

Flood area defences put on hold by government funding cuts

 theguardian.com/environment/2014/feb/16/flood-area-defences-funding-cuts

Damian Carrington and Rajeev Syal

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David Cameron, left, walks with Bridgwater and West Somerset MP Ian Liddell-Grainger on a visit to the county on 7 February. Photograph: Tim Ireland/AP

Flood-stricken communities, including those visited by [David Cameron](#) in the Somerset Levels and Yalding in Kent, have been left without planned defences following government funding cuts, the Guardian can reveal.

Undelivered defences, totalling many millions of pounds, also include schemes on the stretch of Devon coast at Dawlish where the mainline railway fell into the sea and near the nuclear power station at Hinkley Point in Somerset.

Ministers have been heavily criticised for cutting flood defence spending by almost £100m a year after taking power, but this is the first time specific projects affected by the cuts have been identified.

In the heart of the Somerset Levels, a £2.2m scheme to improve flood management on the Parrett, the main river draining the Levels, and the nearby Sowey river, was postponed and currently has no prospect of funding before 2020.

In March 2012, an [Environment Agency](#) (EA) report on the scheme said: "The [rivers'] combined function is of great importance to the effective management of floodwaters in the area."



Deputy prime minister Nick Clegg is shown around the flooding sites at Burrowbridge, Somerset on February 10. (Ben Birchall/PA)

Another scheme for the Parrett, near the village of Burrowbridge, was in line for £300,000 of funding from 2011-13 but has received nothing. The Parrett overtopped its banks by Burrowbridge in January and the village was cut off.

A third scheme for the river, called "Parrett Estuary – Cannington Bends", worth £6.2m, covered an area near where it meets the sea, just a few miles from the nuclear power station at Hinkley Point.

The defences, which were to be part-funded by Hinkley-owner EDF Energy, would have moved 536 homes out of "the very significant or significant flood probability category to the moderate or low category", according to EA documents. In 2010, the agency said the [defences "urgently need updating"](#) and the Cannington Bends area was heavily flooded in 2012, but the scheme has received no funding under the coalition and is currently in line for only £792,000 in 2016-17.

The missing schemes were identified by the Guardian by comparing the flood defence spending plans for 2010-11, the final year of the last government's budget and a high-water mark for flood defence spending, with the plans for subsequent years under the coalition.



Royal Marines from 40 Commando build a sandbag wall in Moorland near Bridgwater on February 7. (Matt Cardy/Getty)

In an interview with the Guardian the under-fire chairman of the Environment Agency, [Chris Smith](#), welcomes the prime minister's recent "money is no object" remark to cope with the fallout of the storms, but wonders whether it will apply beyond the immediate crisis.

"I hope he will apply the same principle to the longer-term issues about improving our flood defences. One of the things that has worried me is whether flood defence is seen by the Treasury as a high enough priority," he says.

Lord Smith says there would have to be an annual £20m rise in the government's £600m flood defence budget, as well as any inflationary increase, just to maintain Britain's present level of protection.

Chris Huhne, the former energy and climate change secretary, [claims in a Guardian article](#) that the chancellor, George Osborne, was the driving force behind the cuts in flood defence spending in 2010. The chancellor was then forced to increase flood defence spending last June because insurance companies were threatening to withdraw cover for 350,000 homes at risk, Huhne claims.



Flooding in Yalding, Kent, at the end of January. (Matthew Aslett/Corbis)

Other undelivered flood defence schemes now identified include a project in Devon called the [Dawlish Warren and Exmouth Beach Management Scheme](#), the goal of which was "to reduce tidal flood risk to nearly 3,000 properties and the main railway into the south-west". It had been in line for £2.7m, but by March 2015 will have received only a third of that.

The village of Yalding in Kent began flooding on Christmas Eve, with people evacuated by boat and helicopter, and [Cameron was heckled by angry locals](#) during a visit a few days later. It had been in line for £200,000 of flood protection funding between 2011 and 2013, but has received nothing and there is no current plan for spending in the area.

It has also been established that about £5m is being spent between 2011 and 2015 on the Levels to improve the condition of seven sites of special scientific interest where otters, birds and important plants live, as well as to provide more storage for floodwaters. In total, about 1,500 hectares of water-dependent habitat are being improved, thereby avoiding heavy fines under EU environmental directives.

Flood defence funding rose sharply under the last government, following the recommendations of the Pitt review into the catastrophic floods of 2007. Under the coalition, annual spending fell to at least £90m below 2010-11 levels until 2013-14. In July 2012, the [Guardian identified 294 flood defence schemes](#) across the whole of England that had been in line for funding but had not gone ahead.

A spokeswoman for the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, which provides the funding for flood defences, said: "We have spent £2.4bn on flood management and protection from coastal erosion over the past four years. We will continue to build defences where they are needed."

Lord Smith says: "The agency works within clear government guidelines on where to spend the funding it is given to maximise the protection for people and property."

Lord Krebs, the government's [lead independent adviser on adapting to the impacts of climate change](#), said: "Ministers are perfectly entitled to say 'look we just don't have enough money and we will have to accept a greater risk of flooding.' That is a political judgment which needs to be made."

But he said cutting flood defence spending was a false economy, as each scheme saved £8 in damage for every £1 spent: "In the long term these measures pay for themselves."

Krebs warned that without a change of approach to improve flood protection in line with the rising risk from climate change, the current "firefighting" approach to the crisis would be the only one available. "Up to now climate measures have been seen as a long-term issue and it is always difficult for governments to think about long-term issues," he said. "But sometimes it takes a crisis like this to wake people up. Let's deal with the short-term emergency, but I would be very sad if this was all put back in the filing cabinet afterwards."

In his interview, Smith accepts that the EA's response to the flooding has not been perfect. He says it should have pushed harder for the money to dredge the rivers on the Somerset Levels, and he should have visited the county earlier to show support. "There was a whole rest of country to worry about. I was up on the Humber looking at the damage from the storm surge and elsewhere. But I probably should have gone to talk with people down there at an earlier stage."

Smith says more than 5 million people in Britain are at risk of flooding, and that the government has to recognise the dangers. "Flooding knocks out businesses, it knocks out employment, it costs a huge amount to restore. This is something quite apart from the human distress. Government has to give flood defence a higher priority."

Small and medium-sized firms that have been flooded or suffered significant loss of trade will be able to apply for help from the new Business Support Scheme announced by the prime minister. A helpline is also being set up to provide advice.

Cameron said: "The government is taking action across the board to deal with the clear-up and help hard-working people affected by the floods. Dealing with these floods will be a long haul, requiring a stepped-up national effort with the whole country pulling together. We will continue to help the people who need help and protect the communities that need protecting."

The business secretary, Vince Cable, said: "It is vital that small businesses affected by the flooding get assistance as quickly as possible. We know the insurance companies are working to process claims as quickly as possible and we will inform local authorities of their allocations from the Business Support Scheme on Thursday to assist businesses with clean-up costs or help them to continue trading."

Large swaths of Britain remain on high alert, with severe flood warnings still in place along the Thames and in Somerset.

Forecasters predicted some respite this week as largely fine weather with lighter winds and less rain is expected for the next five days.

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Flood defence upgrade

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ABOUT 1,440 Bridgwater and Cannington properties will soon be protected from flooding as the Environment Agency starts £800,000 key flood defence work.

The work – part of the Parrett Estuary Flood Risk Management Strategy which looks at flood defence for the next 50 years – will improve existing defences along a 7km river stretch over the next six months.

The project is focused on upgrading four existing outfalls and on repairing three sections of flood bank which are showing signs of erosion.

On a high tide, water could seep through cracks which have appeared on the structures and may cause the soil bank to partially wash away.

The four outfalls are on the Cannington Bends on the left bank of the River Parrett (Stallingtons Clyce, Fenlyns Clyce, Pippins Clyce and Starslands Clyce).

The Fenlyns Clyce outfall is in need of complete replacement and the others are in need of remedial work including access improvements, erosion protection measures and health and safety enhancements.

The work will start in April and continue throughout the summer.

The project is grant funded from the Government via Defra.

"Over the past few years we carried out an in-depth study on the condition of existing flood defences along the Parrett and carried out a public consultation on what to do about it," said Graham Buxton-Smith, from the Environment Agency.

"Now we are about to put these plans into action."

For Cannington, the preferred option is to continue to keep the Parrett flood banks on their existing alignment including putting in place a phased programme of works to restore the outfalls and raise and widen banks.

"The work we are doing now is focused on the defences which urgently need updating," Mr Buxton-Smith added.

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Chris Smith The G2 interview

Environment Agency head Chris Smith: 'I'm not having my staff belittled'

The government badly misjudged when it attempted to scapegoat the chair of the Environment Agency over the flooding crisis. The former culture secretary has proved he can still punch his weight in politics



Chris Smith ... 'You have to realise there are limits to what you can do to hold nature at bay.' Photograph: Graeme Robertson for the Guardian



Stephen Moss
@StephenMossGdn

Sunday 16 February 2014 19.00 GMT

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It was a terrible decision to direct ministerial fire against Chris Smith, chairman of the Environment Agency," [wrote Matthew D'Ancona last week](#) in his column in the London Evening Standard. "Those on the Tory side who think of him as a political seven-stone weakling are sorely mistaken. He is a sharp customer who fights his corner." Quite an encomium for a former Labour cabinet minister from a former editor of the Spectator.

I have to admit that I, too, had always thought of Smith, culture secretary in the first Blair government and largely remembered for being a bit too gushing about Cool Britannia, as a seven-stone political weakling. Until last week, that is, because his fightback against [Eric Pickles' attack](#) on the agency Smith chairs was formidable and soon had the secretary of state for local government running for cover.

His [performance on the Today programme](#), in which he lambasted Pickles, casually mentioned he'd had a supportive text from the environment secretary Owen Paterson (who has been recuperating from an eye operation) and declared that "my staff know 100 times more about flood management than any politician does", was extremely effective. A programme that is often a graveyard for politicians had witnessed an unlikely resurrection. Smith, who had been cast into outer darkness by Tony Blair in 2001 when he was removed from government, was back, and this time it was personal.

There's a definite buzz in the Environment Agency's London office, which is just down the road from the Houses of Parliament and within flooding distance of the Thames, when I arrive. This is their moment, and you sense they know it. I ask Smith, who as chairman is at the eye of the storm, how he is feeling. "Busy, overwhelmed, desperately wishing the weather would turn for the better," he says. He sees his job as keeping the agency's 11,000 staff up to the mark, but also protecting them from unwarranted attacks. "I was annoyed when Mr Pickles made his comments deriding the advice the agency experts were giving. I'm perfectly willing to be a punchbag, because that's the role of a chairman, but I'm not having my staff belittled."

Before the Pickles provocation, Smith had been fairly low key. Was that a mistake? "I thought it was more important that everyone was getting on with their jobs rather than doing media grandstanding," he says. When he finally got going, though, Smith proved he could grandstand with the best of them, and [Pickles soon sought a ceasefire in the war of words](#). "He hasn't unsaid it [his earlier criticism]," says Smith, "but he did at least stand up in the House of Commons and say the Environment Agency and its staff were wonderful. I think that was enough of an admission."

I tell him one of my colleagues has been counting up the number of official posts he currently holds – a remarkable 11, including chairman of the Advertising Standards Authority, chairman of the Donmar Warehouse and visiting professor at the University of the Arts, London. Surely more grist for critics who say that at such a moment the chairman of what is in effect an emergency service should have his eye permanently on the ball. "That is such a ridiculous calculation," he says. "Most of those are charities where I sit on the board or am a patron. They have four meetings a year. My two major roles are here and at the Advertising Standards Authority."

Smith says this has been the roughest period he has weathered in politics. "I had never seen, even in the years of New Labour when because I was neither a Blairite nor a Brownite I tended to be at the receiving end of quite a bit of abuse, the sort of briefing and sniping that was going on a couple of weeks ago. Some journalists were undoubtedly being wound up to go on the hunt for me." Members of the government thought they had identified an easy fall guy; they were wrong.

Ian Liddell-Grainger, Conservative MP for Bridgwater and West Somerset, [has been leading the assault](#), attacking Smith for not visiting the flood-hit county earlier, calling him a "coward" and a "little git", and betraying a schoolboy sensibility by saying he wanted to put Smith's head down the loo and flush it. Smith thinks Liddell-Grainger is also behind a petition being got up in Somerset to have him sacked. "He is on a crusade to vilify me, but the fortunate thing is not too many people take him seriously. He's playing a game, and there's no room for these silly games in an emergency."

Will the government now see Smith as a troublemaker? "I hope not," he says. "For the past five and a half years I've tried not to be. I've made it clear that government makes policy and we implement it." He gave up the Labour whip in the House of Lords when he got the job, and says he tries to be non-partisan. His contract ends in July. Will he get through to the summer, or suffer [a defenestration similar to that of Sally Morgan](#), who was recently sacked as head of Ofsted? "I have every confidence I will," he says.

Smith stresses he has a good relationship with Paterson, who as secretary of state for the environment is effectively his line manager. But doesn't Paterson's scepticism about climate change make the relationship a little testy? "If you sit him down and talk with him, he will recognise that weather patterns appear to be changing," says Smith. "Where I think he would probably want to say he is unsure is whether that is down to human activity." Smith has fewer doubts: he says recent evidence suggests dramatic changes in the climate, and believes the scientists who argue we are contributing to that. "The more greenhouse gases we pump into the atmosphere, the more danger of change there is going to be," he says.

The implications for flood defence are immense. "Once the rain has stopped and we begin to pick up the pieces, I hope one of the things we do is think about how much more resilient we need to be in the face of weather patterns that are likely to be more extreme than we've been used to." He says the £600m a year currently spent on flood defence will have to rise annually by inflation plus £20m just to maintain our present level of protection.

Smith accepts that the agency's response to the flooding has not been perfect. He says it should have pushed harder for the money to dredge the rivers on the Somerset Levels, and he should have visited the county earlier to show support. "There was a whole rest of country to worry about. I was up on the Humber looking at the damage from the storm surge and elsewhere. But I probably should have gone to talk with people down there at an earlier stage."

He welcomes David Cameron's "money is no object" remark, but wonders whether it will apply beyond the immediate crisis. "I hope he will apply the same principle to the longer-term issues about improving our flood defences. One of the things that has

worried me is whether flood defence is seen by the Treasury as a high enough priority." Smith says more than 5 million people in the UK are at risk of flooding, and that the government has to recognise the dangers. "This is a major issue for the national economy. [Flooding](#) knocks out businesses, it knocks out employment, it costs a huge amount to restore. This is something quite apart from the human distress, which is terrible. Government has to give flood defence a higher priority in terms of national infrastructure."

The Daily Mail and Nigel Farage [reckon we should divert money from foreign aid to shore up our defences](#). Does he see any virtue in that? "David Cameron very strongly said we can do both. We don't need to rob Peter to pay Paul." What about the [550 flood defence staff identified by Ed Miliband last week as threatened with redundancy](#) – will their jobs now be rescued? Smith says the spending squeeze means the agency has to cut staff from the present 11,200 to 9,700, with a third of the reduction coming from flood defence, but he hopes the government will reconsider the cuts. With an election around the corner, the views of floating voters might well force a change of heart.



Smith in Somerset inspecting flood damage in February 2014.

The floods are serious, of course, but the political reaction has surely been over the top – foreign trips cancelled, endless trips to flood zones, a desperate attempt by politicians to show they care about the relatively small numbers who have so far been flooded. Smith says he understands the political hand-wringing. "Flooding is an emotive issue and the images are very graphic. You have to show you know what you're doing, you're in charge, and that as much as possible is being done. But you also have to realise there are limits to what we can do to hold nature at bay." Not every home can be protected;

some properties, especially on coasts that are being eroded, may have to be abandoned. Flood defence, like politics, is the art of the possible.

Smith strikes me now – more than a decade after his frontline career ended – as a forthright, perhaps even courageous politician. Back in 1984, just a year after being elected in Islington, he was [one of the first MPs to declare he was gay](#). Then in 2005, the year he stepped down from the Commons, [he announced he was HIV positive and had been for 17 years](#). When I mention my admiration for his openness, he claims a third palm – for [leading the parliamentary opposition to the war in Iraq in 2003](#). He reminds me that he tabled the Commons amendments to try to stop the lurch to war. "There are times when you just have to be brave enough to do the right thing, even when it's going to be awkward and difficult," he says. "It wasn't a bundle of fun standing in front of a battery of cameras and journalists on the Somerset Levels, but that's the sort of thing you simply have to do. You can't not answer questions. You can't not stand up and be counted. It isn't the nicest experience you'll ever have, but you have to do it."



Chris Smith, on the campaign trail age 31 in the 1980s. Photograph: Life at a Glance

He had been a relatively successful culture secretary in the first Blair government, so why was [he sacked with no offer of another government job](#) immediately after Labour won a second term in 2001? Smith tells me no explanation was ever offered. "He [Blair] was very nervous about doing it, but phoned me up and said, 'I'm afraid I'm going to have to let you go.' I saw him a couple of months later, and again very nervously he said, 'How is it?' I said, 'Well, I have to say I still think you made a mistake, and quite a lot of people out there think you did too,' to which he had the decency to say, 'I know. I've had to spend the last couple of months replying to their letters.'" He was replaced at the

culture department by Tessa Jowell, which some interpreted as a desire on the part of Blair to promote more women. The fact he was in neither the Blair nor the Brown camp also meant he lacked a protector. "There was me, Robin Cook and Mo Mowlam, and we didn't really fit," he says.

Being sacked meant that at just 50 his frontline political career was over. That can't have been a pleasant feeling? "First of all you're very upset. Then you get a bit angry. But then you mellow out and decide to get on with your life." He has always had a hinterland to fall back on: he got a first in English at Cambridge, did a PhD on Coleridge and Wordsworth, won a scholarship to Harvard, and has a passion for the arts that is far from the usual synthetic interest of the here-today-gone-tomorrow culture secretary. That stood him in good stead when he lost the ministerial status and limo in 2001, and again in 2012 when he separated from his long-term partner Dorian Jabri, sold their home in Islington, moved to fashionable Clerkenwell and started living alone again for the first time in 25 years.

Smith says his disenchantment with the Iraq war in 2003 determined his future. "It made me absolutely certain I didn't want to go back into government, and prompted me to look elsewhere. I can remember having a conversation with Robin Cook when I'd decided I wasn't going to stand in the 2005 election, and Robin saying to me: 'That's a decision I could never take. I am a parliamentarian.' But I've had a very fulfilling time doing a range of other things." He became a fully paid-up member of the great and the good, founding [the Clore leadership programme](#), becoming chairman of the Advertising Standards Authority in 2006, and successfully applying for the Environment Agency job in 2008. In the latter role, he gets £90,000 for a three-day week – something his enemies have not been slow to pick up on.

Now, much to his surprise, he is back in the spotlight. "It is odd," he admits. "When I went into the Newsnight studio and sat down beside Jeremy [Paxman], he said: 'Hello Chris, I haven't seen you for a very long time.'" Happily, the old political reflexes still seem to be functioning. "There's a bit of experience that clicks in, and says 'Now I really do need to make a splash about this.'" Is he pleased to be back, having this moment in the sun (metaphorically speaking, of course) at 62? "It's not something I would relish doing on a permanent basis any longer," he insists. "I'm much happier getting on with the job of making sure that the organisation is working well, responding well, doing the stuff it needs to do rather than wanting to leap up and down in front of cameras."

Naturally he has to say that, but it would not be human if part of him didn't think that in the past week, by standing up for his agency and puncturing Pickles, he had shown the doubters they were wrong. He did have what it took to play the political game and hold his own in that sharp-elbowed world. His PhD on the romantic poets and enduring love of the arts masked a tough political operator. Too late now to make any practical

difference to his political career – Smith says that, like Al Gore, he regards himself as a "recovering politician" – but still nice to prove the man who had "let him go" back in 2001 wrong.

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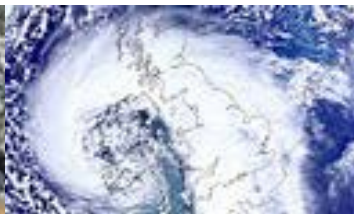
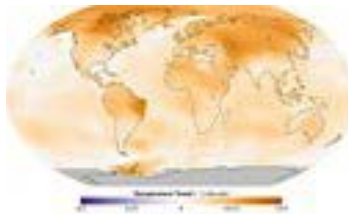
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Flooding

Hundreds of UK flood defence schemes unbuilt due to budget cuts

Work on 294 flood defence projects that were in line to receive funding never began, documents show



Flooding at Hebden Bridge in Yorkshire. Photograph: John Giles/PA

Damian Carrington

@dpcarrington

Saturday 14 July 2012 00.09 BST

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Nearly 300 flood defence schemes across England have been left unbuilt due to government budget cuts, according to documents obtained by the Guardian.

Thousands of homes have [flooded in recent weeks](#), causing hundreds of millions of pounds of damage. But in some of places overwhelmed by the deluge, flood defences that might have protected against rising waters and were in line for funding in 2010 were never begun, including at Croston in Lancashire and Kendal in Cumbria.

"The government is wringing its hands while the waters rise," said Charles Tucker, chairman of the [National Flood Forum](#), which represents 150 community flood action groups. "The fact is that spending has decreased while flooding has increased. Spending on flooding is clearly not enough."

