

# Consultation launched on reservoir emergency on-site flood plans

News story

Government believes that on-site plans should be an essential part of maintaining public safety.



All large raised reservoirs in England could be legally required to have emergency contingency plans in place under measures being [consulted](#) on by the government from today (Tuesday 16 June).

Also known as on-site flood plans, these are needed to ensure that those responsible for the reservoir are ready to manage potential risks from an uncontrolled release of water from a reservoir that may cause flooding to the surrounding area and communities.

England already has some of the toughest safety reservoir regulations in the world with a strong safety track record. However, a survey of reservoir owners in the wake of the 2019 Toddbrook Reservoir incident revealed that while a large proportion of large raised reservoirs do already have on-site plans, those who do not cite the lack of legal requirement as their reason. The survey also identified different practices in how often flood plans are reviewed and updated.

While incidents like the spillway failure at Toddbrook Reservoir are rare, swift action when the incident occurred was aided by the fact that both an on-site flood plan and a local flood evacuation plan were available and quickly activated.

The government believes that on-site plans should be an essential part of maintaining public safety, and set out its intention to consult on making them a legal requirement in its [response](#) to Professor David Balmforth's independent review report on the Toddbrook Reservoir spillway failure.

The government recognises that there are different types of reservoir, and that emergency plans will be unique to each reservoir and how it is operated.

The eight week online consultation seeks views on:

- managing and maintaining a flood plan
- how frequently a flood plan should be tested
- updating guidance about preparing a flood plan
- training that may be needed to support emergency planning and incident response

The consultation will run until 10 August.

On 9 June 2020, the government also published the [Terms of Reference](#) for Part B of the independent Reservoir Review. Part B will examine how the current legislation is applied and ensure it is robust in order to continue to maintain our safety record. It is expected to report to Government by February 2021.

Published 16 June 2020

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## [New COVID-19 funding to assist the vulnerable elderly in the OPTs](#)

World news story

The British Consulate in Jerusalem has a small amount of programme funding to support an NGO in providing assistance to vulnerable elderly people in the OPTs.



### CALL FOR BIDS

New COVID-19 Funding  
to Assist the Vulnerable Elderly

*Applications due no later than 6 July 2020*



The British Consulate in Jerusalem is working closely with the Palestinian authority, International Humanitarian organisations and civil society on the response to the COVID-19 challenge in the OPTs, including support to meet the humanitarian and healthcare needs of the most vulnerable Palestinians as well as support to boost the PA's economic resilience.

We are keen to ensure that our support continues to reach those who are most

vulnerable to the multifaceted impacts of COVID-19. To that end, the British Consulate in Jerusalem has a small amount of programme funding to support an NGO in providing assistance to vulnerable elderly people in the OPTs.

Although all age groups are at risk of contracting COVID-19, older persons run a significantly higher risk of mortality and severe disease following infection, with those over 80 years old dying at five times the average rate.

Proposals should focus on providing targeted support for the most vulnerable elderly people in the Palestinian society. This may include strengthening support systems in elderly care, providing psycho-social support to older persons who have experienced loss or giving assistance to promote and safeguard elderly caregivers, volunteers or community leaders.

NGOs should send their full and detailed proposals for projects worth up to 320,000 ILS to be implemented between August and March 2021. Please complete the [Project Proposal Form](#) (MS Word Document, 85KB) and [Activity Based Budget](#) (MS Excel Spreadsheet, 25.6KB) template and submit by no later than 6 July 2020, to [Lucy.Raii@fco.gov.uk](mailto:Lucy.Raii@fco.gov.uk), with "Enabling Fund Proposal" in the subject line.

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## **Bogus sustainable energy companies wound-up in court**

Elcourt Ltd, WSR Hawker Ltd and Devo Group Ltd were wound up in the public interest on 9 June 2020 in the High Court before Judge Prentis. The Official Receiver has been appointed as liquidator of the companies.

In considering the petitions, the court heard that all three companies promoted and sold investments into sustainable energy processing schemes.

Elcourt traded as AD Baxton and claimed it provided brokering services, offering people the opportunity to acquire bonds in the two connected renewable energy companies, WSR Hawker Ltd and Devo Group Ltd.

However, the company was found to never had any presence at its registered address and in April 2019, the financial regulators [issued a warning](#) against Elcourt for providing unauthorised financial services and products.

Devo Group said it collected used cooking oil from various food and catering vendors within the UK and Europe to convert into biodiesel, while WSR Hawker described itself as a developer of wind power generation sites. However neither company had any official presence at their registered addresses.

Following petitions submitted by the Insolvency Service on behalf of the Secretary of State the court found that the entirety of the companies' operations was a sham.

The court also heard that none of the bogus sustainable energy companies cooperated with the investigation and from the limited amount of data available, investigators uncovered that at least six investors made investments of £525,000.

During proceedings, Judge Prentis commented that it was no surprise that the three companies were not represented in court and that there was overwhelming evidence a fraud had been perpetrated.

