

Donations flow in to Cumbria Flood Recovery Fund

Communities across the country are sending in cheques to the Cumbria Flood Recovery Fund. Today sees the total at almost £500,000.

So overwhelmed is the Community Foundation that it is installing two new computers to process all the donations that it has received.

Deb Muscat, Acting Director, Cumbria Community Foundation said "The response from the public is fantastic. Just two examples are pupils at the Frizington Primary School in Cumbria had a non uniform day yesterday and have donated £191. Tonbridge Philharmonic Society, Kent told us they have raised £600 from a concert.

"After the Carlisle flooding in 2005 people realised the importance of counselling for children and adults now and in the coming months is really important. So you can imagine how delighted we were to receive a £10,000 donation specifically for this."

The Foundation is working with community organisations to find out what extra resources they will need to ensure that people who have been affected can help themselves to get back on their feet. It is really important they are involved in the process.

All branches of Barclays Bank, HSBC, Cumberland Building Society and Furness Building Society are able to receive donations. Alternatively you can make a donation via the website or send a cheque to Cumbria Community Foundation, Dovenby Hall, Cockermouth, Cumbria CA13 0PN.

The Cumbria Flood Recovery Fund will provide financial help for people who have been affected. The first phase of grant making will concentrate on the elderly, disabled and families with under 5s. After the Carlisle floods we were able to help people with clothing, bedding, fares, toys, etc.

The Fund will also help community groups that are helping out with advice, information, counselling, and activities for children and young people.

Anyone wanting information about the appeal and who and what will be eligible for funding should log on to Cumbria Community Foundation's website www.cumbriafoundation.org or call the dedicated phone line **01900 820827**