

ITEM 10

Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) Board Paper Community Flood Action Fund Update (CFAF)

RECOMMENDATION

The Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) Board is asked to:

Note the update on applications submitted to the Community Flood Action Fund.

Purpose of the item

To update the Board on progress with the Community Flood Action Fund that launched in December 2024.

Background and context

In September 2024 the Board approved £200,000 being allocated to the Community Flood Action Fund.

CFAF is limited to requests of £3,000 to £20,000 per grant.

Once set aside funds have been exhausted, the scheme would close for the rest of the year.

CFAF funding **can** be used for:

- Maintenance or improvement works that meet one or more of our SRA objectives
- Flood risk reduction works that meet one or more of our SRA objectives
- Surveys, permits or permissions that are directly linked to delivery as part of a project
- Projects that can be completed within 9 months from the date of the grant being awarded.

CFAF funding **cannot** be used for:

- Works costing more than £20,000
- Actions that only benefit a single household, landowner or business
- Feasibility studies or investigation reports
- Community or training events
- Flood recovery support

The CFAF process is designed to have a 'light touch' approach to application and assessment compared to the main grant process.

CFAF will be open year-round with applications reviewed and approved on a quarterly basis, enabling prompt action to be taken.

The outcome of quarterly approvals will be reported to the Board.

Examples of organisations that the grant process is open to include community groups, parish and town councils, charities, not for profits, environmental non-government organisations.

Current Status – Community Flood Action Fund

NOTE: at the time of writing applications are still being processed, so information may be subject to change once all applications have been reviewed.

The closing date for the first round of applications to the Community Flood Action Fund was 25 February 2025.

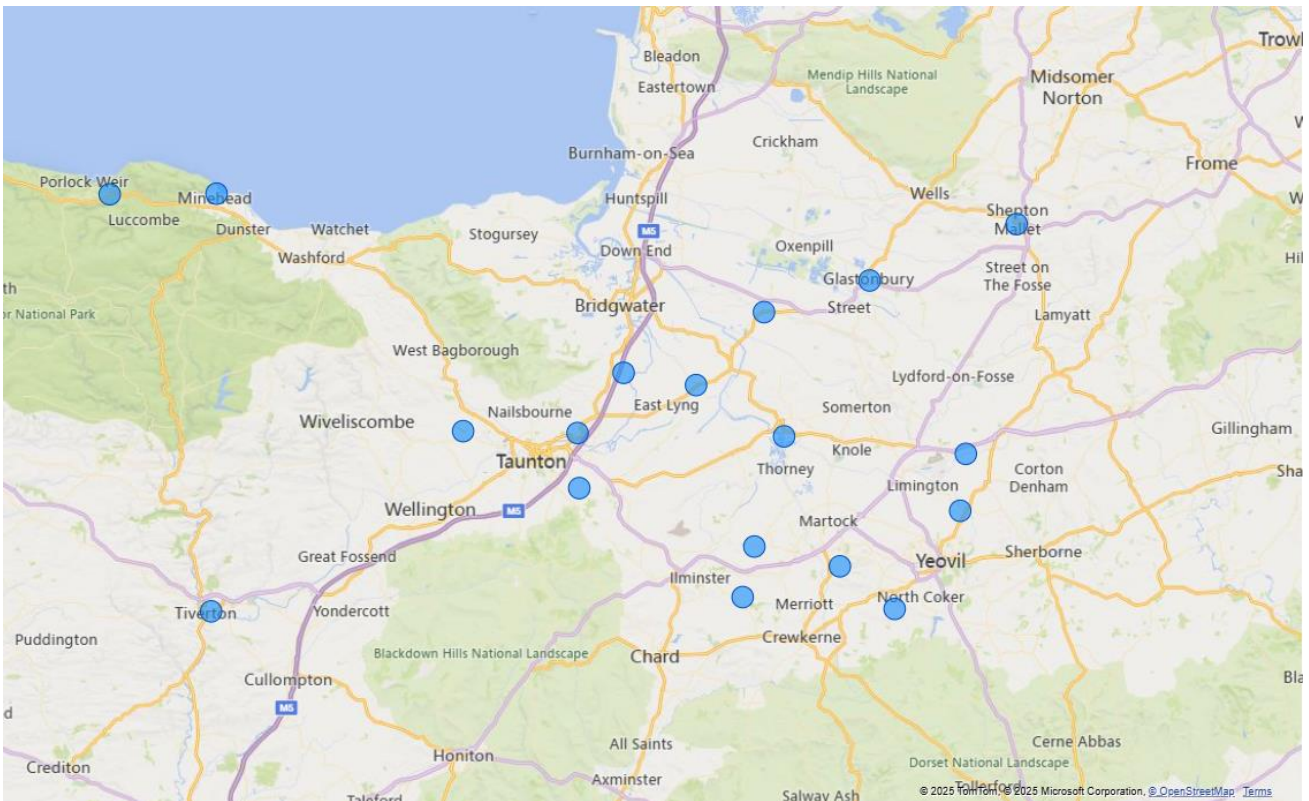
The Review Panel will meet on 1 April to consider applications.

- Number of applications submitted: 22
- Total value of applications: £253,752
- Largest grant request: £20,000
- Smallest grant request: £3,100
- Average amount of grant requested £11,131

Table 1: Types and numbers of organisations submitting applications

Type of Organisation	Count
Town or Parish Council or Parish Meeting	17
Registered charity / CIO	3
Other	2
Total	22

Figure 1: Applicant locations as per postcode provided



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Date: 26 February 2024

Author: David Mitchell, Senior Manager, Somerset Rivers Authority