

Press release: New ministerial appointments September 2017: DfE and DIT

Rona Fairhead CBE is new Minister for the Department of International Trade and Sir Theodore Agnew DL is Parliamentary Under Secretary for the Department for Education.

The Queen has been pleased to approve the appointment of Rona Fairhead CBE as an unpaid Minister of State at the Department for International Trade. This follows the recent departure from Government of Lord Price CVO.

Her Majesty has also been pleased to approve the appointment of Sir Theodore Agnew DL as an unpaid Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for Education on the departure from Government of Lord Nash.

Her Majesty has been pleased to signify Her intention of conferring peerages of the United Kingdom for Life on Rona Fairhead and Sir Theodore Agnew.

Press release: Privy Council appointments September 2017

The Queen has been pleased to approve that Lord Keen of Elie be sworn of Her Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council.

The Queen has been pleased to approve that The Honourable Lord Justice Deeny Knight and The Honourable Lord Justice Stephens Knight be sworn of Her Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council following their appointment as a Lord Justice of Appeal.

Press release: Helping pupils prepare for flooding

Around 800 school children are better prepared for flooding following vital Environment Agency information sessions.

Community Engagement Officer for Cleveland, Sarah Pearce, led assemblies at schools across the area last week to help pupils understand flood risk and know what to do in a flood.

The schools involved were Handale Primary School at Loftus, Rift House Primary School in Hartlepool and Oxbridge lane Primary School in Stockton-on-Tees.

She was joined at Rift House by Coun. Marjorie James, Hartlepool Council's representative on the Northumbria Regional Flood and Coastal Committee.

Sarah also launched a competition for school pupils to design a new logo which will be worn by Community Flood Wardens throughout the North East.

Awareness raising

Sarah said:

It's hoped that through these sessions with children I will raise awareness of flooding and issues associated with flooding and will be able to pass on key safety messages to young people.

Working with schools means children can be educated about what it means to be flood resilient and ensure the messages delivered have a long-term impact in flood risk areas.

It's absolutely vital that future generations understand flooding, what we do during a flood and what they can do to stay safe.

The Flood Warden Logo competition is being run right across the North East with schools taking part from the whole area. Once the winning design has been selected this will be printed on to the new Flood Warden jacket which will be presented to all flood wardens to wear during a flood incident.

Helping communities be resilient

Sarah is one of four Community Engagement Officers for the North East appointed by the Environment Agency to help communities to be more flood resilient.

Funded by the Northumbria Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (NRFCC) for the next four years, the officers are working alongside partner organisations to help support communities.

Sarah works closely with Cleveland Emergency Planning Unit, and her work includes helping businesses and residents to understand their risk of flooding and ensuring those in flood risk areas are signed up to receive free flood warnings.

She's also helping communities prepare themselves for flooding, such as supporting them to develop community flood plans and recruit volunteer Flood

Wardens in at risk communities.

To find out more about your local flood risk and sign up to the Flood Warning Service Visit [the gov.uk website](https://www.gov.uk)

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You can contact Sarah at sarah.pearce@environment-agency.gov.uk or 07867 441 697.

[News story: CIC Webinar: Thursday 5 October 2017 11:00am – 11:30am](#)

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