



**JACOB REES-MOGG, MP**  
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR NORTH EAST SOMERSET

**HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON  
SW1A 0AA**

T. McFarlane, Esq.,  
Executive Council Member,  
Fire Brigades Union – South West Region,  
158, Muller Road,  
Horfield,  
Bristol, BS7 9RE.

17<sup>th</sup> December 2012

*T. McFarlane,*

Thank you for your recent letter regarding flooding in the South West. I appreciate you taking the time to share your concerns on this issue.

I was glad to be able to pay specific tribute to the work of the Fire and Rescue Services in the House of Commons following the death of a man in Chew Stoke. I have enclosed a copy of the comment I made in the chamber.

I am sympathetic to the needs of the Fire and Rescue Service, particularly for tackling floods. However, given the current economic problems and austerity this is a difficult issue. I am, regrettably, not sure there are funds currently available for the equipment you mention.

With very best wishes for Christmas and a prosperous New Year,

*J - Mogg*  
*Jacob Rees-Mogg*

Enc.

**26 Nov 2012:      Flooding**

**Jacob Rees-Mogg (North East Somerset) (Con):** May I join the Secretary of State in mourning the deaths of the three people, particularly the gentleman in Chew Stoke who was washed to his death in spite of the very valiant efforts of the fire brigade to rescue him? May I thank the Under-Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, my hon. Friend the Member for Newbury (Richard Benyon), who has assured Bath and North East Somerset council that it will be given every help following the floods? May I raise an issue that has been brought to my attention by constituents who are concerned that silt is not being dealt with because of esoteric wildlife issues, and ask whether this policy will be reconsidered?