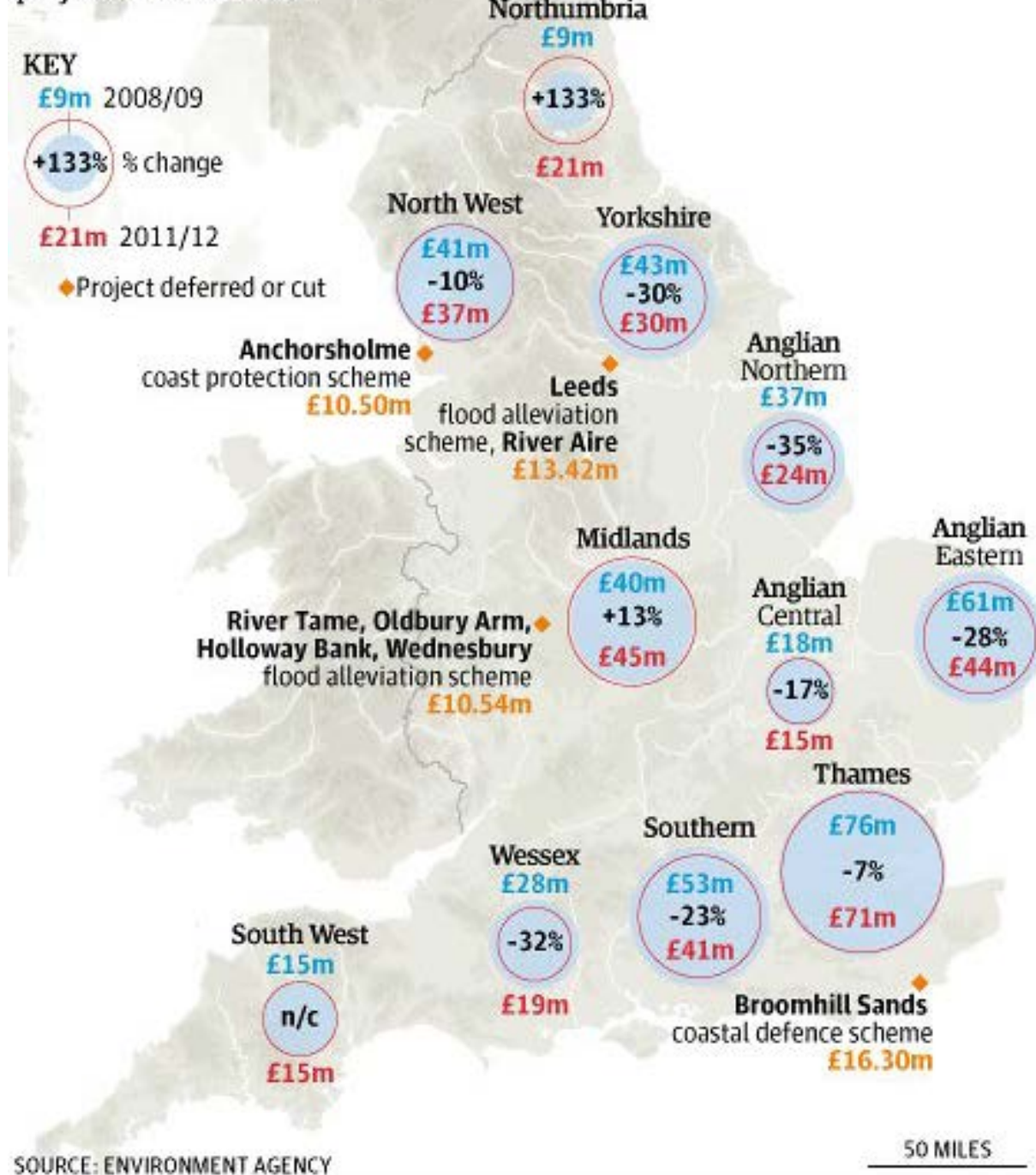
The exceptionally wet weather has caused chaos across the country from the banks of the river Yealm in the south-west to Sheepy Magna in Leicestershire and Hebden Bridge in Yorkshire. Travel to the Silverstone grand prix was severely disrupted last week after the car parks flooded and the [Great Yorkshire show was cancelled](#) because of the weather for the first time in its 154-year history.

The Guardian's analysis of [Environment Agency](#) documents shows 294 flood defence projects that had indicative funding in 2010 to begin work in the following two years have received no funding at all.

Major river schemes affected include those due to cost £58m in Leeds, £6m in Thirsk, Yorkshire and £1.3m in Croston, Lancashire. Other stranded projects include a £12m tidal barrier to protect Ipswich and a £6m coastal defence project at Fleetwood, near Blackpool.

Flood defence funding

Changes in flood defence funding by Regional Flood and Coastal Committee and projects deferred or cut



Flood defence funding Photograph: Graphic

"Labour left us with a massive debt problem, spending £120m every day just paying the interest on the debt," said a spokeswoman for Caroline Spelman, the environment secretary. "We couldn't put off dealing with the mess. This means, like every government department, very difficult decisions have had to be made regarding where to cut spending."

"The government is playing Russian roulette with peoples' homes and businesses," said

Mary Creagh, Labour's shadow environment secretary. "We know [flooding is the biggest threat the country faces](#) but the government is wilfully disregarding the scientific advice. In the end it will cost the country more. Every £1 spent saves £8, not to mention the human trauma avoided."

Tim Farron, president of the Liberal Democrats and local MP for Kendal, where a £325,000 scheme for the river Kent failed to materialise, said: "The problem is the demand for flood defences is rising when the pressure on public funds is also rising. But you should spend what you have to spend to avoid flooding. The cost to taxpayers is probably less than the cost of dealing with the damage afterwards."

The number of [homes at risk of flooding is set to quadruple](#) in the next 20 years, the government's official advisers, the Committee on Climate Change, warned this week. In December, the environment select committee of MPs warned [cutting flood protection was a "classic false economy"](#), while the [government's own report on climate change risk](#) in January said flooding was the UK's greatest threat, with annual damages set to rise to billions of pounds a year.

"It does not take a genius to work out this is an area where money needs to be spent now," said Richard Lewis, executive member for development and economy at Leeds city council, where planned funding for major flood protection project did not survive the cuts. "Leeds is the economic powerhouse for Yorkshire, but the cuts are the economics of the madhouse."

"In the last three years, the Environment Agency has completed 364 new flood risk management schemes resulting in better protection for an additional 188,200 households in England and Wales," said Paul Leinster, chief executive of the Environment Agency, which delivers flood defences for the government. "There will always be more schemes proposed than funds available and no one can prevent flooding entirely."

Government spending on flood defence rose rapidly after the massive flooding in 2007 but the pre-election annual spend was slashed by 27% by the coalition – a figure cited by [Lord Smith, the Environment Agency chairman](#).

While 294 schemes in line for funding in 2010 have been left stranded, analysis of Environment Agency funding documents for 2012-13 shows a total of 846 schemes have been identified but require "reduced costs, improved outcomes or additional contributions" to go ahead.

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ASC Members



Lord Krebs Kt FRS

Professor Lord Krebs of Wytham Kt FRS was Principal of Jesus College Oxford from 2005-2015. Previously, he held posts at the University of British Columbia, the University of Wales, and Oxford, where he was lecturer in Zoology, 1976-88, and Royal Society Research Professor, 1988-2005. From 1994-1999, he was Chief Executive of the Natural Environment Research Council and, from 2000-2005, founding Chairman of the UK

Food Standards Agency. He is a member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, the American Philosophical Society, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the German National Academy of Sciences (Leopoldina). He was chairman of the House of Lords Science and Technology Select Committee from 2010 to 2014 and currently sits on the Energy and Environment Select Committee. He was President of the British Science Association in 2012.

Professor Jim Hall

Professor Jim Hall FEng is Director of the Environmental Change Institute at Oxford University, where he is Professor of Climate and Environmental Risks. A chartered engineer by background, Professor Hall has pioneered the use of



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probabilistic methods in flood risk assessment and water resource systems. He is Associate Editor of the Journal of Flood Risk Management and Fellow of the Institute of Civil



Professor Dame Anne Johnson

Wellcome Trust Governor.

Professor Dame Anne Johnson DBE FMedSci is a public health doctor. She is Professor of Infectious Disease Epidemiology, Chair of the Population and Lifelong Health Domain and Vice Dean International at University College London. She was a member of the UCL/Lancet Commission report on managing the health effects of climate change. She was previously Chair of the MRC Population Health Sciences Group. She is also a



Ece Ozdemiroglu

Nature Programme, steering group member of the Natural Capital Initiative, and associate editor of the Journal for Environmental Economics and Policy.

Ece Ozdemiroglu is an environmental economist and the founding director of eftec (Economics For the Environment Consultancy). At eftec she has undertaken, directed and quality assured over 450 projects generating and interpreting economic value evidence on natural capital, ecosystem services, green infrastructure, water and flood management, remediation of environmental damage, cultural heritage, chemicals and value of information. She is also the Economics Lead of the Valuing



Rosalyn Schofield LLB

private practice.

Rosalyn Schofield LLB is a solicitor. She is currently Director of Company Secretariat at Associated British Foods plc where she has global responsibility for Sustainability, including the environmental impact of its businesses. Formerly, she was Legal Director at JD Wetherspoon plc where she managed the development, construction and opening of up to 100 outlets a year. Her early career was as a commercial property lawyer in



Sir Graham Wynne, CBE

Sir Graham Wynne is a former Chief Executive and Director of Conservation of the RSPB. He is currently Senior Advisor to the Prince of Wales' International Sustainability Unit (ISU), a member of the Board of the Institute for European Environmental Policy and a Trustee of Green Alliance. He was a member of the Policy Commission on the Future of Farming and Food, the Sustainable Development Commission, the Foresight Land use Futures Group and England's Wildlife Network Review Panel. His early career was in urban planning and inner city regeneration.

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David Cameron

David Cameron heckled on visit to flood-hit Yalding

Residents express anger over response of government agencies after rivers Beult, Tiese and Medway burst their banks



David Cameron listens to a resident in Yalding, Kent. Photograph: Ben Stansall/AFP/Getty Images

Robert Booth

Friday 27 December 2013 14.27 GMT

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[David Cameron](#) was heckled by angry residents of the flooded Kent village of Yalding as he pledged to make flood protection a higher priority of the government.

The prime minister was confronted during a walkabout of the village, where about 100 homes were evacuated on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day when the converging rivers of the Beult, Tiese and Medway burst their banks and sent a torrent of water down the high street.

Erica Olivares, 49, told Cameron she was "absolutely disgusted" by the response of government agencies. "We were literally abandoned," she told the prime minister in the street outside her devastated 18th-century cottage, where the water rose to waist height on Christmas Eve. "We had no rescuers, no nothing for the whole day."

Cameron asked what she needed and urged her to "get on to the council", but she replied: "They all decided to go on holiday."

Cameron visited her cottage and said he would make calls on her behalf to try to sort out her electricity supply, and to the council to provide waste collection for her wrecked furniture.

"We had no practical help whatsoever," Olivares told the Guardian. "The Environment Agency said it was up to the council and when I did get through to the council they said if you need sandbags, get your own. On Christmas Day we saw absolutely no one."

She complained that there had been only a couple of hours notice of the flood, which poured down the village's main road like a rapid.

Later, as the prime minister talked to Environment Agency officials about the possibility of building flood defences around the village, he was heckled by Sean Matthews, 54, a tube driver who said he was angry at how the villagers had been left to fend for themselves.

"The people he's talking to, the Environment Agency and so on, weren't here," he said afterwards. "I swam this road on Christmas Day pulling people out on my own. There was no one here on Christmas Day or Boxing Day. A lot of families have lost a lot."

Cameron spoke to a group of firefighters from Kent fire and rescue who posed with him beside an inflatable boat that appeared to have been ferried in 10 minutes before Cameron arrived in his prime ministerial Range Rover. It departed soon after he left.

Yalding was badly flooded in 2000 and no new flood defences have been built since then. Three options have been proposed including an earth berm around the village, upstream storage and house-by-house defences. The earliest that any work will start on the defences will be 2017, Environment Agency officials said.

Many villagers said they felt let down by the failure of authorities to make good on assurances that the floods of 2000 would not be repeated. Geraldine Brown, chair of the local parish council, told Cameron the solution to repeated flooding would cost £20m. Cameron promised "a complete review following these floods".

"There is money there, it is a question of working out which things it could fund," he told her, adding he felt the floods were "completely awful". "You only have to watch the news over the last few years to know these events are happening more often now," he said. "It needs to be a bigger priority for the government and it is."

Speaking outside the flooded village pub he added: "There are a lot of flood defences being built and something like 80,000 houses were protected this time, but we have got

to do more. We need to work with the Environment Agency to see what more we can do from this flood and other floods, but right now the priority is to help people recover from the terrible shock of this happening to them on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day."

He conceded that warnings from the Environment Agency were not always accurate, but he said: "Sometimes these are very, very tragic events and it is impossible to protect everybody, but we have got to do more and we have got to do better."

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Matthew d'Ancona: High water is not the only crisis the PM faces now

As the floods threaten to submerge the Tories in political fallout, David Cameron needs to reassert his authority

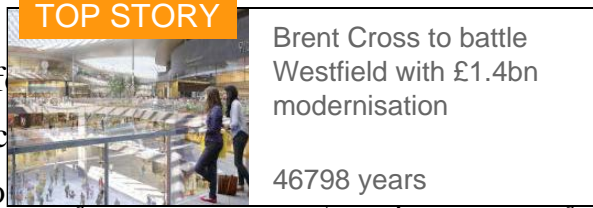
Wednesday 12 February 2014 | 



In taking personal authority yesterday for the “national emergency” of the floods, the Prime Minister was not so much seizing the initiative as recognising a bleak political reality. Whether he now chairs around-the-clock meetings of Cobra, or slips off to the Seychelles for a holiday, the voters will hold him responsible for the management of the crisis. As Ed Miliband reminded us in

his Hugo Young lecture on Monday, today's politicians can barely make a speech without promising devolution and decentralisation. Yet civil emergencies such as this one are sharp reminders that, when it counts, we live in a unitary nation-state. The buck stops with David Cameron; it's on him

Required reading for memoirs on Hurricane a different order to



could be the chapter in George W Bush's which claimed more than 1,800 lives, was of them was grimly familiar.

In his account, the former President describes an extraordinary shouting match on Air Force One as the Governor of Louisiana, director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Mayor of New Orleans and Bush himself bickered over who, exactly, was responsible for law and order in the shattered city. There have been parallel rows in recent days over who, among the multiple agencies, Whitehall departments and local authorities is accountable for this or that aspect of the flooding.

Yet, as Bush realised in 2005, the answer, politically speaking, is always the same. "I should have recognised the deficiencies sooner and intervened faster ... I made an additional mistake by failing to adequately communicate my concern for the victims of Katrina ... its impact was more than physical destruction. It eroded citizens' trust in their government."

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While it is an exaggeration to say this is "Cameron's Katrina", the peril facing the PM is exactly that identified by Bush. Over the weekend, the news was dominated not by the speed of the Government's response but the depths of political recrimination. It was a terrible decision to direct ministerial fire at Chris Smith, chairman of the Environment Agency. As it happens, I once sat on another quango chaired by Lord Smith, and those on the Tory side who think of him as a political seven-stone weakling are sorely mistaken. He is a sharp customer who fights his corner with a force that made me once try to work out in a meeting if "Islington" is an anagram for "Sonny Liston" (not quite, unfortunately).

So it was a serious error by Eric Pickles, the Communities Secretary, to blame Smith's agency, as he did on The Andrew Marr Show, for the Government's failure to dredge Somerset's rivers, or to make jokes about "Save Chris Smith" T-shirts. Pickles was only standing in for Owen Paterson, the Environment Secretary, hors de combat as he recovered from eye surgery: it's a bad idea to showboat when you're deputising. This was also a particularly inappropriate moment for the Pickles music hall act, all "Where's me washboard?" and "Lord Smith? I should cocoa!" The tone was spectacularly at

odds with the needs of the hour.

Pickles compounded the error by simply denying to the Commons that he felt anything other than “admiration” for the Environment Agency. He and Paterson were, he also claimed, “peas in a pod” (a large pod, presumably). There are occasions when MPs enjoy the Communities Secretary’s stand-up act, the arched eyebrows and purring irony. This was not one of them.

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In addition to the petty in-fighting it has triggered, this emergency has become a canvas upon which a series of huge governmental dilemmas are being projected. When he became Tory leader in 2005, Cameron insisted that the Conservatives would now be the true party of environmentalism: vote blue, go green. But — to put it mildly — the conversion is incomplete.

Most Tories still think the orthodox science of climate change is hysterically exaggerated or outright

nonsense, sharing George Osborne's view (heavily influenced by the writings of Nigel Lawson) that green measures should not be allowed to inhibit growth. But growth is not much use to you if your new-build semi, purchased with help from the Government's Help to Buy scheme, is under water. Yesterday, Cameron evaded questions about Cabinet unity on climate change, insisting only that his own views have not altered. But if that is the case — if the PM truly believes that anthropogenic global warming is responsible for potentially catastrophic changes in the weather — then it ought, logically, to be his priority, more important even than economic recovery. One cannot be “pragmatic” or “in favour of sensible compromise” about a threat to the survival of the human race. So what's it going to be, Mr Cameron?

Connected to this is the question of fiscal rectitude. The next election, fought against the backdrop of continued spending restraint, will be all about priorities. What do the main parties propose to fund and to cut? Do our senior politicians mean it when they say more spending is not always the answer, that “public service reform” brings value for money, and that billions of pounds' worth of waste is still waiting to be squeezed out of the system? Under pressure yesterday, Cameron's instinct was still to reach for the cheque book (“Money is no object in this relief effort”). When it comes to the crunch, the question remains: how much?

The other question is: can he cope? From Black Wednesday in 1992 and the fuel protests in 2000 to the foot-and-mouth outbreak that postponed the 2001 election and the summer riots of 2011, such crises shine an unforgiving light on a Prime Minister. Governments are broken by such trials. There is no deadlier word in politics than “grip”; if Cameron is judged to have lost his, he is dead in the water.

*Matthew d'Ancona's book, **In It Together: The Inside Story of the Coalition** (Viking Penguin) has been shortlisted in the Paddy Power Political Book Awards.* ■

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I won't be printing 'Save Chris Smith' T-shirts, says Pickles as he calls for flood boss to apologise

- Communities Secretary wants Environment Agency chairman to apologise
- Said the agency had become 'riddled with political correct' eco-fanatics
- Accused Smith of playing 'divide and rule' setting 'town against country'

By [SIMON WALTERS FOR THE MAIL ON SUNDAY](#)

PUBLISHED: 22:52, 8 February 2014 | **UPDATED:** 23:43, 8 February 2014

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The Labour quango chief blamed by flood victims for wrecking homes and livelihoods has effectively been told to quit by No 10.

Communities Secretary Eric Pickles, now put in charge of handling the flooding crisis by David Cameron, said Environment Agency chairman Chris Smith should make a public apology for its mistakes.

And asked whether Lord Smith, a former Cabinet Minister, should resign, Mr Pickles said bluntly: 'He has to make his own decision.'

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Brutal: New floods chief Eric Pickles, left, castigated Environment Agency chairman Lord Smith, pictured right with his Tibetan terrier Jinny

He used brutal sarcasm to pile on the pressure, adding: 'I don't see myself becoming the advocate of the "Save Chris Smith" campaign or printing "Save The Environment Agency One" T-shirts.'

He accused Lord Smith of playing 'divide and rule' by 'trying to set town against country', letting the EA become 'riddled with politically correct' eco-fanatics opposed to dredging, presiding as the organisation 'lost its way' and spending 20 times more money on its bloated bureaucracy than on keeping rivers clear.

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Mr Pickles's comments came 24 hours after Lord Smith visited the flood-hit Somerset Levels and refused to resign. The Minister showed little sympathy over the mauling local residents gave Lord Smith, who lives in a £1 million London apartment with beloved Tibetan terrier Jinny.

'It's always good to get feedback from your customers,' Mr Pickles observed drily. 'At least he'll never have to hire a focus group to know what people are thinking.'

Ignoring Labour claims that the Government is 'scapegoating' Lord Smith, Mr Pickles urged him to give in to demands to say sorry for the EA's alleged failings.

'It's not a sign of weakness. A bit of reaching out and humanity and humility is good for everybody, whether a distinguished quangocrat or a member of the Cabinet.'

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Condemned: Mr Pickles' comments came 24 hours after Lord Smith visited the flood-hit Somerset Levels and refused to resign

Mr Pickles added: 'Being flooded is like a burglary: Afterwards, the effect continues. It's not just the drying out or loss of precious possessions and memories. Every time it rains people wonder, "Is it going to happen again?"'

Mr Pickles was asked by Mr Cameron to take charge of the crisis last week after Environment Secretary Owen Paterson had to have urgent treatment for a detached retina.

Mr Paterson, who is married to an aristocrat's daughter, had been criticised for visiting the Somerset Levels in town shoes, not Wellington boots. He was accused of seeming 'shrill and aloof' in interviews and in dealing with flood victims.

By contrast, plain-talking Yorkshireman Mr Pickles was born into a Labour-supporting family and has the common touch you would expect of an Essex MP.

Mr Pickles said the EA had blundered by stopping dredging. 'The Somerset Levels were man-made and dredging was a fundamental part of keeping it going, just as it is with any land below sea level right across the world. You need to continuously dredge.'

'It worries me that in a politically correct attempt to be more environmentally sound than the next person, something as basic as this has been forgotten.'

No one has ever accused Eric Pickles of being a slave to political – or any other – fashion. By contrast, culture vulture Lord Smith was a New Labour Minister who cut his teeth in trendy, Labour-run Islington, the urban fount of political correctness.

'Chris Smith tried to play divide and rule by setting town against country [when he said that the EA had to protect one or the other]. That is a false choice.'

'The people on the ground have done a fantastic job, but the agency has lost its way and become riddled with political correctness.'

months after £120,000-a-week yacht trip



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Pickles said the people on the ground had done a fantastic job but the agency had become 'riddled with political correctness'

It is not the first time he has clashed with the EA's eco warriors. 'Don't even start me on my arguments with them about fortnightly rubbish collections,' he roared.

The flood has submerged the homes and lives of thousands of people. And if Mr Pickles has his way, the EA and Lord Smith will join the casualty list.

He plans to force town halls to spell out on council tax bills how much money each household is contributing to the EA's eye-watering £1.2 billion annual budget. He said: 'The EA hiked up the council tax by around 20 per cent in the West Country last year with little to show for it.'

He added: 'It must not be invisible any more. They need a clear leadership and to understand that people matter. People are entitled to feel safe in their homes.'

'The EA gets £1.2 billion a year but paid out £395 million on staff last year and just £20 million on improving maintenance of culverts and channels to ensure the free flow of water.' It was the most expensive agency of its type in Europe, costing nearly as much as in the USA.

Mr Pickles had no truck with green activists who say people on the Somerset Levels chose to live below sea level and should move.

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► **Doting dad Jamie Oliver poses with Petal, Buddy and newborn son River Rocket as he enjoys the great outdoors with his kids**
Precious photo



► **Smiley Daisy Lowe steps out in an all-black ensemble and matching hat after narrowly avoiding elimination on Strictly Come Dancing**
Bouncing back in style



► **Take me to church: Handsome James Norton beams as he films scenes in his dog collar for latest Grantchester series in Cambridge**



► **FIRST LOOK: Cate Blanchett and Sandra Bullock start filming all-female spin-off Ocean's Eight in New York**
Three Academy Awards between them





Environment Agency chief Lord Chris Smith discusses the water level where the River's Tone and Parrett meet near Burrowbridge, Somerset

'That's bad news for most of the Netherlands isn't it?' he quipped, with trademark deadpan humour. 'I am certainly not in retreat. I want people back in their homes and animals back in their farms.'

