**Flooding Case Studies**

**How do the responses to floods vary between areas of contrasting levels of wealth?**

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|  | **River Severn** | **River Indus** |
| Immediate response | * Closure of Mythe Water treatment works and distribution of bottled water * Electrical substation closed for safety * Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service attended over 30 000 calls in a 48 hour period (normally they attend 2000 in 1 year!) * People evacuated from their homes – 1800 households in Tewksbury had to be moved to temporary accommodation – caravans. * Reception centres were opened in local schools/community centres | * **Ordinary Pakistanis**, rally to provide food, water and shelter to those in need * By the end of August over £500 million had been pledged in international aid: * **NGOs** such as Oxfam provide support such as handing out clothing kits for the coming winter, vaccinations, food aid * International Red Cross provided a whole package of aid, such as tents, blankets, stoves and cooking pots, to about 35,000 families * **The Pakistani government** set up a special committee to ensure transparency and most of the overseas aid money has been distributed through international agencies and seems to be getting through. |
| Long term response | * Householders could claim on their insurance to help with repairs * The local council has issued householders with Flood Guides to help them prepare for future events * Severn Trent Water reviewed their risk strategies and how they would prepare for future events * The UK Government asked for a formal review on how the effects could be reduced in the future: better education of homeowners and improvements in flood warning systems by the Environment Agency * UK Government promised to increase the EA’s budget by £200million for flood protection works. | * Ordinary Pakistanis are assisting in reconstruction efforts – building temporary bridges, roads, shelters. * There is a clear view that the government also needs to be taking action on corruption and moving the pace of change more quickly * Pakistan's National Disaster Management Authority, in conjunction with support from the United Nations and the expertise of countries worldwide, is promising to implement a reconstruction and recovery plan * NGOs such as Oxfam have established ‘cash for work’ programmes to provide employment e.g. knitting sweaters for the coming winter. |

***You should also be able to compare the EFFECTS of these flood events. For example:***

1. Explain why the effects of a flood event vary between rich and poorer countries (6)
2. Describe how the response to a flood event can vary between richer and poorer countries (6)