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AM/SC

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Alfold Flood Forum

I would like to begin by thanking Andrew Hagger and his team for their contribution to the Alfold Flood Forum meetings which I chair.

Clappers Meadow Pumping Station: At recent meetings in December and April, we have talked about the problems at Thames Water's pumping station in Alfold at Clappers Meadow. There have been numerous power failures locally, which I am pursuing elsewhere, and these (together with more generalised flooding issues) mean that it is absolutely crucial that there is a back-up generator at this station. Andrew told us that there is a mobile generator available, but this can be 2 hours or more away, and may also be in use elsewhere.

When the pumping station fails, an alarm should go off at Reading I understand, and this triggers a visit by an engineer, who can assess what action is needed.

I would be grateful if Thames Water could provide the following figures:

- how often has the Clappers Meadow pumping station been overloaded (over, say, the last 5 years)? and
- how often have tankers been sent in?

I would be grateful also if you could let me know what plans are now in hand to install a permanent back-up generator at Clappers Meadow.

Anne Milton
Member of Parliament
for Guildford