

Somerset floods

Jan 2014

RESPONSES

IMMEDIATE / SHORT TERM

- UK govt offered immediate £15m to help efforts
- Response was rapid/well organised
- Meteorological office gave early notice of the storms/floods - warnings were put in place by the Environment Agency
- People used sandbags as protection or were evacuated
- Rescue boats manned by the fire brigade and army helped evacuate people or supply food/water
- Police patrols were increased to deter looting

LONGER TERM RESPONSE

- ATTEMPTS to reduce future risk
- Reintroduction of dredging of channels/drains
- Additional pumping stations
- Construction of a tidal barrage (Bridgewater)
- 20 yr programme costing £100m
- Somerset Levels and Moors flood action plan
- SUDS - Sustainable Urban Drainage Schemes.
'Sponge' urban areas