Mr Pickles said he was determined to restore train links to Cornwall after the track crumbled into the sea in Dawlish in Devon.

But he does not rule out re-routing the track inland in the future. And he plans a massive 'storm audit' of all coastal road and rail links to find out whether other changes are needed.

'We will look at all our strategic infrastructure to ensure it is as clear as possible from disruption from storms.'

He is due to visit areas hit by the floods in a few days. When he does, unlike Mr Paterson, he will definitely be wearing Wellingtons.

Are they black or green?

'Black, of course,' laughed Mr Pickles. Green Wellies are for the posh kids, like Messrs Paterson and Cameron.

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Grammy-winner has resorted to fresh tactics




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With daughter Belle




► 'People were not giving me respect': Justin Bieber throws down his mic and storms off stage in Manchester after fans BOO him for talking for too long




► Georgie Shore's Holly Hagan shows off her pert posterior and slender figure in impressive before and after body transformation snap



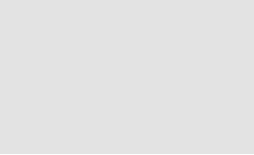
► Looking ace! Lilly Becker flaunts her lithe legs in a white lace dress as she joins tennis champion husband Boris at a golf tournament

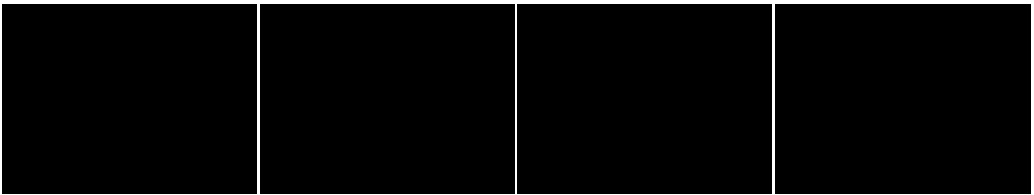


► Mini muscle man: Kai Rooney follows in famous father Wayne's footsteps and shows off his sporting prowess during family holiday in Barbados



► 'Navy is the new black!' Elizabeth Hurley, 51, flaunts her famous cleavage and lean legs in strapless swimsuit





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MORE TOP STORIES

▶ Chrissy Teigen sports vampy thigh-high boots as she jets out of London... as John Legend reveals she's inspired his sexy new songs

▶ 'F**k Liam Payne': 'Pregnant' Cheryl's Instagram account is HACKED with terrifying 'satanic' posts... as boyfriend lives it up in Las Vegas

▶ Gimme More clothes! Britney Spears risks baring all as bondage-style bra rips open as stunned dancers try to protect her modesty at Vegas show

▶ Pregnant Geri Horner shows off her blossoming baby bump as she shares snaps of her idyllic countryside life on Instagram Expecting again at 44

▶ 'We have sensational chemistry!' Geoffrey Edelsten, 73, introduces 26-year-old Playboy model girlfriend Ashley Kirk... and he says she likes him for his BRAINS

▶ Furry nice! Chanel Iman displays her perfect pins in short sweater dress Chanel's sweater dress certainly had a Christmassy feel

▶ The look of love: Home And Away star Pia Miller shares a tender moment with beau Tyson Mullane in her latest social media post Planting a gentle kiss

▶ The only way is to tone up! Frankie Essex announces she is releasing a fitness DVD after dropping an impressive two stone Yo-yo dieter

► **'Their relationship is volatile': Blac Chyna and Rob Kardashian 'are still living separately' as the couple prepare to welcome their first child**



► **'Best stand-in I've seen!' Helen Skelton gets glowing reviews for debut stint presenting Lorraine... as viewers praise her 'stunning' fashion sense**



► **Jennifer Hawkins shows off her toned torso in a crop top and denim shorts... a month after becoming the ambassador for a health food brand**



► **'Do you want to see my vagina?' Sir Patrick Stewart's Twitter hacked Monday morning by 'sexy' naked woman selling nude photos**
Not what fans expected



► **Jamie Oliver never looked this good! Meet the (almost) Naked Chef who is wowing millions online with his racy recipes**
World's sexiest chef



► **Can coconut pulling REALLY give you the perfect smile? GBBO's Tamal puts the beauty treatment beloved by A-listers like Gwyneth Paltrow to the test**



► **'I suffered really badly for years': Jodie Kidd talks about her secret battle with anxiety as she reveals she struggled to leave the house in her 20s**



► **'I'm better at holding onto pee than other passengers': Alexa Chung reveals her flying habits; clothes, VIP neighbours... and bladder control**




► **Daisy Lowe leads the Strictly cast back to their hotel following the results show... as programme continues to trounce X Factor in the ratings war**




► **MIC's Nicola Hughes**


shows off her legs in an olive green minidress as she shops 'til she drops in Chelsea
Girls' day out on London's King's Road




► Poldark heartthrob Aidan Turner smooches pretty 'British artist'... just weeks after he was spotted kissing PR girl Tara Derakshan
He moves fast




► Is this Aidan Turner's mystery brunette? Glam British previously linked to Robert Pattinson, worked with Banksy and dated Sienna Miller's ex 'is dating Poldark star'




► 'They told me I was dying': Emotional Charlie Webster gives her first TV interview since malaria left her fighting for her life at Rio Olympics




► 'I've lost some cleavage': Khloe Kardashian flashes her breasts at Scott Disick on KUWTK as she reveals she's considering a boob job




► So THAT'S her 'talent'! Kim Kardashian explains how she's made millions from 'getting people to like me' in interview before Paris heist




► 'It'll take more than a sparkly leotard': Louise Redknapp laughs off Strictly curse with husband Jamie... and admits he gets 'really nervous' watching her



► Chloe Lloyd shows off her model figure in a racy black bikini as she and Union J star fiancé Josh Cuthbert pack on the PDA in Dubai
Picture of happiness



► 'Too provocative': Feisty Jesy Nelson hits back at Mel C and Little Mix critics in a bold statement mini... after band are accused of 'dressing like strippers'



► Louisa Johnson

flaunts enviably toned figure in sizzling promo shots as she announces release of her debut single *So Good*
X Factor champion



► 'I cried a lot about it': Zoe Hardman discusses 'traumatising' labour as she and Paul Doran-Jones introduce beautiful baby girl Luna
Little bundle of joy



► SPOILER ALERT! Negan's victim revealed on brutal season seven premiere of *The Walking Dead*
After THAT gut-wrenching cliffhanger



► SPOILER ALERT! 'It's such an iconic moment': The cast of *The Walking Dead* talk about shocking character death featured on season seven premiere



► Relley C becomes the third act to be booted off *X Factor*... as host Dermot O'Leary is forced to apologise for a contestant's explicit gaffe live on air



► 'My favourite part of this Sunday': David Beckham shares cute snap of son Cruz, 11, playing the guitar to his older brother Romeo, 14, in the garden



► Double bubble: *X Factor* judge Iggy Azalea shows off her ample posterior and cleavage
Sent her army of Instagram followers into a frenzy



► What a bonny welcome! School children clamour for a high five from Prince William as he visits Stirling Castle
In Scotland



► Polished in plum! Queen Letizia is dressed for business as she arrives at the World Health Organization headquarters in Geneva
Spanish royal



► **'I'm lucky because I can pass as a woman': Transgender TV reporter India Willoughby reveals her respect for those who 'don't look the part'**



► **Abbey Clancy shows off her slim figure in a tiny yellow snakeskin bikini as she takes a break from filming Britain's Next Top Model**
In front of the camera



► **Off-duty beauty: Make-up free Emma Roberts shows off her flawless features as she grabs a bite to eat**
Took things back to basics



► **Cotton candy! Fearne wraps up in a kooky pink fur coat and distressed denim as she heads to radio station**
Put on a typically kooky display



► **Up All Night! Liam Payne lets his hair down at Las Vegas club... after 'pregnant' lover Cheryl divorces Jean-Bernard Fernandez-Versini in '14 seconds'**



► **'Ready for our little one to arrive': Married At First Sight's Zoe Hendrix shows off her bare baby bump as she counts the days until bub's arrival**
Married At First Sight star



► **'Guy, I'm stealing your wife!' X Factor judge Mel B reveals she's hired Guy Sebastian's wife as her personal stylist for the entire show**
Changing up her look



► **Made In Chelsea's Tiffany Watson shows off her washboard abs as she poses in Calvin Klein underwear after workout with sister Lucy**
Witness the fitness



► **'You still love me, right?' Thor star Chris Hemsworth responds to claims his marriage to Elsa Pataky is in trouble**

with cheeky social media post



► She's still got it! Olivia Newton-John, 68, puts on a youthful display as she poses with shirtless Chippendales dancers in Las Vegas
Ageless entertainer



► A right royal occasion: Matt Smith, Claire Foy and John Lithgow attend special screening of Netflix's new drama The Crown in New York
Lead the cast



► Suits you! Jennifer Garner looks sophisticated and stylish in formal blazer and white shirt as she touches down in NYC
Sophisticated flair



► Amber Heard makes rare public appearance as she attends a Los Angeles photography exhibit
Slowly making her way back into the limelight



► 'We've never really left each other': Fergie discusses her relationship with ex Prince Andrew as she's quizzed over whether they will reunite



► 'Oh my Lulu': Chrissy Teigen shares sweet video feeding baby Luna her first 'savoury bite'
She's completely smitten with her six-month-old daughter



► Surf school: Cody Simpson takes to the sea to show off his moves as the singer swaps his guitar for a surfboard
He's got skills



► What twins? Mother-of-four Bec Judd shows off her svelte figure in a fitted pink dress... less than a month after giving birth to two boys
What a difference



► **'I would never ban them': Simon Cowell says One Direction are always welcome on the X Factor... after it's rumoured he overlooked Niall Horan**



► **Vicky Pattison looks worse for wear as she leaves X Factor studios wearing very tight black latex dress**
Pictured heading home from TV event



► **Stunning in silver! Nicole Scherzinger shimmers in metallic flared trousers and sequinned crop top as she leaves The X Factor studios**



► **'I miss you sitting on the toilet when I'm in the bath': Megan McKenna's resolve crumbles as Pete Wicks makes a last ditch attempt to win her back on TOWIE**



► **SPOILER ALERT: Pregnant Denise Fox's emotional confrontation with dying Phil Mitchell in EastEnders... but will she tell him he's the father?**



► **Yee-ha! Lady Gaga sports a bruise on her neck as she heads to the recording studio in NYC wearing an oversized pink cowboy hat**



► **Whoops! Suki Waterhouse gives a cheeky display as she has a wardrobe malfunction in tiny skirt**
The British model flashed her rear



► **Feel the heat! Alessandra Ambrosio bares her cleavage and midriff as she heads to the gym in tight black workout gear**
Working up a sweat



► **'No one will replace my dad!' Teresa Giudice aches as Milania, 10, struggles with father's absence on RHONJ**
Father Joe has gone to prison



► **Lauren Cohan and Steven Yeun reunite on**

red carpet after Negan's victim was revealed in shocking Walking Dead premiere
In spite of tragic events



No hard feelings! Steven Yeun and Jeffrey Dean Morgan embrace at Talking Dead premiere... after brutal Walking Dead season opener



Taking a load off! Hilary Duff spends the day in bed while shopping for a new mattress at a Los Angeles boutique
Searching for bedding



Kendall Jenner shows off her model figure in skintight workout gear as she heads to a bookstore with Anwar Hadid
Remarkably low-key



Bra-vo! Shay Mitchell puts on an eye-popping display in plunging blazer at star-studded charity event
Decided to forgo a blouse



They look environmentally friendly! Jaden Smith brings along girlfriend Sarah Snyder to climate change rally
Saving the planet



Red hot! Candice Warner flaunts her toned physique in a TINY two-piece bikini as she enjoys a day at the beach in Sydney with her young daughters



LeAnn Rimes goes braless in plunging petrol blue gown with daring thigh-high split as she performs on Strictly
She was sure to show off her assets



'Is this Honey G a joke or what?' X Factor fans turn on rapper after she's BOOED by the audience for making it through another week
After Relley C left



Chrissy Teigen turns

heads in a sexy
shirt
dress alongside
husband John Legend
following his X Factor
set... after his sarcastic
jibe at Honey G



► No chance of a
wardrobe malfunction in
this outfit! Pregnant
Janet Jackson, 50,
covers her baby bump
in Islamic-style dress
during stroll with hubby



► On a California
Adventure! Rob
Kardashian and Blac
Chyna join BFF Amber
Rose as they take their
kids to Disneyland
Let the fun begin



► Former Emmerdale
star Leah Bracknell
needs MORE money for
life saving treatment in
Germany after being
diagnosed with
incurable lung cancer



► 'What is this? I am
leaving!' Mel B storms
off during television
interview after hosts
push feud with X Factor
Australia co-star Iggy
Azalea



► Beautiful bride Ksenija
Lukich marries long-
time boyfriend Dan
Bragg in an elegant
sheer hand
embroidered designer
gown worth over \$15K
in Sydney



► Pregnant Katherine
Heigl showcases her
blossoming baby bump
as she steps out for
family day with husband
Josh Kelley and their
two daughters



► Lady in red (hoodie)!
Sofia Richie shows
Justin Bieber what he's
missing in trendy top
and pleather trousers
She had a brief love affair
with Biebs




► Time for some
ghoulish fun! Jessica
Alba takes daughters
Honor and Haven to
pick out pumpkins in
Beverly Hills
It's Halloween season




► 'He gets too dizzy from

all the spins': Strictly survivor Ed Balls' dance partner Katya Jones reveals WHY he almost dropped her during routine



► She's a Little Minx! Perrie Edwards puts on a raunchy display in hotpants and fishnet tights as she joins her band-mates onstage at Radio 1 Teen Awards




► The Wax Factor! Rylan Clarke-Neal's face appears frozen in time as he steps out for Teen Awards with Xtra Factor co-host Matt Edmondson




► Emma Stone looks gorgeous in a dazzling dress as she attends event honoring Bill Murray with Mark Twain Prize


Showbiz friendship



► Lost In Translation! Miley Cyrus botches hosting gig as she curses and flubs song lyrics FORCING honoree Bill Murray to step in with well-timed jokes




► The most luxurious love nest! Jennifer Hawkins and Jake Wall unveil their sprawling \$5 million beachside mansion as they move to \$6 million pad




► Jaime King is pretty in plaid swimsuit as she enjoys bonding day at beach with her hubby and son in Maui


Enjoyed a day at the beach in Hawaii



► Mick Jagger's pregnant girlfriend Melanie Hamrick, 30, spotted cradling her baby bump in NYC... after the ageing rocker, 73, buys her '£5m pad'



► There's no stopping her: Actress Teresa Palmer shows off her baby bump in flowing ensemble at the Hacksaw Ridge press conference



► A sweet treat! Kylie

Minogue looks flawless make-up free as she dresses in a quirky Mickey Mouse T-shirt while buying ice cream on the Gold Coast



▶ Lesley Joseph becomes the fifth contestant to leave Strictly Come Dancing after losing out to Daisy Lowe in the dance off
Scored a lowly 24 points



▶ 'We miss the old Kanye': Jay Z's partner Kareem 'Biggs' Burke voices shock at West's 'don't call me' rant... says they are 'too old for rap beef'



▶ PICTURE EXCLUSIVE: Newly-divorced Jean Bernard steps out with Cheryl lookalike as it emerges his ex 'fears secret argument recordings will leak'



▶ Still fighting the good fight! Shailene Woodley dons facepaint at environmental rally in Los Angeles following protest arrest
Fault in Our Stars actress



▶ 'He wants me to do more': Deborra-Lee Furness says husband Hugh Jackman is 'thrilled' about her return to TV in new series Hyde & Seek



▶ She's got it all wrapped up: Claire Danes covers up in chunky knit scarf as she enjoys a family stroll with husband Hugh and son Cyrus in NY
Sunday was a day of rest



▶ Blooming marvellous! Pregnant Billie Faiers shows off her blossoming baby bump as she poses in her underwear for Instagram snap



▶ Why did the BBC choose to make rape look raunchy? CHRISTOPHER STEVENS is left aghast by scene in the costume drama



▶ 'The BBC has glorified


rape - won't be watching anymore': Poldark viewers threaten to switch OFF after controversial sex scene
Wouldn't accept 'no'



► 'I just gave up on life': Walking Dead fans take to Twitter to share their anger, tears and hilarious memes as Negan victim cliffhanger is finally resolved



► What a Nightmare! Brooklyn Beckham attends screening of classic slasher flick at Los Angeles cemetery
Viewed a classic horror film with pals



► Make-up free Jessica Biel cradles son Silas while taking a break from filming new thriller The Sinner in South Carolina
Fresh-faced



► The calm before the storm! Manchester United legends Ryan Giggs and Gary Neville enjoy a night out in London... hours before team are humiliated




► 'I felt violated': Taylor Swift recounts alleged DJ groping incident in newly released court transcripts
After a judge agreed to release extra details



► Specs lady! Catherine Tyldesley cuts a stylish figure in leather midi as she steps out with husband Tom Pitfield
Time for her new hubby



► Feeling blue! Anna Kendrick and Zooey Deschanel coordinate on the red carpet at the Trolls premiere in Los Angeles
Cavalcade of stars



► Lashing out? Claims Russell Crowe is partying too hard after Danielle Spencer moved on with a new man may be behind 'fracas' with Azealia Banks



► Kanye West vows to boycott the Grammys if

Frank Ocean isn't nominated... after star missed the submission deadline

Told fans in Oakland



► What a hound dog! He stopped sleeping with wife Priscilla because she'd had their baby - and made her a mother figure instead

His latest addiction...



► He's still a goofball even when getting an award for it! Bill Murray cracks jokes on the red carpet before being honored with nation's top prize for comedy



► Imogen Thomas flaunts her enviable curves in boho fringe jacket as she cosies up to cute look-a-like daughters Ariana and Siena at film event



► Pregnant Stephanie Davis flaunts her blossoming baby bump in sensational bardot dress...after her Jeremy McConnell pretends to be late David Gest



► 'In the 'bu with my boo': Emily Ratajowski shares sexy swimsuit snaps from beach time with boyfriend Jeff Magid



► Why aye! Former Geordie Shore star Chantelle Connolly showcases her gym-honed body and ample assets in a tiny two-piece by the pool



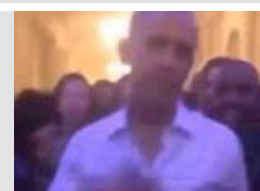
► 'I look real f*ing stupid': Kylie Jenner admits she seems dim in infamous moment she thought pig was chicken**

Surprised few people



► But where was Drake? President Obama dances to Hotline Bling with Usher at his final White House state dinner

He's got moves!



► Packing on the PDA! Alec and Hilaria Baldwin pucker up in the street

**after he lampoons
Trump on SNL**
The 58-year-old actor is
so smitten



► **Make or break?**
**TOWIE's Megan
McKenna looks sombre**
as she arrives at health
spa with ex-beau Pete
Wicks... following
heartbreaking scandal



► **The best advert!**
Alessandra Ambrosio
teams her bikini with a
hat from her own line on
family beach day
She's sure to keep getting
modelling work!



► **Newlyweds Josh
Brolin and Kathryn
Boyd only have eyes for**
each other while
grabbing coffee in LA
after European
honeymoon
Looked very loved up



► **Can't wait for
Halloween! Ivanka
Trump posts adorable**
picture of six-month-old
son Theodore dressed
for the holiday as
Mickey Mouse



► **Margot Robbie tops
Maxim's Hot 100 list of**
the most beautiful
women in Australia
alongside Natalie Roser,
The Veronicas... and
Pauline Hanson



► **Smitten! Chrissy
Teigen fawns over baby
Luna as she kisses her**
feet in heartwarming
video
Looked thrilled to be
doting on six-month-old



► **Jacqui Ryland flashes**
her bare bottom in a
seriously skimpy sheer
dress while out on the
town... as she is
'strongly rumoured' to
be joining TOWIE



► **PICTURE EXCLUSIVE:**
**Yeehaw cowgirl! Caitlyn
Jenner saddles up for a**
horseback ride with
daughter Kendall
With the end of I Am Cait,
she's got plenty of time



► **Tom Hanks mocks**

Trump supporters: Star dons a Make America Great Again hat for 'Black Jeopardy' Saturday Night Live skit on 'rigged' election



► Dashing escape! Catherine Zeta-Jones, 47, wears jaunty hat as she oozes Hollywood glamour for a flight out of New York
Looked flawless



► Tara Reid parades her VERY slender figure in skimpy Greek goddess costume at Maxim Halloween party
Never been shy about showing off her body



► Will Young looks tense as he puffs on a cigarette during day out in London... as rumours of nasty rift with Strictly partner Karen Clifton continue



► Bearded David Beckham cuts a sporty figure as he takes his kids Romeo, 14, Cruz, 11, and Harper, 5, trampolining in sunny LA



► Family time! Zooey Deschanel is pretty as a flower as she enjoys a morning stroll with her husband and daughter
She became a mother last summer



► 'Sunday funday!' Irina Shayk shows off her slender frame as she eats breakfast in her bikini
Enjoyed a decadent breakfast



► Newly-divorced Cheryl 'recorded in secret screaming at jealous ex Jean-Bernard to leave her home... as she fears shock tapes will be leaked'



► 'Fight like a girl!' Shannen Doherty shares sweet note thanking Chelsea Handler for her support during cancer battle



► The one lesson I've learned from life: Comedienne Ruby Wax

on not pushing herself too hard
The mother-of-three said she suffers depression



► **Cheryl set to return three rings to ex-husband Jean-Bernard...days after he demands she hands over his late mother's heirloom**



► **Picture perfect! Demi Moore stuns in form-fitting black frock as she joins Mario Testino for fundraising gala**
Dressed to the nines



► **'They've been taking a little break': Claims Chris Hemsworth and Elsa Pataky's marriage is on the rocks as couple seek 'space' from one another**



► **Playboy BIN-ny! Model Carla Howe shows off her incredible physique as she takes out rubbish in JUST racy crimson lingerie**



► **'I have been extremely sick': YouTube singing star Charlie Puth cancels remainder of tour amid ongoing illness**
Revealed changed plans



► **Canal-mad Tim and Pru really are the nation's favourite grandparents: CHRISTOPHER STEVENS reviews last weekend's TV**



► **That was quick! Bindi Irwin makes her debut in Maxim's Hot 100 countdown of Australia's most beautiful women... just months after turning 18**



► **Back on stage! Taylor Swift performs first full concert of 2016 at Formula One in Texas... as she belts out hit she wrote with ex Calvin Harris**



► **Busty Mariah Carey sizzles in raunchy latex**

devil costume as she joins Super Mario-clad ex-husband Nick Cannon and their twins for family Halloween fun



► 'Kiss my a** if you aren't for Hillary!' Miley Cyrus does ashtanga yoga as she implores fans to get out and vote
She's doing her bit to get Millennials to vote



► A pool, private bar, cabana gym, and his & her's dressing rooms: Inside the oppulent \$26.8million mansion rented by Ozzy and Sharon Osbourne



► Babymoon? Storm Keating flaunts her slender figure in tiny bikini as she and husband Ronan enjoy romantic getaway...amid pregnancy rumours



► Perrie Edwards flashes her abs in sexy embossed coord while borrowing dazzling make-up look from Nineties as she joins racy Little Mix



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SmartPoints nudges you towards nutritious, healthier foods so that you eat better, feel better, have more energy AND lose weight. Now that's what we call smart!



