks to my intervention on behalf of flood affected residents and businesses in our area, the Government will now be providing extra support from the Flood Recovery Framework.

The Flood Recovery Framework provides support for immediate flood recovery costs. The Government passes this funding through local councils directly to householders. This Government funding includes:

- A Community Recovery Grant up to £500 per flood affected household to help with immediate recovery costs;
- Council Tax Discounts of up to 100% passed on to householders for the duration that they remain out of their homes;
- Up to £5000 of funding to help rebuild and future-proof the house against future flooding.

Full details on the Flood Recovery Fund can be found at: Government announces support for floodhit areas - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

I would urge you to apply for this Government funding through your local council. If you would like help to do this, please contact me or my office and I shall be happy to help.

I have also included some further links below, which may also provide further guidance to support with the flood recovery process:

https://www.gov.uk/after-flood

Working for the people of Central Suffolk and North Ipswich

The Environment Agency updates its flood guidance every 15 minutes on its website at: https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/

Homeowners Guide to Flood Recovery www.floodmary.com

There is the potential of more rain in the coming days and I would advise residents to stay vigilant and keep up to date with the latest flood warnings on the Environment Agency website or sign up to free flood warnings which are sent automatically via text, phone or email at https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings or call Flood Line on **0845 988 1188**.

I hope this information is helpful. My office team and I continue to work hard on your behalf and I shall continue to do all that I can to help those in need, and to support our local communities to rebuild and recover.

Should you need to contact me for support and assistance, please email daniel.poulter.mp@parliament.uk write to me at the address below, or call 01728 726588.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Daniel Poulter MP

Member of Parliament for Central Suffolk and North Ipswich