



CASTLE MORPETH HOUSING

On Saturday 6th September 2008, the town of Morpeth in Northumberland suffered the most intensive rainfall in living memory and fell victim to serious flooding after the banks of the River Wanbeck burst without warning.

BACKGROUND

Over 1,000 residents were affected by the flooding, as water from the river seeped into their homes. Out of the homes affected, over 130 belonged to Castle Morpeth Housing. The extent of flooding in these homes ranged from a few centimeters to 1.5 metres. Many residents were forced to leave their homes, moving in with family or friends, or in some instances being temporarily, re-housed by the housing association.

The main priority was to dry out the properties quickly and cause as little disruption as possible, allowing those residents affected to return to their homes before too long.

Disaster Response & Damage Management Consultants, Davis French Associates, was appointed to advise on a drying programme and invited manager, Richard McLean of The Revival Company, to visit the affected houses and make his recommendations.

"I met with the client, Tina Drury of Castle Morpeth Housing and she explained that her prime focus was getting residents back into their homes as quickly as possible. Bearing this and the sheer volume of houses in mind, Davis French Associates recommended the use of eight Hydrothermic Drying systems to carry out the project."

The Hydrothermic Drying system provides a much quicker system for drying buildings than any other available system. It works by raising the temperature of the building to a very high level using hot air.

"As independent advisors we identified, with the advice from The Revival Company, that the most cost effective, quickest, and least disruptive way of tackling this huge project would be to use a hydrothermic drying system. We invited The Revival Company to make their recommendations because they have the largest fleet of equipment available in the UK and the ability to mobilise teams of skilled, experienced technicians quickly", commented Greg French of Davis French Associates.

Overview

Project Objectives

- Identify quickest method of drying out properties
- Allow residents to stay in their homes while work was carried out, or work to allow them to return quickly
- Liaise effectively with all contractors and stakeholders
- To deliver on time and on budget

Project Solutions

- Mobilise sufficient numbers of Hydrothermic Drying systems
- Deploy large teams of skilled and experienced technicians quickly to site
- Clear communication at all times with all stakeholders

"The Revival Company demonstrated only the highest level of professionalism at all times. They were totally focused on completing the project as quickly and efficiently as possible. Nothing was too much trouble."

Greg French
Davis French Associates