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MORE DON'T MISS

► Move over, Madonna! Lady Gaga flashes her derriere in purple satin hotpants and a cowboy hat following SNL appearance... after saying they're not alike




► Daisy Lowe wears cross-cross leotard


underneath sporty onesie as she leads the Strictly contestants to rehearsals for the Halloween special




► SPOILER ALERT! EastEnders' Lee Carter gets desperate as his brother Johnny discovers he's been keeping more secrets from fiancée Whitney




► 'You play games!' Diane Kruger shares 'final thought' about 'a relationship without trust' after Joshua Jackson split
Quipped on Instagram




► Nicole Scherzinger shows off her taut abs in punctured leather coord as she belts out national anthem at American football match in London




► 'She is being a good mom!' Caitlyn Jenner tries to help Kim Kardashian recover after Paris heist




► Khloe Kardashian and Lamar Odom finally reach divorce settlement
The 32-year-old had first filed for divorce back in December 2013




► Perrie Edwards wows in plunging camisole with tattered jeans as she joins fellow denim-clad bandmate Leigh-Anne Pinnock to celebrate Little Mix chart success



► Mohamed Hadid, 67, enjoys romantic date night with fiancée Shiva Safai, 30, at Hollywood hotspot



► 'It's a logistical nightmare!': Former Geordie Shore star Holly Hagan claims 'stringent rules make it hard for the boys to bed women on the show'



► 'Feel like crying when I look in the mirror':

Scarlett Moffatt shows off her incredible weight loss in bikini throwback... after announcing fitness DVD release



► Gigi Hadid rocks a casual look in a torn shirt and skinny jeans as she catches up with a friend in Los Angeles



► TOWIE's Pete Wicks continues crusade for forgiveness from Megan McKenna following sexting scandal... as she calls in family to help decide her fate



► John Legend enjoys a date night with Chrissy Teigen and baby Luna... after 'taking a swipe' at X Factor's Honey G



► Braless Charlotte Dawson grapples with totally sheer gown as she suffers near nip slip while flashing her entire derriere at boozy birthday bash



► Jacqui Ryland flashes her bare bottom in a seriously skimpy sheer dress while out on the town... as Megan McKenna struggles with Pete Wicks split



► A pool, private bar, cabana gym, and his & her's dressing rooms: Inside the opulent \$26.8million mansion rented by Ozzy and Sharon Osbourne



► Proud father Will Smith debuts new moustache as he joins busty wife Jada with kids Willow, Jaden and Trey at star-studded environmental awards



► Rick's kitchen nightmare! Stein puts in 'car crash' performance on Saturday Kitchen as he subjects Katie Melua to 'Trump-tastic levels of interruption'



► Dame Joan Collins, 83, wraps up in a fur jacket

over a classic LBD as she holds hands with husband Percy Gibson, 50, at Chiltern Firehouse



► Dancing queen! Olympia Valance busts a few dance moves... after the Neighbours beauty recently had epic meltdown when sexy lingerie snaps were removed from social media



► Back with a vengeance! Surprise judge Mel B reveals her underdog team as the X Factor contestants perform in their first live shows



► Selfie queen Karen Danczuk, 33, puts on a busty display in a black one-piece as she gets intimate with her toyboy lover, 26, in a swimming pool in Spain



► Here Comes Honey Boo Boo star Kaitlyn Cardwell undergoes surgery to remove her extra thumb
Entering surgery on October 18



► Calum Best is all smiles as he leaves London nightclub with stunning swimsuit model Kendal O'Reilly



► Tom Hanks hits the town with fellow A-Lister Bradley Cooper to celebrate his ninth time hosting Saturday Night Live



► 'I actually genuinely feel sick!': Megan McKenna reveals she's struggling to sleep following Pete Wicks split in rambling Snapchat posts



► 'She's been in floods of tears': Strictly star Laura Whitmore is 'unable to stand' and could face permanent damage after ankle injury forced her pull out of Saturday's live show



► **Why you should Strictly NEVER ask Ed Balls for a lift! Spray-tanned ex-Labour MP savaged for cringeworthy move after almost dropping dance partner**



► **It's over... again! Actress Chelsea Healy splits from her bad boy beau Jack Malloy for the second time**
The Waterloo Road star, 28, is 'single again'



► **CBeebies' Sarah Jane Honeywell and new husband Hollyoaks star Ayden Callaghan pack on the PDA... after naked holiday pictures emerge**



► **New X Factor romance on the cards? Sam Lavery and 5 After Midnight's Nathan Lewis 'caught kissing in a cupboard backstage during show'**



► **EXCLUSIVE: 'I'm very sorry': Azealia Banks reveals why she penned open letter to Zayn Malik after racist and homophobic Twitter tirade**



► **Coronation Street's Debbie Rush says it was tough to film character Anna Windass being burned alive because her own husband nearly DIED in a fire**



► **Caitlyn Jenner dazzles in sequinned mini dress while Kelly Osbourne shines in metallic gown as duo judge TransNation Queen pageant in LA**




► **'Hello guys, David Gest here': Jeremy McConnell distastefully pretends to be his late friend in shocking Snapchat video**
Claimed to be producer




► **TOWIE's Megan McKenna flaunts her figure in rose embellished crop top as she hits the town after losing sleep over love rat ex Pete Wicks**




Simon Cowell overlooks Niall Horan on The X Factor as he promotes his solo material... after blasting the singer's 'lack of loyalty' for signing with rival record label




► Coordinated couple! Kristen Stewart and girlfriend St Vincent wear matching ripped jeans as they run errands together




► Strictly's Anastacia performs her best dance yet with new partner Gorka as she gives message to ill Brendan to get well soon
Bonanza kicks off in style




► 'We didn't want people thinking we were doing it for publicity': The Wiggles' Lachy Gillespie reveals the reason why he and wife Emma Watkins initially kept their relationship a secret




► 'I got chills': Honey G FINALLY wins over no-nonsense Simon Cowell with dynamic Vanilla Ice and Queen mash-up on X Factor




► Jungle fever! Demi Lovato dons leopard-print miniskirt and jacket as she heads to West Hollywood celebrity hot spot Catch LA




► Hear her roar! Nicole Scherzinger flashes her tanned abs in sexy tiger print two-piece as she leaves The X Factor show with her fellow judges




► An eye-popping display! Buxom ex-TOWIE star Abigail Clarke narrowly avoids spilling out of tiny pink bralet as she enjoys wild night out




► 'Contractions... my son soon!': DJ Khaled Snapchats from inside the delivery room as fiance Nicole Tuck gives birth
Recording a special day




► **Daisy Lowe displays her toned figure in a tuxedo jacket as she dances into fourth place on Strictly with her quirky Charleston**
Looked delighted




► **Sporty as ever! Mel C shows off her toned legs as she takes to the stage... after confessing she turned down Spice Girls reunion to spend time with daughter**




► **Legs eleven! Emma Roberts shows off her lithe limbs in tiny Daisy Dukes as she steps out in Beverly Hills**




► **A Lott of front! Pixie shows off her bra in racy sheer top as she enjoys a date night with model beau Oliver Cheshire**




► **Ariana Grande headlines Hollywood concert for breast cancer awareness alongside Pitbull and The Backstreet Boys**




► **Perfect match! Cara Santana wears unusual coordinated ensemble as she goes on a loved-up stroll with fiance Jesse Metcalfe**



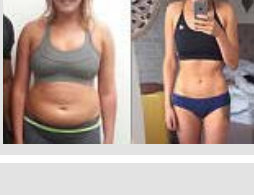
► **Keeping it simple: Dannii Minogue looks chic in tight skinny jeans and a leather jacket... after opening the Feast Festival in Adelaide**



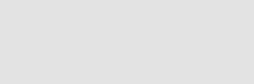
► **'What colour eyes would our child have?' Loose Women's Andrea McLean recalls tearful chat with partner Nick Feeney after her hysterectomy**



► **'Weekend motivation': Charlotte Crosby shares her amazing before and after weight loss transformation as she flaunts slimline figure in sports bra**



► **There's no camouflaging him! Mickey Rourke stands out in skintight trousers**



and flaunts his brawny chest in Beverly Hills



► White hot! Karrueche Tran sizzles in dress with VERY low-cut neckline and thigh-high slit
Ever the style chameleon



► Unleashing her inner wild child! Lily Allen gets into the party spirit as she enjoys a rare night out at star-studded Dizzee Rascal concert
At Copper Box Arena



► Lady in red... and white! Nicole Richie wows in semi sheer sleeveless gown and pearl pantsuit at Hollywood gala



► 'I was a tomboy!' Blac Chyna posts throwback photo of 'Young Chy'... as she preps for the birth of her own baby girl



► Take That announce 22-date arena tour to showcase their new album Wonderland next year... but Robbie Williams WON'T be joining



► Jesy Nelson vamps up in a racy black bodysuit at a Little Mix book signing in London... as the group's new single Shout Out To My Ex reaches number one



► Amy Childs oozes casual glamour in stylish knit and racy knee-high boots... as she steps out after she was hospitalised due to boob job



► Pink lady! Gaga heads to Saturday Night Live in pale rose belted coat with matching heels and wide brimmed hat
The singer went bare-legged



► Bottoms up! Lucy Mecklenburgh flaunts her shapely derriere in

form-fitting denims as she steps out in Essex
Flaunting her results from her tough workout



► **'One of my favorite cover stories!' Gigi Hadid boasts over racy photos as she flashes skimpy panties in Vogue Japan**
Gushed over her upcoming spread



► **Jessica Alba and Sarah Michelle Gellar are polished and poised as they attend Martha Stewart's American Made Summit**



► **Nicole Scherzinger slammed by Simon Cowell for neglecting her acts as she steals the show on X Factor while Ryan Lawrie is savaged by the judges panel**



► **SPOILER ALERT: Guilty Emma Barton attempts to cover up her murderous tracks after she dramatically killed husband James on Emmerdale**



► **Carry on Baking! Other contestants call me the Barbara Windsor of the Bake Off tent, admits Candice - but what do they expect if we're squeezing sausages?**



► **Top of the crops! Lea Michele flaunts her toned abs as she makes sports wear red carpet worthy**



► **Bikini babe to bring back the Brits: Made in Chelsea glamour Lucy Watson to lead \$10 million campaign to lure British backpackers Down Under**



► **Ireland Baldwin is transformed into a blood-splattered temptress as she turns 21 with a racy costume party**
In honor of the milestone



► **Strictly sick note!**
Devastated Laura Whitmore pulls out of live TV dance show with ankle injury amid claims 'six pro dancers are hit by a mystery illness'



► **'People are getting caught up in the novelty of it': John Legend wasn't impressed with 'novelty act' Honey G after meeting The X Factor stars this week**



► **Helen Skelton covers her famous legs in baggy boyfriend jeans and beige side-split jumper as she shops at The Baby Show**
Out in Kensington



► **High five! Zara Tindall is effortlessly chic in grey cape as she jokes around on the racecourse at Cheltenham**
With litte Harry Keighley



► **Reaching for a sarong next? Brooklyn Beckham looks a dead ringer for dad David in the nineties... as he sports new floppy haircut**



► **Out to sea! Brooke Burke-Charvet works out on a paddle board wearing pink bikini bottoms**
showcased not only her paddle boarding skills



► **'You can unfollow me': Ariel Winter talks social media haters and her struggle with body confidence... as she plays tourist in NYC with a pal**



► **Charli XCX-rated! Singer flashes flesh in plunging bikini top, mini skirt and pink underwear for Las Vegas concert**
Energetic performance



► **Saluting her fashion sense! Kaia Gerber goes military chic in oversized camouflage hoodie as she enjoys a day out in Malibu**
Showed off her own fashion sense



► **Was that meant for**

Bradley? Irina Shayk does a Kim Kardashian as she snaps picture of swimsuit-clad behind
Includes Kim-worthy caption 'angles'



► Knock knock, who's there?... Hillary who? Katy Perry and Miley Cyrus visit dorms to drum up support for Clinton - but the students are more concerned with selfies



► Bomber beauty! OITNB star Jackie Cruz displays her slender legs in a pair of denim shorts and a warm jacket



► Going for gold! Karrueche Tran shows off super slim figure in tiny bra top and matching trousers on Hollywood night out
Smoking in satin



► Earning her fashion stripes! Amal Clooney wears bold jumpsuit as she visits George on set with her father
Having fun with dad



► Looking divine! Karolina Kurkova flashes toned legs as she rocks super tight skirt and heavenly white blouse
Spotted in Miami



► 'She goes with me everywhere!' Coco Austin takes baby Chanel to the beauty parlor
The almost one-year-old giggles for the camera



► 'I feel someone's going to be fired': Sonia Kruger reveals what REALLY happened when Kourtney Kardashian appeared to ignore a question about Kim's robbery on Today Extra




► Keeping in touch! Big Little Lies co-stars Reese Witherspoon and Laura Dern grab lunch together
Coordinating ensembles




► The evolution of Elle:


Macpherson hides her famous physique as she stuns on the cover of Elle Australia... 25 years after fronting it braless in a wet blouse




► Kristin Scott Thomas stuns in colourful shift dress as she enjoys reunion with English Patient co-stars Ralph Fiennes and Juliette Binoche



► Courtney Love, 52, goes make-up free on Saturday stroll with toyboy lover Nicholas Jarecki, 37
The Hole singer held the filmmaker's hand




► Kelly Rowland goes braless in casual grey jersey dress as she nips out for lunch in Beverly Hills
Opted for comfort




► From red carpet glamour to soccer mom! Julia Roberts seamless transitions from celebrity to mama duties and looks great doing it
Beamed as she arrived




► Roxanne Pallett rocks a trendy leather jacket and tight trousers while filming with a muscular co-star in Essex
Back in black




► Daisy Lowe is typically smiley as she leaves her London hotel in a vintage leather jacket and skinny jeans ahead of the Strictly Come Dancing live show



► 'It's heartbreaking and I think every parent can relate to it': Carey Mulligan calls on UK to help end the bloodshed in Syria at rally outside Downing Street



► Pregnant Billie Faiers showcases her blossoming baby bump in casual gym attire as she runs errands in Essex
Blooming



► Mummy duties! Stacey Solomon attends the

première of Kate & Mim-Mim alongside Imogen Thomas and adorable daughters Ariana and Siera



► Under Pressure! X Factor's Honey G 'banned from personalising Ice Ice Baby on live show by David Bowie's estate'



► It's on the way! Sony confirms Kesha is working on a new album and will release new music 'soon' despite legal battle with Dr Luke
Last LP released 2012



► Lady in red! Rumer Willis dazzles in a curve-hugging gown as she sips a drink onstage during cabaret tour
Nothing short of glamorous



► Getting into the Halloween spirit! Zoella dons ghostly top and cat hat as she joins beau Alfie Deyes and fellow YouTubers at Shocktober Fest



► Melanie Sykes, 46, displays her athletic physique in a pale blue snake print bikini as she relaxes poolside in Ibiza
Showed off her enviably taut tum



► 'Hopefully screaming my name in agony': James Woods gloats over death of his Twitter nemesis whom he sued for \$10m after being called a 'cocaine addict'



► Not so glam! Juno Temple gets a soaking while filming star-studded Woody Allen movie in the pouring rain
Carried on like a pro




► Lovely in lace! Lydia Bright leads the glamour in frilly blue frock as she attends Stand Up To Cancer bash
Understated glamour




► 'TV has been traumatic


tonight': Emmerdale and Coronation Street viewers are left in floods of tears by two of the most dramatic episodes in soap history




► Always ready for her close up! Jamie Chung dresses up in waist-baring two piece to take her dog for a walk
Exceptionally dressed for the casual event




► Corked! Exes Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie 'are putting Chateau Miraval and its prized vineyards up for sale'




► New mum Maria Fowler enjoys family day out with boyfriend Kelvin Batey and baby daughter Evie at The Baby Show
Good spirits




► 'I had nowhere to go!' Perrie Edwards confesses split from Zayn Malik left her HOMELESS... and she couldn't stop crying over him




► Tom Hardy tipped to play polar explorer Ernest Shackleton for Antarctic biopic (and the likeness is uncanny)
Suited to the role




► She's eclectic! Karlie Kloss cuts an eye-catching figure in quirky double bun hairstyle, leather chaps and playsuit as she steps out in Tokyo



► Jasmin Walia puts on a leggy display in dove grey slinky mini-dress as she enjoys night out with TOWIE pals
Head-turning display



► Flare for fashion! Cindy Crawford dazzles in silk magenta blouse and jeans as she enjoys a night out at Soho House in Malibu
Smouldering display



► Sad demise of a Hollywood heartthrob: Edward Furlong looks

bloated and unkempt on outing with equally unrecognizable Dawson's Creek star girlfriend



► That's not Justin! Bieber's rumoured fling Sahara Ray is pictured enjoying an intimate moment with socialite Ireland Baldwin



► 'Pick the right partner': Deborra-Lee Furness dishes out advice for a happy marriage... after celebrating 20 years with Wolverine star Hugh Jackman



► Disco doll! Kate Hudson takes the plunge in sequined jumpsuit for GLSEN event
Effervescent



► 'I deeply care what people think': Kristen Stewart admits to being self-conscious about her acting as she opens up about life after Twilight



► New low for Lindsay Lohan: Star facing bankruptcy after she missed £78,000 rent on London flat
Lawyers are demanding payment



► To DYE for! Carmen Electra sports punky blue hair streak and eclectic geometric dress with sheer panels for night at fashion event



► Make-up free Diane Kruger looks worlds away from her glamorous self... after chopping off her locks to get into character for new flick in Germany



► Bella Thorne flaunts belly button on outing to nail salon wearing blue knitted hat and ripped hipster jeans
Still flashed some flesh



► 'The Kardashians make you want everything done': Ex-

TOWIE star Pascal Craymer regrets boob job and reveals her 'changing body' led her to self-harm



► Still a Pretty Woman! Julia Roberts lights up red carpet in rose-motif dress at event celebrating LGBTQ youth
Besppectacled beauty



► She's a showstopper! Cyndi Lauper makes a statement with pink dreadlocks and eccentric pantsuit as she attends Kinky Boots premiere



► Never Ever were they ever going in! All Saints' Melanie Platt and Nicole Appleton DENY being 'turned away from Soho club during night out'



► Domesticated bliss! Kristen Stewart takes new girlfriend St Vincent dog food shopping
Stocked up on the essentials



► Benedict Cumberbatch goes solo at charity fundraiser in LA after it's revealed he's going to be a dad again
Without his gorgeous wife Sophie Hunter



► Showing love to the fans! Matrix star Keanu Reeves, 52, reveals patchy beard as he attends Australian MotoGP... as actor kindly stops for fan photo after slamming social media




► The Pet Shop Boys don bizarre futuristic-inspired headpieces for artsy performance in Las Vegas
They well and truly out-did themselves




► Just good jeans! Alessandra Ambrosio shows off model figure in '70s style denim jumpsuit for lunch with friends
Looking gorgeous




► **'They're dropping like flies': Six Strictly dancers are 'struck down with mystery bug' after Brendan Cole bows out of Saturday's show**




► **Fitness fanatic Melanie Sykes, 46, shows off her rippling six-pack in intimate bedroom selfies**




► **Model behaviour! Harry Styles' ex Nadine Leopold nails off-duty chic with pal Gabby Westbrook at Victoria's Secret casting session in New York**




► **I'll take mine chopped! Makeup-free Amber Heard picks up some lunch from a Beverly Hills eatery famed for its salads**




► **'Hit me right in the feels': Noel Gallagher's Half The World Away tribute to Caroline Aherne for Stand Up To Cancer praised by fans**




► **Olivia Culpo dons pinstripe trousers to teach course at International Style Institute in LA**
Office chic




► **Under cover! Tori Spelling once again hides baby bump number five as she stops to refuel in LA**
'Really excited'



► **Nice to have seen you, to have seen you, nice! 77 years after making his showbiz debut Bruce Forsyth, 88, calls time on his illustrious career because he no longer craves the spotlight**



► **That was quick! Demi Lovato goes 'back to brown' less than a week after debuting her new blonde look**
Perhaps blondes don't have more fun



► **'Martha has been drinking!' Snoop Dogg calls out Stewart as she**

gets tipsy in teaser for the pair's new show
The surprising duo have long been friends



► **Hands-on hubby!**
Chrissy Teigen gets a cheeky pat on the bottom from John Legend as she shakes off 'mommy shamers' drama



► **All I Want For Christmas Is You!**
Mariah Carey more than sparkles in a jewel-encrusted bra as she films a holiday Carpool Karaoke with James Corden



► **'Hope is possible':**
Shannen Doherty shares heartbreaking post-chemo photo... but vows to get back up and continue the fight
Struggling with treatment



► **Weatherfield in flames:**
Coronation Street viewers can't handle the heat as Anna Windass is set on fire in sensational episode



► **'Sugar lips!' Tim Robards plants a kiss on longtime girlfriend Anna Heinrich... days after dodging questions about getting engaged**
Sating for three years



► **What a great anti!**
Rihanna teaches little niece Majesty how to give herself a manicure in sweet Instagram video
Got it nailed



► **Pregnancy pampering!**
Blac Chyna covers up in a onsie as she treats herself to some me time at the nail salon



► **'If you're not friends, it's not going to work':**
Former X Factor winners Little Mix offer their pearls of wisdom to girl band Four Of Diamonds