Irshard Mohammed, Senior Investigator at the Insolvency Service, said

All three companies fraudulently tricked people into investing in so-called safe and environmentally-friendly businesses. However, any trading presented by these companies appears to have been entirely fictitious and from the £525,000 worth of investments we know about, no returns have been received.

The court thankfully recognised this misconduct and removed the companies from the corporate arena.

All enquiries concerning the affairs of the companies should be made to:

- The Official Receiver, Public Interest Unit, 16th Floor, 1 Westfield Avenue, Stratford, London, E20 1HZ
- Telephone: 020 7637 1110
- Email: [piu.or@insolvency.gov.uk](mailto:piu.or@insolvency.gov.uk)

### **About the companies**

Elcourt Ltd (Company number: 10586993) was incorporated on 02 July 2013. The current registered office is located at 3rd Floor, 42 – 44 Bishopsgate, London, EC2N 4AH. The company has never been authorised to use that address as its registered office address.

The current appointed director of the company is Hussain Servin. The authorised share capital of the company is shown as 1 ordinary shares of £1, with that share being allotted to Hussain Servin.

WSR Hawker Ltd (Company number: 09599892) was incorporated on 20 May 2015. The current registered office is located at 28 Throgmorton Street, London EC2N 2AQ. Again, that company has never been authorised to use that address as its registered office address.

The current appointed director of the company is Giovanni Roberto. The authorised share capital of the Company is shown as 1,000 ordinary shares of £1, with those shares being allotted to Giovanni Roberto.

Devo Group Ltd (Company number: 10024905) was incorporated on 24 February 2016. The current registered office is located at 20-28 The Crescent, Birmingham Business Park, Birmingham B37 7YE. As per the other companies Devo Group Ltd has never been authorised to use that address as its registered office address.

The current appointed director of the company is Arthur Lambard. The authorised share capital of the Company is shown as 1 ordinary shares of £1, with that share being allotted to Arthur Lambard.

### **Petition process**

The petitions were presented by The Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy ("BEIS") on 08 April 2020 for WSR Hawker Ltd and 01 May 2020 for Elcourt Ltd and Devo Group Ltd in the High Court of Justice, Business and Property Courts in England and Wales (CR-2020-002128 Devo Group Limited, CR-2020-002129 Elcourt Limited, CR-2020-002131 WSR Hawker Limited), under the provisions of section 124A of the Insolvency Act 1986 following confidential enquiries by Company Investigations under section 447 of the Companies Act 1985, as amended.

Company Investigations, part of the Insolvency Service, uses powers under the Companies Act 1985 to conduct confidential fact-finding investigations into the activities of live limited companies in the UK on behalf of the Secretary of State for BEIS. [Further information about live company investigations is available here.](#)

[Further information about the work of the Insolvency Service, and how to complain about financial misconduct, is available here.](#)

You can also follow the Insolvency Service on:

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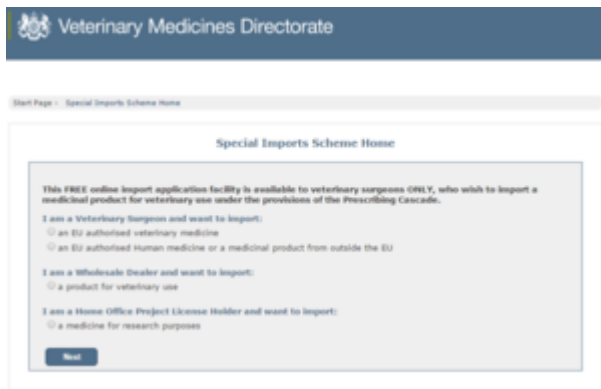
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**[The Special Imports System will be unavailable 20 and 21 June 2020](#)**

News story

The Special Imports System will be unavailable on the weekend of 20 and 21 June 2020 due to essential IT maintenance .



The screenshot shows the 'Special Imports Scheme Home' page. At the top, there is a blue header with the Veterinary Medicines Directorate logo and name. Below the header, the page title is 'Special Imports Scheme Home'. The main content area contains a text box with the following text: 'This FREE online import application facility is available to veterinary surgeons ONLY, who wish to import a medicinal product for veterinary use under the provisions of the Prescribing Cascade.' Below this text, there are three sections, each with a radio button and a list of options: 'I am a Veterinary Surgeon and want to import:' with options 'an EU authorised veterinary medicine' and 'an EU authorised Human medicine or a medicinal product from outside the EU'; 'I am a Wholesale Dealer and want to import:' with option 'a product for veterinary use'; and 'I am a Home Office Project License Holder and want to import:' with option 'a medicine for research purposes'. At the bottom of the text box, there is a 'Next' button.

Veterinary Surgeons should obtain an import certificate in advance if you think you will need to import/use an imported medicine during this period.

In urgent cases where the VMD have previously issued a certificate, you may purchase and use an imported veterinary medicine prior to obtaining a certificate from the VMD. This is a special dispensation which only applies to the VMD online system during this maintenance period.

You should obtain an import certificate retrospectively as soon as possible.

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