

Property flood resilience (PFR) grant scheme

Flooded property owners can apply for up to £5,000 via the Government's Flood Recovery Framework to help make their homes and businesses more resilient to future flooding.

The government uses the Flood Recovery Framework to make funding available to communities following specific storm events that result in severe flooding. One of the elements of this framework is the Property Flood Resilience (PFR) Grant which the government requires Suffolk County Council to administer on their behalf.

The council has launched PFR Grant application process for properties affected by Storm Babet in October 2023. The following has been prepared as a brief summary to outline the government guidelines of the scheme.

Who can apply for this funding?

Grants are only available to people who suffered **internal flood damage** to their homes or businesses during Storm Babet (between 19-25 October 2023). They are in addition to grants and Council Tax/Business Rate discounts that may have been received from District Councils. Eligible property owners can apply for **up to £5,000 (including VAT)** to help make their property more resilient to future flooding. Properties that have already reported flooding via the Highways Reporting Tool and have been determined as eligible for this grant will be contacted directly by letter or email and invited to complete the application process. **You have until the end of April 2025 to make an application.**

All property owners that wish to apply for the grant will require a survey to be carried out by an independent, qualified building surveyor (must be independent from any company that installs PFR measures) who has completed the [training CIWEM PFR Foundation](#) (see 'Finding a Surveyor' below).

The PRF survey needs to include recommend measures that will increase the property's resilience to future flooding. Government rules state that only up to £800 of the total grant can be used to contribute towards survey costs. You will need to share this survey with the Council as part of a grant application – only measures recommended within the survey can be included in a grant claim.

Where a survey is undertaken but the owner doesn't proceed with any recommend measures no grant to cover survey costs can be claimed. The grant can only be used for resilience measures that are **in addition** to any reinstatement that is covered by insurance claims – the funded PFR measures must either keep water from entering a property or reduce the damage water can do once it enters a property.

Property owners will be responsible for finding a suitable contractor to carry out works. Grants of up to £5,000 incl. VAT (including survey costs) will be paid retrospectively to the property owner, once the Council receives proof of the completed installation and invoicing for the approved measures.

Affected residents can also contact the relevant person at ESC for further information and guidance:
Charlie.Smith@eastssuffolk.gov.uk