► **'I'm overwhelmed':**
Scarlett Moffatt reveals

she's releasing a fitness DVD after her astonishing weight loss



► 'I love you!' Robert Kardashian's close bond with Kim revealed by previously unseen treasure trove of home movies



► Blac Chyna shows off her baby bump in pink satin tracksuit as she enjoys girls' night out with Amber Rose... after reigniting feud with ex Tyga and Kylie Jenner



► A whole Lott of skin! Pixie flaunts her never-ending pins in skimpy metallic mini as she leads the style pack at the Scottish Fashion Awards in London



► She's glowing! Mel Gibson's girlfriend Rosalind Ross, 26, shows off burgeoning baby bump alongside controversial actor, 60, at charity poker event



► Elizabeth Hurley, 51, flaunts her impeccably toned abs and perky bust in a navy striped bikini for saucy selfie
Did a great job of selling her navy striped bikini



► 'You have brought so much joy to our lives': Kim Kardashian's mum Kris shares flashback photos as she wishes 'anxious' star a happy 36th birthday



► Jay Z 'cannot stand nut job' Kanye West it's claimed after Kim Kardashian's husband rails against the rapper for not being a true friend



► Love Island's Olivia Buckland sends temperatures soaring as she flaunts her eye-popping assets in latex nude bodysuit and sexy co-ord for hair campaign shoot



► Boho babe! Kimberley Garner flaunts her

cleavage in plunging maxi dress at Scottish Fashion Awards in London



► Posing up a Storm! Tallia cuts a stylish figure in colourful mixed print gown at the Scottish Fashion Awards in London



► Stylishly clad Louise Redknapp looks in high spirits as she steps out in casual bomber jacket... after her mother-in-law was accidentally RUN OVER by Harry Redknapp














► Alesha Dixon cuts a flirty figure in ladylike off-the-shoulders dress and quirky footwear at the Scottish Fashion Awards




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
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
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
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
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
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
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
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
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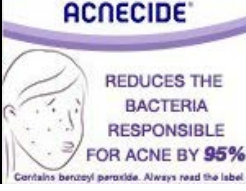

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Chris Smith: ‘My staff know 100 times more than any politician about flood risk’



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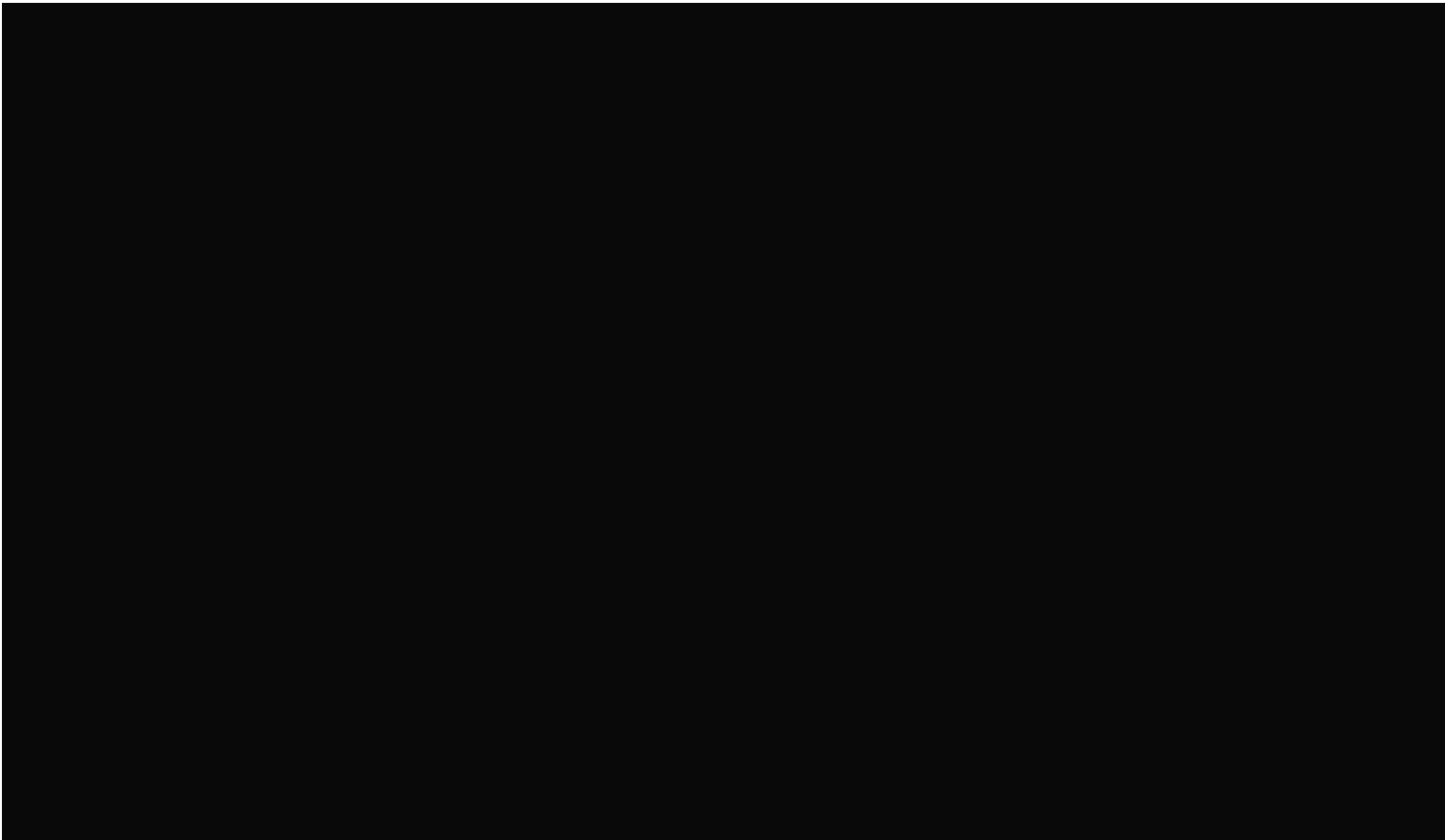
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UK floods: Pickles insists ministers not divided

10 February 2014 | UK Politics

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Eric Pickles: "We are two peas in a pod. We are two brothers from a different mother."

Communities Secretary Eric Pickles has dismissed Labour claims of a "damaging" rift at the top of government in its response to the floods crisis.

He hit back at claims of a "damaging row" between himself and Environment Secretary Owen Paterson, joking that they were "two peas in a pod".

He told MPs ministers were "working together closely" but warned flooding was likely to worsen in coming days.

Labour has accused ministers of fighting "like ferrets in a sack".

Shadow environment secretary Maria Eagle said Mr Pickles was treating the Environment Agency as a "convenient scapegoat" but Mr Pickles responded by accusing the opposition of stirring up dissent.

"Frankly to play this rather pathetic game of who is to blame - there will be a time... when we will be able to look very closely into the causes of the floods and the reaction of government.

"But right now we should get on with the job," he told MPs.

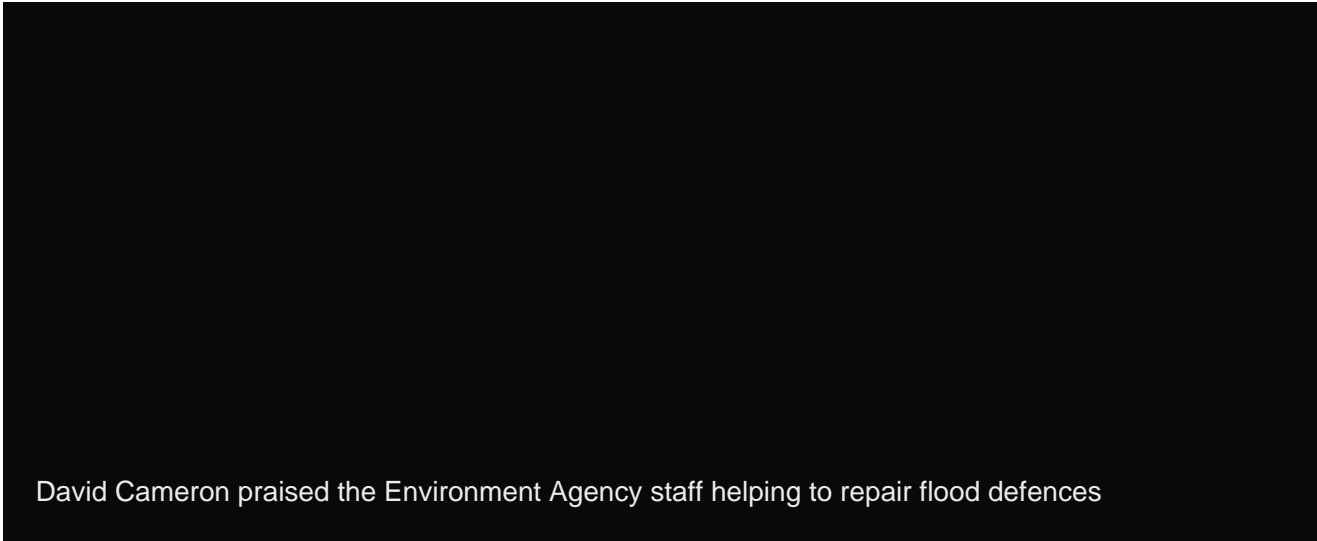
Warnings

There has been an escalating political row over the UK's preparedness for the crisis, which has seen more than 5,000 properties flooded in the past two months.

River levels continued to rise across south-east England on Monday, threatening homes in Berkshire and Surrey.

There are 14 severe flood warnings - indicating a danger to life - at present in the south-east of England while two severe warnings remain in place for the Somerset Levels.





David Cameron praised the Environment Agency staff helping to repair flood defences

Prime Minister David Cameron is staying overnight in the South West, having visited those affected by flooding.

Mr Pickles chaired a meeting of the government's Cobra emergency committee on Monday, afterwards promising to "work tirelessly" to relieve the situation.

He said: "As we continue to face these extraordinary weather events, I want to make clear again this evening that work is being done to identify and prioritise any sites where we may experience problems in the coming days."

Mr Pickles and Environment Secretary Owen Paterson are thought to be at odds over the Environment Agency's performance.

With Mr Paterson still recovering from an eye operation, Mr Pickles was called to Parliament to defend the government's handling of the crisis before going on to chair the government's latest Cobra emergency meeting.

'Admiration'

He said there was likely to be further flooding this week along the course of the River Thames, Severn and Wye and it would take weeks to remove surface water from the Somerset Levels once there was a spell of dry weather.

Mr Pickles praised Environment Agency staff working "on the ground" but said it must "learn lessons" about policy with regard to river dredging and how much of its budget it spent on key priorities.

"For me, sorry is not the hardest word. I have been criticised for saying sorry to the people of



It is time for all of us to work together and not to make silly party political points

Eric Pickles, Communities Secretary

Somerset...We are prepared to say we got it wrong, along with the Environment Agency, on dredging."

While there would be an opportunity, in the future, to "look very closely into the causes of the floods and the reaction of government" he said now was not the right moment for such an inquest.

"It is time for all of us to work together and not to make silly party political points."

Nick Clegg said the focus should be on protecting people

There are 14 severe flood warnings in Surrey and Berkshire

Lord Smith is due to step down in July

On Sunday, Mr Pickles suggested that the Environment Agency gave ministers bad advice and gave lukewarm support for the agency and its chairman - the former Labour minister Lord Smith.

The BBC understands that Mr Paterson complained "in the strongest possible terms" to the prime minister about what he called Mr Pickles' "grandstanding".

Pressed by Labour's Wayne David about the need for the government to speak with one voice, he joked that he was the "mere custodian of his (Mr Paterson) wishes" while the latter was on sick leave.

"We are two peas in a pod, we are two brothers from a different mother and we speak on a regular basis," he said.

But former Labour minister Peter Hain accused Mr Pickles of "arrogant bluster", adding that "he ought to be apologising instead of continuously passing the buck".

Speaking earlier on a visit to Portland in Dorset, Mr Cameron praised Environment Agency staff and said it was not the time for a "change in personnel" at the top of the organisation.

"This is the time for everyone to get on with the jobs they have," he said.

"Everyone has got to focus on the job in hand - the Environment Agency, every department of government."

Lord Smith has urged all sides to refrain from the "briefing and sniping of recent times" and focus on the "serious business" of protecting people's homes and livelihoods.

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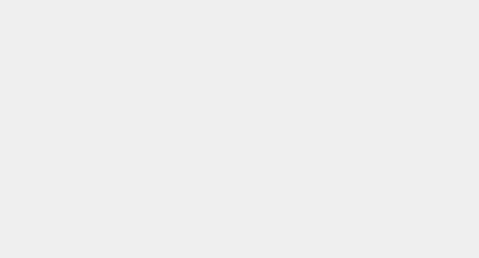
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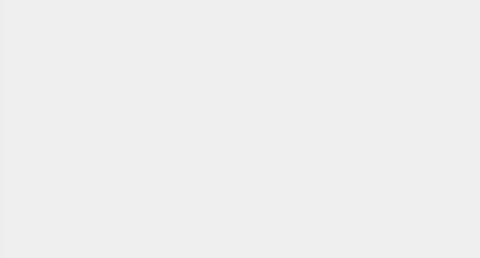
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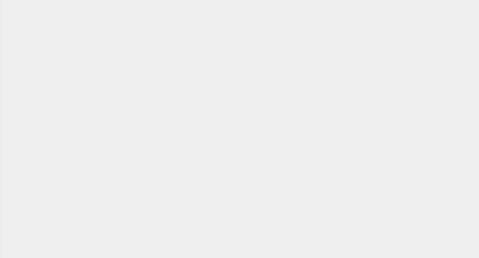
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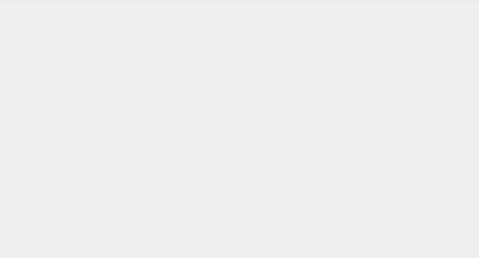
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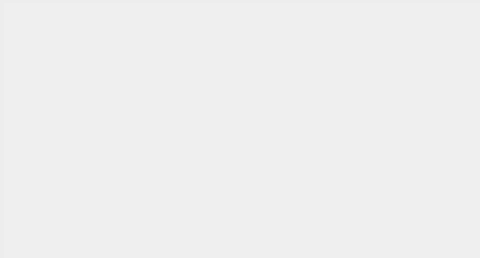
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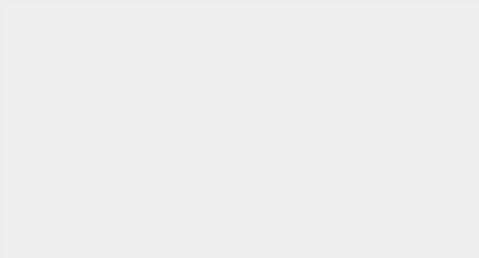
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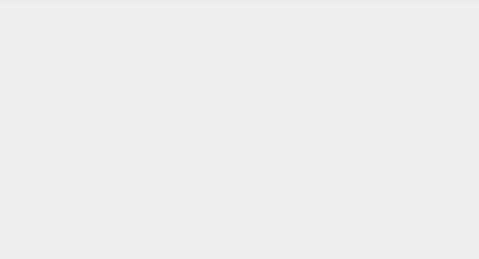
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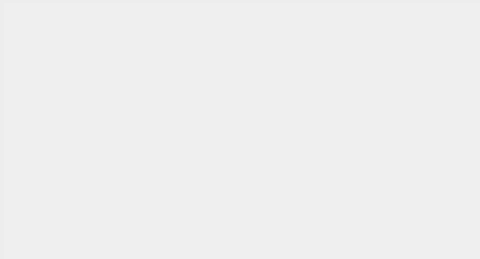
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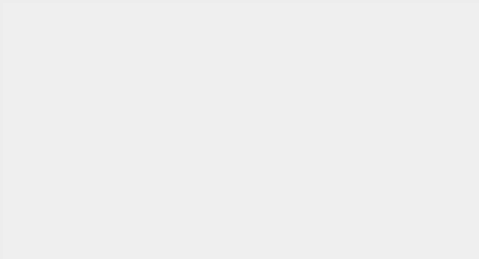
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Somerset Levels Tory MP launches 'brutal' attack on Environment Agency chief: 'I will flush his head down the loo'

Bridgwater and West Somerset MP Ian Liddell-Grainger made the comments as Environment Agency chairman Lord Smith visits flood stricken Somerset Levels for first time

Tomas Jivanda | Friday 7 February 2014 | 



An emergency worker walks down the road outside a property in Moorland, Somerset, after residents were advised to

evacuate after flood defences were breached overnight *PA*

A Tory MP for Somerset has launched an astonishing attack on the Environment Agency chief, calling him a ‘coward’ and a ‘git’, and even threatening to ‘stick his head down the loo’.

Ian Liddell-Grainger, made the comments as Environment Agency chairman Lord Smith prepared to visit the flood stricken Somerset Levels for the first time since the crisis struck.

Mr Liddell-Grainger also called on Lord Smith to quit during his tirade: “I will tell him what I bloody well think of him - he should go, he should walk,” he said.

“I'm livid. This little git has never even been on the telephone to me. When I find out where he is, I will give it to him. He's a coward.”

Arriving at the Willows and Wetlands Visitor Centre in Stoke St Gregory, Lord Smith dismissed calls for his resignation. In the lead up to the visit, he had refused to release details of the trip.

Marines drafted in to evacuate Somerset residents

"I have no intention of resigning because I'm very proud of the work the Environment Agency and its staff have been doing right round the country in the face of the most extreme weather," he said.

Asked why he had not apologised to residents, he said: “I have said to the people here what we did last year, what we've been preparing now, the work we're currently doing, and I think the important thing now is to work out what we can do for the future of Somerset, what can now happen, and that's what I'm primarily talking about with the local people here.”

In pictures: Prince Charles visits the Somerset Levels

 5
show all

Lord Smith also denied making the controversial comment that Britain may have to choose whether it wants to save “town or country” from future flooding because it is too costly to defend both.

“I have never said it is a choice between saving the town and saving the country," he said.

“What I have said is that the clear priorities that have been set for us by successive governments is: our top priority is protecting lives; our second priority is protecting people's homes and people's businesses; our third priority is protecting as much agricultural land as we can.

"That's the order of priority, that happens in both the town and the country."

The agency has been under fire from some residents who believe river dredging could have helped reduce flooding.

Lord Smith said: “What we need to do is find the best possible ways - dredging is probably one of the ways but it's not the only way - and there will be lots of other things we need to see if we can do in order to try and protect Somerset for the future.”

Atlantic storm Ruth to batter Britain this weekend

Speaking to LBC radio this morning before Lord Smith’s visit, Mr Liddell-Grainger, MP for Bridgwater and West Somerset, said: “They won’t tell me where he’s going, but I’m going to get him. I’ve got my farmers, I’ve all got my landowners, waiting for this guy.

“If I just have to stick his head down the loo and flush, I will, because he is going to get this message. He is going to get this message. I don’t care how long it takes, and I don’t care how nasty and brutal we all are about it. They are going to learn.”

He added: “I hope he falls in the river. I don’t mean that cruelly, but I do hope he drops in the river so he can see what we are living with. This man has done an awful lot of damage.” ●

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Education policy

Downing Street dragged into row over Michael Gove's sacking of Ofsted chief

Cabinet secretary faces questions after Labour and Lib Dem MPs speak out over ditching of Labour peer Sally Morgan



A row has erupted since education secretary Michael Gove decided not to renew the contract of the Ofsted chair Sally Morgan. Photograph: Stephen Hird/PA

Nicholas Watt, chief political correspondent

Monday 3 February 2014 00.16 GMT

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Downing Street will on Monday be dragged into the row over the sacking of the former Blair aide Sally Morgan when the cabinet secretary is asked to explain a "pattern of behaviour" that has seen the removal of a series of non-Tory supporters from high-profile public bodies.

As [Michael Gove](#) defended the removal of Lady Morgan, chair of Ofsted, as "good corporate practice", shadow cabinet office minister Michael Dugher said he would write to Sir Jeremy Heywood after the sacking of several high-profile figures.

Dugher told the Guardian: "There are questions to answer about what seems to be a pattern of behaviour in Whitehall where non-Conservatives are replaced by [Conservatives](#)."

The move by [Labour](#) follows the removal of Dame Liz Forgan as chair of the Arts Council, Lady Andrews as chair of English Heritage, and Dame Suzi Leather as chair of the Charities Commission.

There will be further pressure on Gove when Sir David Bell, his former permanent secretary who is now vice chancellor of Reading university, calls on him to recognise the importance of opening up to different voices. Writing for [The Conversation](#), Bell mocks Gove's criticism of the "blob" – his dismissive description of the educational establishment.

"The [row over Ofsted] shows the importance of retaining, and being seen to retain, independent voices near the top - not simply 'yes men'," Bell writes. "There is a far wider group of non-Blobberati voices across the schools sector, higher education, industry and the voluntary sector, who offer an intelligent critique of where we are now."

The row over Morgan's sacking is likely to overshadow the start of the government's "education week". Gove will kick off a week focusing on the government's education reforms by making clear his determination to press ahead with his highly traditional approach when he says he wants to tear down the "Berlin Wall" separating private and state schools.

Gove confirmed he would not renew Morgan's contract as chair of [Ofsted](#) when it ends in October.

His decision has prompted an angry response from David Laws, the Liberal Democrat education minister, who instructed aides to say he was "absolutely furious at the blatant attempts by the Tories to politicise Ofsted".

Downing Street hit back at the Lib Dems. A senior source said: "We know what they are doing, trying to differentiate and show relevance. We are just getting on with running the country."

Labour intensified the pressure on Gove, highlighting the wider implications of Morgan's sacking by pointing out that Tories are filling up public bodies.

[Andrew Sells, an investment banker, venture capitalist and large Tory donor](#), was confirmed as chair of the government's nature watchdog, Natural England, last month.

David Prior, the Charterhouse-educated former chief executive of the Conservative party and son of the former Tory cabinet minister Jim Prior, was appointed chair of the Care Quality Commission last year.

Lady Hanham, the former local government minister who was Tory leader of the Royal

Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, was appointed interim chair of the health regulator Monitor in January.

One Whitehall veteran said: "There is a battening down of the hatches. The Tories think the election is looking a bit dicey – so they are thinking, 'Let's get our people in.' They seem to think that if they put people in they will keep hold of institutions."

