



Castle Morpeth Housing

In 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 1000 residents were affected by the flooding, as water from the river seeped into their homes. Out of the homes affected, over 130 houses belonged to Castle Morpeth Housing. The extent of the flooding in these homes ranged from a few centimetres 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 for Revival was to dry out the properties quickly and cause as little disruption as possible, allowing those residents affected to return to their homes sooner.

Disaster response and damage consultants, Davis French Associates, were appointed to advise on a drying programme and invited manager Richard McLean from Revival 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 way of 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 Revival 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 Revival to make their recommendations because they have the largest fleet of equipment available in the UK and the ability to mobilise their teams of skilled and experienced technicians quickly,” commented Greg French of Davis French Associates.

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