**PREP HOMEWORK: Microeconomics (Public Goods and Flood Defences)**

***Due Monday 29th April 2019 – should take no more than 2 hours***

TASK 1: Read the following articles (7 in total) about the flooding issues in the UK

1. BBC News – Summer Floods of 2007: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/7446721.stm>
2. Wikipedia (just skim read the article): Cumbria floods of 2009 - <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2009_Great_Britain_and_Ireland_floods>
3. BBC News - UK Floods of 2012: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-20488645>
4. Guardian – December 2013: River Wey bursts it’s banks and ruins Christmas: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2013/dec/26/christmas-flooding-weybridge-river-wey-surrey>
5. Guardian – Feb 2014 (after large areas of the UK (including Godalming!) were flooded during the winter months: <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/feb/13/uk-floods-essential-guide>
6. UK floods of 2015: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-35038617> and <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/dec/08/storm-desmond-damage-cumbria-estimated-500m>

EXTRA/ADDITIONAL READING from Economics Help if needed: <http://www.economicshelp.org/blog/9960/concepts/flood-defences-public-good/>

TASK 2: Produce a 1 sided A4 set of notes (mind map??) covering the following areas:

1. Write a brief timeline of the main events that have occurred since 2007 with flooding in the UK. Give brief details of the areas that were affected and the potential costs of each flood.
2. What are some explanations or theories as to why there have been these floods?
3. What are some of the costs of residents as a result of the floods?
4. What is the ‘Environment Agency’ and the ‘Thames Barrier’?
5. What has been the controversy surrounding the Government’s response to the flooding?
6. Why might flood defences be considered a pure man made public good and therefore not provided by a free market?
7. How might you argue against this?