Nick de Bois, secretary of the 1922 Tory backbench committee, said "so what" if the party is packing public bodies with supporters. The MP for Enfield North told Pienaar's Politics on Radio 5 Live: "Look, there's lots of people with good talents out there. I have no problem if a government that's elected with firm views and ideas about what it wants to do – in this case in education – puts people in place with talent that happen to be Conservative supporters."

Labour will say that the removal of Morgan, who was appointed to the Ofsted post by Gove, highlights a pattern of removing non-Tory figures. Dugher told the Guardian: "I will be writing to the cabinet secretary over what seems to be a pattern from Michael Gove's modus operandi at the Department of Education, replacing non-Conservatives with loyal Tories.

"They are using civil service appointments to hire political placemen. There is a danger of impugning the integrity of the whole civil service appointments process with this perception." He will highlight the role played by [Laura Wyld, a former Conservative staffer](#), who was appointed last year to the civil service post of head of the prime minister's appointments unit.

Dugher added: "Michael Gove said that appointments are made on merit. Well, on that basis Gove would have gone months ago."

A Downing Street source said of Dugher's move: "This is a truly desperate attempt by Labour to grab a few headlines. Any serious examination of the facts – including the government's decision to give senior roles to a series of prominent Labour figures like Alan Milburn, [John Hutton](#) and Simon Stevens – demolishes their flimsy thesis.

"In contrast, when Labour was in power it systematically packed key public positions with its supporters. Tonight's intervention exposes Labour's breathtaking hypocrisy."

Gove will try to move on from the Morgan row when he launches the government's "education week" today. In a speech to the London Academy of Excellence, the education secretary will say: "Instead of reinforcing the Berlin Wall between state and private, as the current Labour leadership appear to want, we should break it down.

"Our academies and free schools programme is also starting to erode the boundaries

between independent and state. Many independent schools are already sponsoring or co-sponsoring state academies – sharing their expertise, spreading their excellence."

Speaking on the Andrew Marr Show on BBC1, Gove made clear that he would like a renewed focus on traditional discipline.

He said: "The one in three teachers who say that they're uncertain in polling about the measures that they can deploy in order to keep order should be reassured by the government that they have a full range – from verbal reprimands through to lines and essays and up to and including community service.

"It is absolutely right to say to students that if they have in some way undermined discipline or contributed to the deterioration of the fabric of a school building, that they should be responsible for clearing up after school lunch clearing up litter or weeding the school playing field.

"People need to understand that there are consequences if they break those rules and that teachers have the power to enforce them."

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Pressure on Cameron as more than 143,000 people sign the Mail's petition calling for foreign aid to go to BRITISH flood victims

- Click [HERE](#) to sign the Mail's petition
- Doubts emerge about Prime Minister pledge that 'money is no object'
- Growing anger that Britain is spending billions on foreign development

By [MATT CHORLEY](#), MAILONLINE POLITICAL EDITOR
PUBLISHED: 10:01, 12 February 2014 | UPDATED: 17:58, 12 February 2014

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Pressure is growing on David Cameron to use foreign aid money to help British families caught up in the devastating floods.

The total number of people to back the Mai's call to divert some of the international development budget has already topped 143,000 by 4.30pm this afternoon.

The number is expected to grow in the coming hours after serious doubts emerged about the Prime Minister's pledge to 'spend whatever it takes', with one Cabinet minister insisting there was no 'blank cheque'.

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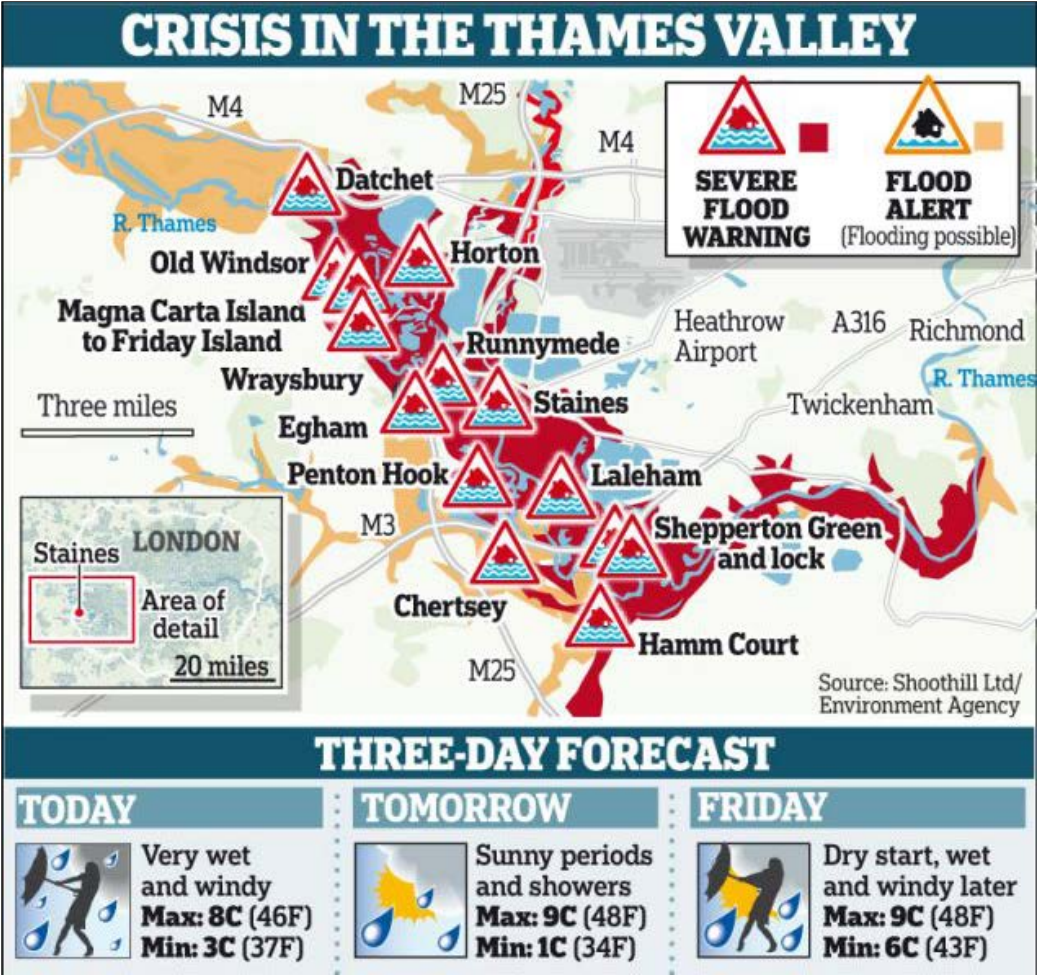


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People use a torch as they walk through flood water as night falls in Wraysbury, England



More than six weeks after some areas were hit by devastating floods, high winds and storms, Mr Cameron yesterday declared 'money is no object' in dealing with the relief effort.

Pressed on why he would not listen to the plea from the British people to use some of the £11billion set aside for overseas aid, he also went further and vowed to spend whatever was needed 'to make sure we have a resilient country for the future'.

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But he rejected the Mail's petition which states: 'I strongly urge you to divert some of the £11 billion a year spent on overseas aid to ease the suffering of British flood victims, and to build and maintain flood defences to prevent a repetition of this crisis.'

Within hours of its launch, celebrities, MPs, community leaders and victims had added their names to our petition.

At the same time a poll found an overwhelming 73 per cent of Britons think overseas aid funds should be diverted.



Pressure: David Cameron is facing calls from tens of thousands of people to use some funds set aside for foreign aid to bolster the floods relief effort in the UK

Despite the powerful evidence of what the public thinks, Mr Cameron yesterday rejected the petition and poll.

Instead he pledged a blank cheque for embattled councils to deal with the floods. Insisting money was no object, he said: 'I don't think it's needed to go for the aid budget because we will make available the money that's needed here in Britain. We are a wealthy country, we have a growing economy. If money is needed for clean-up, money will be made available.'

Calling for a 'great national effort', Mr Cameron warned the flood crisis was likely to get worse before it gets better. He vowed that householders would each get 'thousands of pounds' to help protect their properties against future inundations.

Businesses whose premises have been wrecked would be allowed to defer tax payments, up to £10 million in new funding is being found to support farmers and the state-owned bank RBS is to offer three-month mortgage repayment holidays to customers with flooded homes.



a-week yacht trip	
► 'It was the hardest thing I've ever had to do': Holly Willoughby fights back tears as she recalls the moment she told her kids their cat had died	
► Isn't she Bella! Hadid looks beautiful as she models the latest fashions on a New York street Her name translates to beautiful in Italian	
► Alesha Dixon shows off her incredible figure in a chic plunging tuxedo dress as she heads home from the Loose Women studios Hugged her toned shape	
► 'He had his arm around her': Demi Lovato spotted looking cosy with John Mayer at West Hollywood hotspot Split from Wilmer Valderrama in June	
► 'I had boobs when I was 10': 'Mortified' Stacey Solomon reveals she wore control pants over her chest because older kids picked on her at school	
► 'Look who's back!' Kylie Jenner models her Puma sportswear range in sultry new photo as she cosies up to a mirror Stealing sister's crown	
► 'We wanted a baby before he went to prison': Amy Childs is expecting her first child with jailbird boyfriend Bradley Wright after months of trying	
► Time for bed: Gemma Collins rocks a ruby red pyjama top and black bodysuit as she heads into the launch of the TOWIE boys' raunchy calendar	
► Fur-getting her woes? Smiling Megan	



The military will play a bigger role, with 1,600 servicemen and women deployed by last night and ‘thousands more now available’.

In a rare Downing Street press conference, he warned: ‘There is absolutely no sign of this threat abating, and with further rain and strong winds forecast throughout the week, things may get worse before they get better.’

His intervention was seen as an attempt to answer a clamour for the Government to get a grip and draw a line under a week of sniping over who is to blame for the crisis.

However Mr Cameron’s promise that money is no object in the floods relief effort was undermined when a minister said it is not a ‘blank cheque’ for communities devastated by storms.

Amid confusion about what new money will be found, Transport Secretary Patrick McLoughlin instead insisted substantial sums were already being spent on infrastructure including the railways.

Mr McLoughlin – the fourth minister to front the government’s floods response – played down the idea of unlimited funds being made available.

‘I don’t think it’s a blank cheque,’ he told ITV’s Daybreak. ‘I think what the Prime Minister was making very clear is that we’re going to use every resource of the Government and that actually money is not the issue at the moment while we’re in this relief job in the first instance, of trying to bring relief to those communities that are affected.’

Mr Cameron chaired another meeting of the Government’s Cobra emergency committee again today.

Forecasters are warning that some of the strongest winds of the winter could hit today, with gusts of up to 100mph on exposed parts of the Welsh coast.

The storm could fell trees and cause transport and power disruption, with winds in the South West potentially reaching 80mph.

And there is continuing disruption to rail services in the Thames Valley and West Country.

There are 16 severe flood warnings in place, meaning there is a danger to life, while there are also 122 flood warnings and 228 flood alerts from the



Transport Secretary Patrick McLoughlin, pictured inspecting the damaged line at Dawlish, refused to say if he would be offered extra funding to deal with the floods

McKenna flashes endless legs in fluffy coat as she brushes off Pete Wicks sexting scandal during TOWIE filming

► Relley C shows off casually chic style in leather combat trousers as she gushes that X Factor was 'the best time of her life' on This Morning

► 'Broody' Katy Perry shares sweet childhood throwback snaps with her siblings... after admitting 'children are a big focus' Dating Orlando Bloom

► Doting dad Jamie Oliver poses with Petal, Buddy and newborn son River Rocket as he enjoys the great outdoors with his kids Precious photo

► Smiley Daisy Lowe steps out in an all-black ensemble and matching hat after narrowly avoiding elimination on Strictly Come Dancing Bouncing back in style

► Take me to church: Handsome James Norton beams as he films scenes in his dog collar for latest Grantchester series in Cambridge

► FIRST LOOK: Cate Blanchett and Sandra Bullock start filming all-female spin-off Ocean's Eight in New York Three Academy Awards between them

► Up to no good! Cheeky Lady Gaga places her new album in front of other CDs at music store Grammy-winner has resorted to fresh tactics

► Piper-ing hot! Katie shows off her impossibly tiny waist in a sizzling pink bikini during sun-soaked family holiday With daughter Belle

► 'People were not

Environment Agency.


HOW FLOODING LEVELS COULD REACH LEVELS LAST SEEN IN 1947




When floods hit Shrewsbury Floods in 1947, horse drawn carriages were brought in to supply marooned families with necessities

Flooding levels could reach levels seen in 1947, the emergency committee Cobra has been warned. Sixty-seven years ago Britain was in the grip of a Big Freeze. Heavy snow and freezing temperatures saw homes left without power and children sent to bed without dinner. The thaw was accompanied by heavy rain, with widespread floods affecting as many as 31 counties south of the River Ouse, destroying 70,000 acres of wheat and 80,000 tons of potatoes. David Cameron chaired a meeting of Cobra in Downing Street this morning where he was warned the harsh winter of 1947 could be repeated. Environment Agency chief executive Paul Leinster told ministers, council leaders and the army: 'Oxford to Maidenhead we think could rise over the next five days and may lead to more flooding in that area. 'Below Maidenhead, the levels are holding at the current level but potentially over the weekend and going into the beginning of next week they could rise to higher than the current levels. 'The current extent of flooding is similar to 2003 and in places we believe it could get to 1947 levels but, of course, there has been further work done since then, so we wouldn't expect to see the same levels of properties affected.'


giving me respect': Justin Bieber throws down his mic and storms off stage in Manchester after fans BOO him for talking for too long




▶ Geordie Shore's Holly Hagan shows off her pert posterior and slender figure in impressive before and after body transformation snap




▶ Looking ace! Lilly Becker flaunts her lithe legs in a white lace dress as she joins tennis champion husband Boris at a golf tournament




▶ Mini muscle man: Kai Rooney follows in famous father Wayne's footsteps and shows off his sporting prowess during family holiday in Barbados




▶ 'Navy is the new black!' Elizabeth Hurley, 51, flaunts her famous cleavage and lean legs in strapless swimsuit during exotic photoshoot




▶ Chrissy Teigen sports vampy thigh-high boots as she jets out of London... as John Legend reveals she's inspired his sexy new songs




▶ 'F**k Liam Payne': 'Pregnant' Cheryl's Instagram account is HACKED with terrifying 'satanic' posts... as boyfriend lives it up in Las Vegas



▶ Gimme More clothes! Britney Spears risks baring all as bondage-style bra rips open as stunned dancers try to protect her modesty at Vegas show



▶ Pregnant Geri Horner shows off her blossoming baby bump as she shares snaps of her idyllic countryside life on Instagram Expecting again at 44



▶ 'We have sensational



Homes in Staines were inundated when the Thames burst its banks in 1947, a scene repeated today

The Mail's petition has been welcomed by MPs and community leaders.

Ian Liddell-Grainger, Conservative MP for Bridgwater, has long campaigned for funding to be brought in for his besieged Somerset constituency. 'I am not surprised at all that so many people have backed this idea,' he said. 'It is a no-brainer. The Mail has done a brilliant job of raising this issue – we are so grateful to all the readers who have backed us and signed this petition.'

Celebrities were also quick to join the campaign. Author Jilly Cooper, from Gloucestershire, said: 'It's an absolutely wonderful campaign and I will be signing the petition.'

'The flooding is heartbreaking and farmers are slitting their throats down here because their livelihoods are ruined. We give millions of pounds of aid to India and China and never spend on our own. It's ridiculous.'

'There are families in the UK crying, there are people whose houses have been ruined.'



Emergency services help to evacuate a disabled resident in the village of Dachet in Berkshire

Magician Paul Daniels, whose Berkshire home has flooded many times, said: 'Something has to be done and this would be a great start, so long as it is spent with intelligence.'

TV presenter Gloria Hunniford added: 'I am horrendously sad for the people who have been dealing

chemistry!' Geoffrey Edelsten, 73, introduces 26-year-old Playboy model girlfriend Ashley Kirk... and he says she likes him for his BRAINS

► Furry nice! Chanel Iman displays her perfect pins in short sweater dress

Chanel's sweater dress certainly had a Christmassy feel

► The look of love: Home And Away star Pia Miller shares a tender moment with beau Tyson Mullane in her latest social media post

Planting a gentle kiss

► The only way is to tone up! Frankie Essex announces she is releasing a fitness DVD after dropping an impressive two stone

Yo-yo dieter

► 'Their relationship is volatile': Blac Chyna and Rob Kardashian 'are still living separately' as the couple prepare to welcome their first child

► 'Best stand-in I've seen!' Helen Skelton gets glowing reviews for debut stint presenting Lorraine... as viewers praise her 'stunning' fashion sense

► Jennifer Hawkins shows off her toned torso in a crop top and denim shorts... a month after becoming the

with it for five or six weeks. If we can't look after the people at home, but we can look after those abroad, the balance is out.'

Colin Raynor, a Tory councillor who coordinated the evacuation of Wraybury, near Windsor, said extra money was needed to reverse 50 years of underinvestment.

The ComRes poll also found that 50 per cent of people think problems with flood defences are a result of the Government's programme of spending cuts.

Some 79 per cent said there should be a halt on homes built on flood plains.

How we pour millions into foreign flood zones

By Ian Birrell

While thousands of frightened and furious Britons fight to defend their homes from the rising waters this week, the biggest flood problem facing British foreign aid officials is how to spend the tidal wave of money flowing into their coffers.

Vast sums are being spent on strategies to limit the damage wrought by flooding around the world.

Despite this, one respected Swedish study which analysed nine global initiatives at random found that six actually reduced the resilience of the communities they were supposed to help because they were so focused on short-term fixes. So where has our money gone – and did it make any difference?

PAKISTAN

One of the biggest beneficiaries of the British aid boom is Pakistan, despite its endemic corruption and woeful political leadership.

We are ramping up donations from £267million last year to £446million by the time of next year's election – although less than one per cent of Pakistanis bother paying income tax, a figure that includes more than two-thirds of its National Assembly politicians.

The country suffers terribly from flooding, with millions affected over each of the past four years. The devastation in 2010 was particularly bad, displacing almost one in ten people. There was a lukewarm international response, however, partly as a response to appalling corruption in the administration of relief funds following an earthquake five years earlier.

France donated under £1million – yet Britain happily handed over £144million, including £10million for bridge-building, then doled out seeds for farmers and gave free chickens to families.

Huge sums have even been handed out in cash, with £60million of the British contribution distributed to 138,000 households on special debit cards. Each recipient was given a sum equivalent to £275. Unfortunately, many had never used such cards before.

'PIN numbers were forgotten, cards were sold because they couldn't be used and beneficiaries were vulnerable to those seeking to exploit them,' concluded one study. 'Many beneficiaries, having never owned an ATM card, tried to scratch off the metallic strip.'

BANGLADESH

About one third of low-lying Bangladesh floods each year during the Monsoon season, with many of the country's most impoverished people crowded into the worst-hit areas.

Britain is the country's biggest aid donor, giving away about £250million a year. Visiting Tory MPs found this included £5million for a television debate show and a £21million road maintenance project.

Dfid's typically grandiose claims include a pledge to help 15million people cope better with flooding and climate change, with an incredible £123million being spent on this one aim over the course of this parliament.

Britain channels much of these funds through international bodies, although it has been warned by the independent aid watchdog of its failure to hold them adequately to account. One flagship £60million fund turned out to include £4.9million spent on administration costs at the World Bank, notorious for its officials' fondness for fine hotels and business-class travel.

Yet even the World Bank has been unable to ignore funds going astray in Bangladesh, cancelling its £730million support for a critical bridge project after the government refused to respond to complaints over corruption.

NEPAL

Britain is pouring more than £100million of aid a year into the mountainous nation, promising to 'reduce the climate and disaster vulnerability' of four million people.



ambassador for a health food brand



'Do you want to see my vagina?' Sir Patrick Stewart's Twitter hacked Monday morning by 'sexy' naked woman selling nude photos
Not what fans expected



'Jamie Oliver never looked this good! Meet the (almost) Naked Chef who is wowing millions online with his racy recipes
World's sexiest chef



'Can coconut pulling REALLY give you the perfect smile? GBBO's Tamal puts the beauty treatment beloved by A-listers like Gwyneth Paltrow to the test



'I suffered really badly for years': Jodie Kidd talks about her secret battle with anxiety as she reveals she struggled to leave the house in her 20s



'I'm better at holding onto pee than other passengers': Alexa Chung reveals her flying habits; clothes, VIP neighbours... and bladder control



'Daisy Lowe leads the Strictly cast back to their hotel following the results show... as programme continues to trounce X Factor in the ratings war



'MIC's Nicola Hughes shows off her legs in an olive green minidress as she shops 'til she drops in Chelsea
Girls' day out on London's King's Road



'Poldark heartthrob Aidan Turner smooches pretty 'British artist'... just weeks after he was spotted kissing PR girl Tara Derakshan
He moves fast

'Is this Aidan Turner's

Yet the country, scarred by a decade-long Maoist insurgency, also suffers from rampant corruption as well as the worst inequality in Asia.

MYANMAR

Britain is one of the world's biggest donors to Myanmar (formerly Burma), pledging £184million over the duration of the Tory-LibDem coalition. This includes £6.4million to help Muslims displaced from their homes by communal violence and left at risk of flooding and disease.

MOZAMBIQUE

When this Portuguese-speaking African nation was hit by catastrophic floods at the start of this century, Dfid swung into action, providing humanitarian relief worth £20million with tents, sanitation, water, food and basic survival equipment.

As the flood waters rose, RAF Sea King helicopters were scrambled from the UK and a naval support ship re-deployed from the Gulf. One hundred rescue boats and several specialist crews were also sent to save people trapped by the waters.

Stung by criticism over its slow reaction, the Blair government then gave another £70million towards reconstruction. The coalition gave another £1.6million last year to help victims of floods.

Just the kind of relief money, in fact, that the exhausted residents of the Somerset Levels and the flooded Thames Valley can only dream of.

Now sign our petition calling on Government to divert foreign aid to flood-hit British families

Please revert to our desktop version of the website if viewing on an iPhone.

Dear Prime Minister,

I strongly urge you to divert some of the £11billion a year spent on overseas aid to ease the suffering of British flood victims, and to build and maintain flood defences to prevent a repetition of this crisis.

Name
Address

Alternatively you can click [HERE](#) to print a copy and send it to the Daily Mail by post.

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mystery brunette? Glam British previously linked to Robert Pattinson, worked with Banksy and dated Sienna Miller's ex 'is dating Poldark star'



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► 'I've lost some cleavage': Khloe Kardashian flashes her breasts at Scott Disick on KUWTK as she reveals she's considering a boob job



► So THAT'S her 'talent'! Kim Kardashian explains how she's made millions from 'getting people to like me' in interview before Paris heist



► 'It'll take more than a sparkly leotard': Louise Redknapp laughs off Strictly curse with husband Jamie... and admits he gets 'really nervous' watching her



► Chloe Lloyd shows off her model figure in a racy black bikini as she and Union J star fiancé Josh Cuthbert pack on the PDA in Dubai
Picture of happiness



► 'Too provocative': Feisty Jesy Nelson hits back at Mel C and Little Mix critics in a bold statement mini... after band are accused of 'dressing like strippers'



► Louisa Johnson flaunts enviably toned figure in sizzling promo shots as she announces release of her debut single So Good
X Factor champion



► 'I cried a lot about it': Zoe Hardman discusses 'traumatising' labour as she and Paul Doran-Jones introduce beautiful baby girl Luna
Little bundle of joy



► SPOILER ALERT!



Negan's victim revealed on brutal season seven premiere of The Walking Dead

After THAT gut-wrenching cliffhanger



SPOILER ALERT! 'It's such an iconic moment': The cast of The Walking Dead talk about shocking character death featured on season seven premiere



Relley C becomes the third act to be booted off X Factor... as host Dermot O'Leary is forced to apologise for a contestant's explicit gaffe live on air



'My favourite part of this Sunday': David Beckham shares cute snap of son Cruz, 11, playing the guitar to his older brother Romeo, 14, in the garden



Double bubble: X Factor judge Iggy Azalea shows off her ample posterior and cleavage

Sent her army of Instagram followers into a frenzy



What a bonny welcome! School children clamour for a high five from Prince William as he visits Stirling Castle

In Scotland



Polished in plum! Queen Letizia is dressed for business as she arrives at the World Health Organization headquarters in Geneva

Spanish royal



'I'm lucky because I can pass as a woman': Transgender TV reporter India Willoughby reveals her respect for those who 'don't look the part'




Abbey Clancy shows off her slim figure in a tiny yellow snakeskin bikini as she takes a break from filming Britain's Next Top Model


In front of the camera



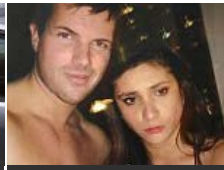
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'She kept hitting me': Cleared



Queen 'at the centre of row



Wom




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Took things back to basics



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Put on a typically kooky display



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► **'Ready for our little one to arrive': Married At First Sight's Zoe Hendrix shows off her bare baby bump as she counts the days until bub's arrival**
Married At First Sight star



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Changing up her look



► **Made In Chelsea's Tiffany Watson shows off her washboard abs as she poses in Calvin Klein underwear after workout with sister Lucy**
Witness the fitness



► **'You still love me, right?' Thor star Chris Hemsworth responds to claims his marriage to Elsa Pataky is in trouble with cheeky social media post**



► **She's still got it! Olivia Newton-John, 68, puts on a youthful display as she poses with shirtless Chippendales dancers in Las Vegas**
Ageless entertainer



► **A right royal occasion: Matt Smith, Claire Foy and John Lithgow attend special screening of Netflix's new drama The Crown**

in New York
Lead the cast



► **Suits you! Jennifer Garner looks sophisticated and stylish in formal blazer and white shirt as she touches down in NYC**
Sophisticated flair



► **Amber Heard makes rare public appearance as she attends a Los Angeles photography exhibit**
Slowly making her way back into the limelight



► **'We've never really left each other': Fergie discusses her relationship with ex Prince Andrew as she's quizzed over whether they will reunite**



► **'Oh my Lulu': Chrissy Teigen shares sweet video feeding baby Luna her first 'savoury bite'**
She's completely smitten with her six-month-old daughter



► **Surf school: Cody Simpson takes to the sea to show off his moves as the singer swaps his guitar for a surfboard**
He's got skills



► **What twins? Mother-of-four Bec Judd shows off her svelte figure in a fitted pink dress... less than a month after giving birth to two boys**
What a difference



► **'I would never ban them': Simon Cowell says One Direction are always welcome on the X Factor... after it's rumoured he overlooked Niall Horan**



► **Vicky Pattison looks worse for wear as she leaves X Factor studios wearing very tight black latex dress**
Pictured heading home from TV event



► **Stunning in silver!**
Nicole Scherzinger
shimmers in metallic
flared trousers and
sequinned crop top as
she leaves The X Factor
studios



► **'I miss you sitting on
the toilet when I'm in the
bath': Megan McKenna's
resolve crumbles as
Pete Wicks makes a last
ditch attempt to win her
back on TOWIE**



► **SPOILER ALERT:**
Pregnant Denise Fox's
emotional confrontation
with dying Phil Mitchell
in EastEnders... but will
she tell him he's the
father?



► **Yee-ha! Lady Gaga
sports a bruise on her
neck as she heads to
the recording studio in
NYC wearing an
oversized pink cowboy
hat**



► **Whoops! Suki
Waterhouse gives a
cheeky display as she
has a wardrobe
malfunction in tiny skirt**
The British model flashed
her rear



► **Feel the heat!**
Alessandra Ambrosio
bares her cleavage and
midriff as she heads to
the gym in tight black
workout gear
Working up a sweat



► **'No one will replace
my dad!' Teresa Giudice
aches as Milania, 10,
struggles with father's
absence on RHONJ**
Father Joe has gone to
prison



► **Lauren Cohan and
Steven Yeun reunite on
red carpet after Negan's
victim was revealed in
shocking Walking Dead
premiere**
In spite of tragic events



► **No hard feelings!**
Steven Yeun and Jeffrey
Dean Morgan embrace
at Talking Dead
premiere... after brutal
Walking Dead season
opener



► **Taking a load off!**
Hilary Duff spends the

day in bed while shopping for a new mattress at a Los Angeles boutique
Searching for bedding



► Kendall Jenner shows off her model figure in skintight workout gear as she heads to a bookstore with Anwar Hadid
Remarkably low-key



► Bra-vo! Shay Mitchell puts on an eye-popping display in plunging blazer at star-studded charity event
Decided to forgo a blouse



► They look environmentally friendly! Jaden Smith brings along girlfriend Sarah Snyder to climate change rally
Saving the planet



► Red hot! Candice Warner flaunts her toned physique in a TINY two-piece bikini as she enjoys a day at the beach in Sydney with her young daughters



► LeAnn Rimes goes braless in plunging petrol blue gown with daring thigh-high split as she performs on Strictly
She was sure to show off her assets



► 'Is this Honey G a joke or what?' X Factor fans turn on rapper after she's BOOED by the audience for making it through another week
After Relley C left



► Chrissy Teigen turns heads in a sexy shirtdress alongside husband John Legend following his X Factor set... after his sarcastic jibe at Honey G



► No chance of a wardrobe malfunction in this outfit! Pregnant Janet Jackson, 50, covers her baby bump in Islamic-style dress during stroll with hubby



► On a California

Adventure! Rob Kardashian and Blac Chyna join BFF Amber Rose as they take their kids to Disneyland
Let the fun begin



► Former Emmerdale star Leah Bracknell needs MORE money for life saving treatment in Germany after being diagnosed with incurable lung cancer



► 'What is this? I am leaving!' Mel B storms off during television interview after hosts push feud with X Factor Australia co-star Iggy Azalea



► Beautiful bride Ksenija Lukich marries long-time boyfriend Dan Bragg in an elegant sheer hand embroidered designer gown worth over \$15K in Sydney



► Pregnant Katherine Heigl showcases her blossoming baby bump as she steps out for family day with husband Josh Kelley and their two daughters



► Lady in red (hoodie)! Sofia Richie shows Justin Bieber what he's missing in trendy top and pleather trousers
She had a brief love affair with Biebs



► Time for some ghoulish fun! Jessica Alba takes daughters Honor and Haven to pick out pumpkins in Beverly Hills
It's Halloween season



► 'He gets too dizzy from all the spins': Strictly survivor Ed Balls' dance partner Katya Jones reveals WHY he almost dropped her during routine




► She's a Little Minx! Perrie Edwards puts on a raunchy display in hotpants and fishnet tights as she joins her band-mates onstage at Radio 1 Teen Awards




► The Wax Factor! Rylan

Clarke-Neal's face appears frozen in time as he steps out for Teen Awards with Xtra Factor co-host Matt Edmondson




▶ Emma Stone looks gorgeous in a dazzling dress as she attends event honoring Bill Murray with Mark Twain Prize




Showbiz friendship


▶ Lost In Translation! Miley Cyrus botches hosting gig as she curses and flubs song lyrics FORCING honoree Bill Murray to step in with well-timed jokes



▶ The most luxurious love nest! Jennifer Hawkins and Jake Wall unveil their sprawling \$5 million beachside mansion as they move to \$6 million pad




▶ Jaime King is pretty in plaid swimsuit as she enjoys bonding day at beach with her hubby and son in Maui




Enjoyed a day at the beach in Hawaii


▶ Mick Jagger's pregnant girlfriend Melanie Hamrick, 30, spotted cradling her baby bump in NYC... after the ageing rocker, 73, buys her '£5m pad'




▶ There's no stopping her: Actress Teresa Palmer shows off her baby bump in flowing ensemble at the Hacksaw Ridge press conference



▶ A sweet treat! Kylie Minogue looks flawless make-up free as she dresses in a quirky Mickey Mouse T-shirt while buying ice cream on the Gold Coast



▶ Lesley Joseph becomes the fifth contestant to leave Strictly Come Dancing after losing out to Daisy Lowe in the dance off



Scored a lowly 24 points

▶ 'We miss the old

Kanye': Jay Z's partner Kareem 'Biggs' Burke voices shock at West's 'don't call me' rant... says they are 'too old for rap beef'



► PICTURE EXCLUSIVE: Newly-divorced Jean Bernard steps out with Cheryl lookalike as it emerges his ex 'fears secret argument recordings will leak'



► Still fighting the good fight! Shailene Woodley dons facepaint at environmental rally in Los Angeles following protest arrest
Fault in Our Stars actress



► 'He wants me to do more': Deborra-Lee Furness says husband Hugh Jackman is 'thrilled' about her return to TV in new series Hyde & Seek



► She's got it all wrapped up: Claire Danes covers up in chunky knit scarf as she enjoys a family stroll with husband Hugh and son Cyrus in NY
Sunday was a day of rest



► Blooming marvellous! Pregnant Billie Faiers shows off her blossoming baby bump as she poses in her underwear for Instagram snap



► Why did the BBC choose to make rape look raunchy? CHRISTOPHER STEVENS is left aghast by scene in the costume drama



► 'The BBC has glorified rape - won't be watching anymore': Poldark viewers threaten to switch OFF after controversial sex scene
Wouldn't accept 'no'




► 'I just gave up on life': Walking Dead fans take to Twitter to share their anger, tears and hilarious memes as Negan victim cliffhanger is finally resolved



► What a Nightmare!


Brooklyn Beckham attends screening of classic slasher flick at Los Angeles cemetery

Viewed a classic horror film with pals




► Make-up free Jessica Biel cradles son Silas while taking a break from filming new thriller The Sinner in South Carolina

Fresh-faced




► The calm before the storm! Manchester United legends Ryan Giggs and Gary Neville enjoy a night out in London... hours before team are humiliated




► 'I felt violated': Taylor Swift recounts alleged DJ groping incident in newly released court transcripts

After a judge agreed to release extra details




► Specsby lady! Catherine Tyldesley cuts a stylish figure in leather midi as she steps out with husband Tom Pitfield

Time for her new hubby




► Feeling blue! Anna Kendrick and Zooey Deschanel coordinate on the red carpet at the Trolls premiere in Los Angeles

Cavalcade of stars




► Lashing out? Claims Russell Crowe is partying too hard after Danielle Spencer moved on with a new man may be behind 'fracas' with Azealia Banks




► Kanye West vows to boycott the Grammys if Frank Ocean isn't nominated... after star missed the submission deadline

Told fans in Oakland



► What a hound dog! He stopped sleeping with wife Priscilla because she'd had their baby - and made her a mother figure instead

His latest addiction...



► He's still a goofball even when getting an

award for it! Bill Murray cracks jokes on the red carpet before being honored with nation's top prize for comedy



► Imogen Thomas flaunts her enviable curves in boho fringe jacket as she cosies up to cute look-a-like daughters Ariana and Siena at film event



► Pregnant Stephanie Davis flaunts her blossoming baby bump in sensational bardot dress...after her Jeremy McConnell pretends to be late David Gest



► 'In the 'bu with my boo': Emily Ratajkowski shares sexy swimsuit snaps from beach time with boyfriend Jeff Magid



► Why aye! Former Geordie Shore star Chantelle Connelly showcases her gym-honed body and ample assets in a tiny two-piece by the pool



► 'I look real f***ing stupid': Kylie Jenner admits she seems dim in infamous moment she thought pig was chicken
Surprised few people



► But where was Drake? President Obama dances to Hotline Bling with Usher at his final White House state dinner
He's got moves!



► Packing on the PDA! Alec and Hilaria Baldwin pucker up in the street after he lampoons Trump on SNL
The 58-year-old actor is so smitten



► Make or break? TOWIE's Megan McKenna looks sombre as she arrives at health spa with ex-beau Pete Wicks... following heartbreaking scandal



► The best advert! Alessandra Ambrosio teams her bikini with a

hat from her own line on family beach day
She's sure to keep getting modelling work!



► Newlyweds Josh Brolin and Kathryn Boyd only have eyes for each other while grabbing coffee in LA after European honeymoon
Looked very loved up



► Can't wait for Halloween! Ivanka Trump posts adorable picture of six-month-old son Theodore dressed for the holiday as Mickey Mouse



► Margot Robbie tops Maxim's Hot 100 list of the most beautiful women in Australia alongside Natalie Roser, The Veronicas... and Pauline Hanson



► Smitten! Chrissy Teigen fawns over baby Luna as she kisses her feet in heartwarming video
Looked thrilled to be doting on six-month-old



► Jacqui Ryland flashes her bare bottom in a seriously skimpy sheer dress while out on the town... as she is 'strongly rumoured' to be joining TOWIE



► PICTURE EXCLUSIVE: Yeehaw cowgirl! Caitlyn Jenner saddles up for a horseback ride with daughter Kendall
With the end of I Am Cait, she's got plenty of time



► Tom Hanks mocks Trump supporters: Star dons a Make America Great Again hat for 'Black Jeopardy' Saturday Night Live skit on 'rigged' election



► Dashing escape! Catherine Zeta-Jones, 47, wears jaunty hat as she oozes Hollywood glamour for a flight out of New York
Looked flawless



► Tara Reid parades her

VERY slender figure in skimpy Greek goddess costume at Maxim Halloween party

Never been shy about showing off her body



► Will Young looks tense as he puffs on a cigarette during day out in London... as rumours of nasty rift with Strictly partner Karen Clifton continue



► Bearded David Beckham cuts a sporty figure as he takes his kids Romeo, 14, Cruz, 11, and Harper, 5, trampolining in sunny LA



► Family time! Zooey Deschanel is pretty as a flower as she enjoys a morning stroll with her husband and daughter

She became a mother last summer



► 'Sunday funday!' Irina Shayk shows off her slender frame as she eats breakfast in her bikini

Enjoyed a decadent breakfast



► Newly-divorced Cheryl 'recorded in secret screaming at jealous ex Jean-Bernard to leave her home... as she fears shock tapes will be leaked'



► 'Fight like a girl!' Shannen Doherty shares sweet note thanking Chelsea Handler for her support during cancer battle



► The one lesson I've learned from life: Comedienne Ruby Wax on not pushing herself too hard

The mother-of-three said she suffers depression



► Cheryl set to return three rings to ex-husband Jean-Bernard...days after he demands she hands over his late mother's heirloom



► Picture perfect! Demi Moore stuns in form-fitting black frock as

she joins Mario Testino for fundraising gala
Dressed to the nines



► 'They've been taking a little break': Claims Chris Hemsworth and Elsa Pataky's marriage is on the rocks as couple seek 'space' from one another



► Playboy BIN-ny! Model Carla Howe shows off her incredible physique as she takes out rubbish in JUST racy crimson lingerie



► 'I have been extremely sick': YouTube singing star Charlie Puth cancels remainder of tour amid ongoing illness
Revealed changed plans



► Canal-mad Tim and Pru really are the nation's favourite grandparents: CHRISTOPHER STEVENS reviews last weekend's TV



► That was quick! Bindi Irwin makes her debut in Maxim's Hot 100 countdown of Australia's most beautiful women... just months after turning 18



► Back on stage! Taylor Swift performs first full concert of 2016 at Formula One in Texas... as she belts out hit she wrote with ex Calvin Harris



► Busty Mariah Carey sizzles in raunchy latex devil costume as she joins Super Mario-clad ex-husband Nick Cannon and their twins for family Halloween fun



► 'Kiss my a** if you aren't for Hillary!' Miley Cyrus does ashtanga yoga as she implores fans to get out and vote
She's doing her bit to get Millennials to vote



► A pool, private bar, cabana gym, and his &

her's dressing rooms:
Inside the oppulent
\$26.8million mansion
rented by Ozzy and
Sharon Osbourne



► Babymoon? Storm
Keating flaunts her
slender figure in tiny
bikini as she and
husband Ronan enjoy
romantic getaway...amid
pregnancy rumours



► Perrie Edwards
flashes her abs in sexy
embossed coord while
borrowing dazzling
make-up look from
Nineties as she joins
racy Little Mix



WEIGHTWATCHERS

SmartPoints nudges you
towards nutritious,
healthier foods so that
you eat better, feel
better, have more energy
AND lose weight. Now
that's what we call smart!



more ►



MORE DON'T MISS

► Move over, Madonna!
Lady Gaga flashes her
derriere in purple satin
hotpants and a cowboy
hat following SNL
appearance... after
saying they're not alike



► Daisy Lowe wears
cross-cross leotard
underneath sporty
onesie as she leads the
Strictly contestants to
rehearsals for the
Halloween special



► SPOILER ALERT!
EastEnders' Lee Carter
gets desperate as his
brother Johnny
discovers he's been
keeping more secrets
from fiancée Whitney



► 'You play games!'
Diane Kruger shares

'final thought' about 'a relationship without trust' after Joshua Jackson split
Quipped on Instagram



► **Nicole Scherzinger shows off her taut abs in punctured leather coord as she belts out national anthem at American football match in London**



► **'She is being a good mom!' Caitlyn Jenner tries to help Kim Kardashian recover after Paris heist**



► **Khloe Kardashian and Lamar Odom finally reach divorce settlement**

The 32-year-old had first filed for divorce back in December 2013



► **Perrie Edwards vows in plunging camisole with tattered jeans as she joins fellow denim-clad bandmate Leigh-Anne Pinnock to celebrate Little Mix chart success**



► **Mohamed Hadid, 67, enjoys romantic date night with fiancée Shiva Safai, 30, at Hollywood hotspot**



► **'It's a logistical nightmare!': Former Geordie Shore star Holly Hagan claims 'stringent rules make it hard for the boys to bed women on the show'**



► **'Feel like crying when I look in the mirror': Scarlett Moffatt shows off her incredible weight loss in bikini throwback... after announcing fitness DVD release**



► **Gigi Hadid rocks a casual look in a torn shirt and skinny jeans as she catches up with a friend in Los Angeles**



► **TOWIE's Pete Wicks continues crusade for**

forgiveness from Megan McKenna following sexting scandal... as she calls in family to help decide her fate



► John Legend enjoys a date night with Chrissy Teigen and baby Luna... after 'taking a swipe' at X Factor's Honey G



► Braless Charlotte Dawson grapples with totally sheer gown as she suffers near nip slip while flashing her entire derriere at boozy birthday bash



► Jacqui Ryland flashes her bare bottom in a seriously skimpy sheer dress while out on the town... as Megan McKenna struggles with Pete Wicks split



► A pool, private bar, cabana gym, and his & her's dressing rooms: Inside the opulent \$26.8million mansion rented by Ozzy and Sharon Osbourne



► Proud father Will Smith debuts new moustache as he joins busty wife Jada with kids Willow, Jaden and Trey at star-studded environmental awards



► Rick's kitchen nightmare! Stein puts in 'car crash' performance on Saturday Kitchen as he subjects Katie Melua to 'Trump-tastic levels of interruption'



► Dame Joan Collins, 83, wraps up in a fur jacket over a classic LBD as she holds hands with husband Percy Gibson, 50, at Chiltern Firehouse




► Dancing queen! Olympia Valance busts a few dance moves... after the Neighbours beauty recently had epic meltdown when sexy lingerie snaps were removed from social media




► Back with a

vengeance! Surprise judge Mel B reveals her underdog team as the X Factor contestants perform in their first live shows




► Selfie queen Karen Danczuk, 33, puts on a busty display in a black one-piece as she gets intimate with her toyboy lover, 26, in a swimming pool in Spain




► Here Comes Honey Boo Boo star Kaitlyn Cardwell undergoes surgery to remove her extra thumb


Entering surgery on October 18




► Calum Best is all smiles as he leaves London nightclub with stunning swimsuit model Kendal O'Reilly




► Tom Hanks hits the town with fellow A-Lister Bradley Cooper to celebrate his ninth time hosting Saturday Night Live




► 'I actually genuinely feel sick!': Megan McKenna reveals she's struggling to sleep following Pete Wicks split in rambling Snapchat posts



► 'She's been in floods of tears': Strictly star Laura Whitmore is 'unable to stand' and could face permanent damage after ankle injury forced her pull out of Saturday's live show

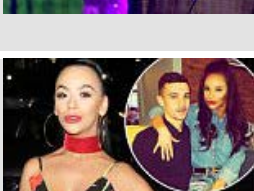


► Why you should Strictly NEVER ask Ed Balls for a lift! Spray-tanned ex-Labour MP savaged for cringeworthy move after almost dropping dance partner



► It's over... again! Actress Chelsee Healy splits from her bad boy beau Jack Malloy for the second time

The Waterloo Road star, 28, is 'single again'



►

► **CBeebies' Sarah Jane Honeywell and new husband Hollyoaks star Ayden Callaghan pack on the PDA... after naked holiday pictures emerge**



► **New X Factor romance on the cards? Sam Lavery and 5 After Midnight's Nathan Lewis 'caught kissing in a cupboard backstage during show'**



► **EXCLUSIVE: 'I'm very sorry': Azealia Banks reveals why she penned open letter to Zayn Malik after racist and homophobic Twitter tirade**



► **Coronation Street's Debbie Rush says it was tough to film character Anna Windass being burned alive because her own husband nearly DIED in a fire**



► **Caitlyn Jenner dazzles in sequinned mini dress while Kelly Osbourne shines in metallic gown as duo judge TransNation Queen pageant in LA**



► **'Hello guys, David Gest here': Jeremy McConnell distastefully pretends to be his late friend in shocking Snapchat video**
Claimed to be producer



► **TOWIE's Megan McKenna flaunts her figure in rose embellished crop top as she hits the town after losing sleep over love rat ex Pete Wicks**



► **Simon Cowell overlooks Niall Horan on The X Factor as he promotes his solo material... after blasting the singer's 'lack of loyalty' for signing with rival record label**




► **Coordinated couple! Kristen Stewart and girlfriend St Vincent wear matching ripped jeans as they run errands together**




► **Strictly's Anastacia**

performs her best dance yet with new partner Gorka as she gives message to ill Brendan to get well soon


Bonanza kicks off in style




►'We didn't want people thinking we were doing it for publicity': The Wiggles' Lachy Gillespie reveals the reason why he and wife Emma Watkins initially kept their relationship a secret




►'I got chills': Honey G FINALLY wins over no-nonsense Simon Cowell with dynamic Vanilla Ice and Queen mash-up on X Factor




►Jungle fever! Demi Lovato dons leopard-print miniskirt and jacket as she heads to West Hollywood celebrity hot spot Catch LA



►Hear her roar! Nicole Scherzinger flashes her tanned abs in sexy tiger print two-piece as she leaves The X Factor show with her fellow judges




►An eye-popping display! Buxom ex-TOWIE star Abigail Clarke narrowly avoids spilling out of tiny pink bralet as she enjoys wild night out




►'Contractions... my son soon!': DJ Khaled Snapchats from inside the delivery room as fiancée Nicole Tuck gives birth

Recording a special day




►Daisy Lowe displays her toned figure in a tuxedo jacket as she dances into fourth place on Strictly with her quirky Charlston

Looked delighted



►Sporty as ever! Mel C shows off her toned legs as she takes to the stage... after confessing she turned down Spice Girls reunion to spend time with daughter




► **Legs eleven! Emma Roberts shows off her lithe limbs in tiny Daisy Dukes as she steps out in Beverly Hills**



► **A Lott of front! Pixie shows off her bra in racy sheer top as she enjoys a date night with model beau Oliver Cheshire**



► **Ariana Grande headlines Hollywood concert for breast cancer awareness alongside Pitbull and The Backstreet Boys**



► **Perfect match! Cara Santana wears unusual coordinated ensemble as she goes on a loved-up stroll with fiance Jesse Metcalfe**



► **Keeping it simple: Dannii Minogue looks chic in tight skinny jeans and a leather jacket... after opening the Feast Festival in Adelaide**



► **'What colour eyes would our child have?' Loose Women's Andrea McLean recalls tearful chat with partner Nick Feeney after her hysterectomy**



► **'Weekend motivation': Charlotte Crosby shares her amazing before and after weight loss transformation as she flaunts slimline figure in sports bra**



► **There's no camouflaging him! Mickey Rourke stands out in skintight trousers and flaunts his brawny chest in Beverly Hills**



► **White hot! Karrueche Tran sizzles in dress with VERY low-cut neckline and thigh-high slit**
Ever the style chameleon



► **Unleashing her inner wild child! Lily Allen gets into the party spirit as she enjoys a rare night out at star-**



studded Dizzee Rascal concert
At Copper Box Arena



► **Lady in red... and white! Nicole Richie wows in semi sheer sleeveless gown and pearl pantsuit at Hollywood gala**



► **'I was a tomboy!' Blac Chyna posts throwback photo of 'Young Chy'... as she preps for the birth of her own baby girl**



► **Take That announce 22-date arena tour to showcase their new album Wonderland next year... but Robbie Williams WON'T be joining**



► **Jesy Nelson vamps up in a racy black bodysuit at a Little Mix book signing in London... as the group's new single Shout Out To My Ex reaches number one**



► **Amy Childs oozes casual glamour in stylish knit and racy knee-high boots... as she steps out after she was hospitalised due to boob job**



► **Pink lady! Gaga heads to Saturday Night Live in pale rose belted coat with matching heels and wide brimmed hat**
The singer went bare-legged



► **Bottoms up! Lucy Mecklenburgh flaunts her shapely derriere in form-fitting denims as she steps out in Essex**
Flaunting her results from her tough workout




► **'One of my favorite cover stories!' Gigi Hadid boasts over racy photos as she flashes skimpy panties in Vogue Japan**
Gushed over her upcoming spread




► **Jessica Alba and**


Sarah Michelle Gellar are polished and poised as they attend Martha Stewart's American Made Summit




▶ Nicole Scherzinger slammed by Simon Cowell for neglecting her acts as she steals the show on X Factor while Ryan Lawrie is savaged by the judges panel




▶ SPOILER ALERT: Guilty Emma Barton attempts to cover up her murderous tracks after she dramatically killed husband James on Emmerdale




▶ Carry on Baking! Other contestants call me the Barbara Windsor of the Bake Off tent, admits Candice - but what do they expect if we're squeezing sausages?




▶ Top of the crops! Lea Michele flaunts her toned abs as she makes sports wear red carpet worthy




▶ Bikini babe to bring back the Brits: Made in Chelsea glamour Lucy Watson to lead \$10 million campaign to lure British backpackers Down Under




▶ Ireland Baldwin is transformed into a blood-splattered temptress as she turns 21 with a racy costume party
In honor of the milestone



▶ Strictly sick note! Devastated Laura Whitmore pulls out of live TV dance show with ankle injury amid claims 'six pro dancers are hit by a mystery illness'



▶ 'People are getting caught up in the novelty of it': John Legend wasn't impressed with 'novelty act' Honey G after meeting The X Factor stars this week



▶ Helen Skelton covers

her famous legs in baggy boyfriend jeans and beige side-split jumper as she shops at The Baby Show

Out in Kensington



► High five! Zara Tindall is effortlessly chic in grey cape as she jokes around on the racecourse at Cheltenham

With little Harry Keighley



► Reaching for a sarong next? Brooklyn Beckham looks a dead ringer for dad David in the nineties... as he sports new floppy haircut



► Out to sea! Brooke Burke-Charvet works out on a paddle board wearing pink bikini bottoms

showcased not only her paddle boarding skills



► 'You can unfollow me': Ariel Winter talks social media haters and her struggle with body confidence... as she plays tourist in NYC with a pal



► Charli XCX-rated! Singer flashes flesh in plunging bikini top, mini skirt and pink underwear for Las Vegas concert

Energetic performance



► Saluting her fashion sense! Kaia Gerber goes military chic in oversized camouflage hoodie as she enjoys a day out in Malibu

Showed off her own fashion sense



► Was that meant for Bradley? Irina Shayk does a Kim Kardashian as she snaps picture of swimsuit-clad behind

Includes Kim-worthy caption 'angles'



► Knock knock, who's there?... Hillary who? Katy Perry and Miley Cyrus visit dorms to drum up support for Clinton - but the students are more concerned with selfies



►

► **Bomber beauty!**
OITNB star Jackie Cruz displays her slender legs in a pair of denim shorts and a warm jacket



► **Going for gold!**
Karrueche Tran shows off super slim figure in tiny bra top and matching trousers on Hollywood night out
Smoking in satin



► **Earning her fashion stripes!** Amal Clooney wears bold jumpsuit as she visits George on set with her father
Having fun with dad



► **Looking divine!**
Karolina Kurkova flashes toned legs as she rocks super tight skirt and heavenly white blouse
Spotted in Miami



► **'She goes with me everywhere!' Coco Austin takes baby Chanel to the beauty parlor**
The almost one-year-old giggles for the camera



► **'I feel someone's going to be fired':** Sonia Kruger reveals what REALLY happened when Kourtney Kardashian appeared to ignore a question about Kim's robbery on Today Extra



► **Keeping in touch!** Big Little Lies co-stars Reese Witherspoon and Laura Dern grab lunch together
Coordinating ensembles



► **The evolution of Elle:** Macpherson hides her famous physique as she stuns on the cover of Elle Australia... 25 years after fronting it braless in a wet blouse



► **Kristin Scott Thomas** stuns in colourful shift dress as she enjoys reunion with English Patient co-stars Ralph Fiennes and Juliette Binoche



► **Courtney Love, 52,** goes make-up free on

Saturday stroll with toyboy lover Nicholas Jarecki, 37

The Hole singer held the filmmaker's hand



► Kelly Rowland goes braless in casual grey jersey dress as she nips out for lunch in Beverly Hills

Opted for comfort



► From red carpet glamour to soccer mom! Julia Roberts seamless transitions from celebrity to mama duties and looks great doing it

Beamed as she arrived



► Roxanne Pallett rocks a trendy leather jacket and tight trousers while filming with a muscular co-star in Essex

Back in black



► Daisy Lowe is typically smiley as she leaves her London hotel in a vintage leather jacket and skinny jeans ahead of the Strictly Come Dancing live show



► 'It's heartbreaking and I think every parent can relate to it': Carey Mulligan calls on UK to help end the bloodshed in Syria at rally outside Downing Street



► Pregnant Billie Faiers showcases her blossoming baby bump in casual gym attire as she runs errands in Essex

Blooming



► Mummy duties! Stacey Solomon attends the première of Kate & Mim-Mim alongside Imogen Thomas and adorable daughters Ariana and Siera



► Under Pressure! X Factor's Honey G 'banned from personalising Ice Ice Baby on live show by David Bowie's estate'



► It's on the way! Sony confirms Kesha is working on a new album

and will release new music 'soon' despite legal battle with Dr Luke
Last LP released 2012



► Lady in red! Rumer Willis dazzles in a curve-hugging gown as she sips a drink onstage during cabaret tour
Nothing short of glamorous



► Getting into the Halloween spirit! Zoella dons ghostly top and cat hat as she joins beau Alfie Deyes and fellow YouTubers at Shocktober Fest



► Melanie Sykes, 46, displays her athletic physique in a pale blue snake print bikini as she relaxes poolside in Ibiza
Showed off her enviably taut tum



► 'Hopefully screaming my name in agony': James Woods gloats over death of his Twitter nemesis whom he sued for \$10m after being called a 'cocaine addict'



► Not so glam! Juno Temple gets a soaking while filming star-studded Woody Allen movie in the pouring rain
Carried off like a pro



► Lovely in lace! Lydia Bright leads the glamour in frilly blue frock as she attends Stand Up To Cancer bash
Understated glamour



► 'TV has been traumatic tonight': Emmerdale and Coronation Street viewers are left in floods of tears by two of the most dramatic episodes in soap history



► Always ready for her close up! Jamie Chung dresses up in waist-baring two piece to take her dog for a walk
Exceptionally dressed for the casual event



► **Corked! Exes Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie 'are putting Chateau Miraval and its prized vineyards up for sale'**



► **New mum Maria Fowler enjoys family day out with boyfriend Kelvin Batey and baby daughter Evie at The Baby Show**
Good spirits



► **'I had nowhere to go!' Perrie Edwards confesses split from Zayn Malik left her HOMELESS... and she couldn't stop crying over him**



► **Tom Hardy tipped to play polar explorer Ernest Shackleton for Antarctic biopic (and the likeness is uncanny)**
Suited to the role



► **She's eclectic! Karlie Kloss cuts an eye-catching figure in quirky double bun hairstyle, leather chaps and playsuit as she steps out in Tokyo**



► **Jasmin Walia puts on a leggy display in dove grey slinky mini-dress as she enjoys night out with TOWIE pals**
Head-turning display



► **Flare for fashion! Cindy Crawford dazzles in silk magenta blouse and jeans as she enjoys a night out at Soho House in Malibu**
Smouldering display



► **Sad demise of a Hollywood heartthrob: Edward Furlong looks bloated and unkempt on outing with equally unrecognizable Dawson's Creek star girlfriend**



► **That's not Justin! Bieber's rumoured fling Sahara Ray is pictured enjoying an intimate moment with socialite Ireland Baldwin**



► **'Pick the right partner': Deborra-Lee Furness dishes out advice for a**

happy marriage... after celebrating 20 years with Wolverine star Hugh Jackman



► Disco doll! Kate Hudson takes the plunge in sequined jumpsuit for GLSEN event

Effervescent



► 'I deeply care what people think': Kristen Stewart admits to being self-conscious about her acting as she opens up about life after Twilight



► New low for Lindsay Lohan: Star facing bankruptcy after she missed £78,000 rent on London flat

Lawyers are demanding payment



► To DYE for! Carmen Electra sports punky blue hair streak and eclectic geometric dress with sheer panels for night at fashion event



► Make-up free Diane Kruger looks worlds away from her glamorous self... after chopping off her locks to get into character for new flick in Germany



► Bella Thorne flaunts belly button on outing to nail salon wearing blue knitted hat and ripped hipster jeans
Still flashed some flesh



► 'The Kardashians make you want everything done': Ex-TOWIE star Pascal Craymer regrets boob job and reveals her 'changing body' led her to self-harm



► Still a Pretty Woman! Julia Roberts lights up red carpet in rose-motif dress at event celebrating LGBTQ youth

Bespectacled beauty



► She's a showstopper! Cyndi Lauper makes a

statement with pink dreadlocks and eccentric pantsuit as she attends Kinky Boots premiere



▶ Never Ever were they ever going in! All Saints' Melanie Platt and Nicole Appleton DENY being 'turned away from Soho club during night out'



▶ Domesticated bliss! Kristen Stewart takes new girlfriend St Vincent dog food shopping
Stocked up on the essentials



▶ Benedict Cumberbatch goes solo at charity fundraiser in LA after it's revealed he's going to be a dad again
Without his gorgeous wife Sophie Hunter



▶ Showing love to the fans! Matrix star Keanu Reeves, 52, reveals patchy beard as he attends Australian MotoGP... as actor kindly stops for fan photo after slamming social media



▶ The Pet Shop Boys don bizarre futuristic-inspired headpieces for artsy performance in Las Vegas
They well and truly out-did themselves



▶ Just good jeans! Alessandra Ambrosio shows off model figure in '70s style denim jumpsuit for lunch with friends
Looking gorgeous



▶ 'They're dropping like flies': Six Strictly dancers are 'struck down with mystery bug' after Brendan Cole bows out of Saturday's show



▶ Fitness fanatic Melanie Sykes, 46, shows off her rippling six-pack in intimate bedroom selfies




▶ Model behaviour!

Harry Styles' ex Nadine Leopold nails off-duty chic with pal Gabby Westbrook at Victoria's Secret casting session in New York



► I'll take mine chopped! Makeup-free Amber Heard picks up some lunch from a Beverly Hills eatery famed for its salads



► 'Hit me right in the feels': Noel Gallagher's Half The World Away tribute to Caroline Aherne for Stand Up To Cancer praised by fans



► Olivia Culpo dons pinstripe trousers to teach course at International Style Institute in LA
Office chic



► Under cover! Tori Spelling once again hides baby bump number five as she stops to refuel in LA
'Really excited'



► Nice to have seen you, to have seen you, nice! 77 years after making his showbiz debut Bruce Forsyth, 88, calls time on his illustrious career because he no longer craves the spotlight




► That was quick! Demi Lovato goes 'back to brown' less than a week after debuting her new blonde look
Perhaps blondes don't have more fun



► 'Martha has been drinking!' Snoop Dogg calls out Stewart as she gets tipsy in teaser for the pair's new show
The surprising duo have long been friends



► Hands-on hubby! Chrissy Teigen gets a cheeky pat on the bottom from John Legend as she shakes off 'mommy shamers' drama



► All I Want For Christmas Is You!

Mariah Carey more than sparkles in a jewel-encrusted bra as she films a holiday Carpool Karaoke with James Corden



► 'Hope is possible': Shannen Doherty shares heartbreaking post-chemo photo... but vows to get back up and continue the fight
Struggling with treatment



► Weatherfield in flames: Coronation Street viewers can't handle the heat as Anna Windass is set on fire in sensational episode



► 'Sugar lips' Tim Robards plants a kiss on longtime girlfriend Anna Heinrich... days after dodging questions about getting engaged
Sating for three years



► What a great anti! Rihanna teaches little niece Majesty how to give herself a manicure in sweet Instagram video
Got it nailed



► Pregnancy pampering! Blac Chyna covers up in a onsie as she treats herself to some me time at the nail salon



► 'If you're not friends, it's not going to work': Former X Factor winners Little Mix offer their pearls of wisdom to girl band Four Of Diamonds



► 'I'm overwhelmed': Scarlett Moffatt reveals she's releasing a fitness DVD after her astonishing weight loss



► 'I love you!' Robert Kardashian's close bond with Kim revealed by previously unseen treasure trove of home movies



► Blac Chyna shows off her baby bump in pink satin tracksuit as she

enjoys girls' night out with Amber Rose... after reigniting feud with ex Tyga and Kylie Jenner



► A whole Lott of skin! Pixie flaunts her never-ending pins in skimpy metallic mini as she leads the style pack at the Scottish Fashion Awards in London



► She's glowing! Mel Gibson's girlfriend Rosalind Ross, 26, shows off burgeoning baby bump alongside controversial actor, 60, at charity poker event



► Elizabeth Hurley, 51, flaunts her impeccably toned abs and perky bust in a navy striped bikini for saucy selfie
Did a great job of selling her navy striped bikini



► 'You have brought so much joy to our lives': Kim Kardashian's mum Kris shares flashback photos as she wishes 'anxious' star a happy 36th birthday



► Jay Z 'cannot stand nut job' Kanye West it's claimed after Kim Kardashian's husband rails against the rapper for not being a true friend



► Love Island's Olivia Buckland sends temperatures soaring as she flaunts her eye-popping assets in latex nude bodysuit and sexy co-ord for hair campaign shoot



► Boho babe! Kimberley Garner flaunts her cleavage in plunging maxi dress at Scottish Fashion Awards in London



► Posing up a Storm! Tallia cuts a stylish figure in colourful mixed print gown at the Scottish Fashion Awards in London



► Stylishly clad Louise Redknapp looks in high

spirits as she steps out in casual bomber jacket... after her mother-in-law was accidentally RUN OVER by Harry Redknapp



► Alesha Dixon cuts a flirty figure in ladylike off-the-shoulders dress and quirky footwear at the Scottish Fashion Awards




► Feeling better Tyga? Kylie Jenner's boyfriend boasts about his bling after suddenly falling ill while getting quizzed about expensive gifts




Today's headlines


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British banker, 31, who killed two women tortured one for THREE days with pliers and sex toys before forcing...




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
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
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
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
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






















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
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
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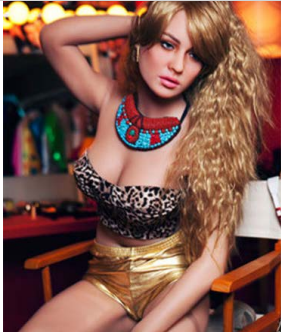
Cameron refuses to rule out axing 550 Environment Agency staff in flood-dominated PMQs

GRANTS of up to £5,000 will be available to businesses and homeowners hit by flooding David Cameron announced today as he repeated his pledge that "money is no object" when it comes to dealing with the relief operation.

By **OWEN BENNETT - POLITICAL REPORTER**
15:02, Wed, Feb 12, 2014


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Fury after Home Office 'fails to tell Devon town they will host up to 70 Golan



David Cameron has promised that 'money is no object in this relief effort' [REUTERS]

We will be introducing a grant for all affected homeowners and businesses to build in better flood protection as they repair their properties. That will be up to £5,000 per house and per business.

David Cameron

The Prime Minister made the announcement in the Commons this afternoon, as Labour leader Ed Miliband pressured him on whether planned redundancies at the beleaguered Environment Agency (EA) were set to go ahead.

Mr Cameron refused to be drawn on the future of the 550 workers at the EA during Prime Minister's Questions, but did talk up the financial help available to flood victims.

He said: "We will be

introducing a grant for all affected homeowners and businesses to build in better flood protection as they repair their properties. That will be up to £5,000 per house and per business.

"On top of that we are announcing a £10million fund for farmers who have seen their land waterlogged day after day, week after week.

"And I can also announce today that we will be deferring the tax payments that businesses have to pay and all of the businesses that have been affected by floods will get 100% business rate relief."

Mr Miliband said "These steps are welcome and will be welcomed across the House but I'm afraid you didn't answer the specific question I asked - which is about the 550 people the

5

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BREAKING: M6 closed after man killed in major five-car crash on motorway

'You can't have TWO

Environment Agency are planning to make redundant that work on flood defences.

"They are people currently working on the clean-up and put in place the flood defences.

"Similarly, on the issue of spending on flood defence, the committee for energy and climate change says we are spending significantly less in flood defence than we should.

"My question is a simple one: given yesterday's promise to make sure we have a resilient country for the future and spend whatever it takes, are you committing now to reconsider these redundancies, and reconsider the amount of money we invest in flood defences?"



Ed Miliband questioned the Prime Minister of Environment Agency cuts [PA]

Mr Cameron said the Environment Agency had a set capital spending budget all the way to 2020.

"We have only made capital spending pledges in areas like transport and in terms of flood defences, pledges no-one else is able to match, particularly if they are committed to a zero based budget review," Mr Cameron said.

"They are promises we are happy to make so people can see how much money will be spent on flood defences... we are only able to make those pledges because we have managed our economy effectively and managed our budget effectively."

Prior to the Commons session, an email sent from the Government Chief Whip's office to Tory backbenchers sought to clarify Mr Cameron's original pledge made yesterday that "money is no object in this relief effort".



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BREAKING: M6
closed after man killed

The email instructed MPs to take the line that money is not an issue "while we are in this relief job".

This morning, Transport Secretary Patrick McLoughlin indicated there would be "careful consideration" before money is spent on the larger rebuilding exercise of restoring damaged infrastructure after water levels recede.

"I don't think it's a blank cheque," Mr McLoughlin told ITV1's Daybreak. "I think what the Prime Minister was making very clear is that we are going to use every resource of the Government and money is not the issue while we are in this relief job, in the first instance, of trying to bring relief to those communities that are affected.

"Then we have got to do the repairs of the structures and the railway infrastructure that's been damaged and then the other long-term issues, which will need some careful consideration."



in major five-car crash on motorway



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