

STAFFORDSHIRE LOCAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

GLOSSARY

Term	Definition
Attenuation	In the context of this report - the storing of water to reduce its peak discharge.
Breach	An accidental opening/ failure – for example in a flood defence.
Catchment Flood Management Plan	A high-level planning strategy through which the Environment Agency works with its key decision makers within a river catchment to identify and agree policies to secure the long-term sustainable management of flood risk.
Category 1 Responders	As defined under Schedule 1 of the Civil Contingencies Act, Category 1 responders are "core responders" in the event of an emergency and include emergency services, local authorities, health bodies and Government agencies including the Environment Agency.
Civil Contingencies Act	Aims to deliver a single framework for civil protection in the UK and sets out the actions that need to be taken in the event of an emergency. The Civil Contingencies Act is separated into two substantive parts: local arrangements for civil protection (Part 1) and emergency powers (Part 2)
Culvert	A channel or pipe that carries a watercourse below the level of the ground.
DG5 Register	A water-company held register of properties which have experienced sewer flooding due to hydraulic overload, or properties which are 'at risk' of sewer flooding more frequently than once in 20 years.
Environment Agency	Environment regulator for England. Risk Management Authority responsible for management of flood risk from fluvial (main rivers), tidal and coastal sources of flooding and Reservoirs.
Flood	Flooding refers to a situation where land which is usually dry is covered in water. This can be for a short period of time such as a few hours or over longer periods of time such as a couple of days. Flooding referred to in the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 excludes burst main flooding and sewer flooding not influenced by rainfall.
Floodplain	Area adjacent to river, coast or estuary that is naturally susceptible to flooding.
Flood and Water Management Act 2010	An Act to make provision about water, including provision about the management of risks in connection with flooding and coastal erosion.
Flood Defence	Infrastructure used to protect an area against floods such as floodwalls and embankments; they are designed to a specific standard of protection (design standard).
Flood Resilience	Resilience is a design measure that can reduce the damage that occurs to buildings from flooding. It does not prevent floodwater from entering a building. It involves constructing a building in such a way that although floodwater may enter the building, its impact is minimised.
Flood Risk	The level of flood risk is the product of the frequency or likelihood of the flood events and their consequences (such as loss, damage, harm, distress and disruption)
Flood Risk Assessment	Considerations of the flood risks inherent in a project, leading to the development of actions to control, mitigate or accept them.
Flood Risk Regulations 2009	The Flood Risk Regulations 2009 transposes the EC Floods Directive (Directive 2007/60/EC on the assessment and management of flood risk) into domestic law in England and Wales and to implement its provisions.
Flood Resilience	The ability and capacity of people and places to prepare for, protect against, respond to, and recover from flooding
Flood Storage	An area that temporarily stores excess runoff or river flow. This is often in ponds or reservoirs.
Fluvial	Relating to the actions, processes and behaviour of a watercourse (river or stream)
Fluvial flooding	Flooding from a river or a watercourse.

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Functional Floodplain	Land where water has to flow or be stored in times of flood.
Greenfield	Previously undeveloped land.
Groundwater	Water that is in the ground, this is usually referring to water in the saturated zone below the water table.
Highways Act 1980	Sets out the main duties (management and operation of the road network) of highways authorities in England and Wales. The Act contains powers to carry out functions/tasks on or within the highways such as improvements, drainage, acquiring land etc.
Hydraulic Modelling	A computerised model of a drainage system to simulate flows and estimate water levels and flood extents.
Infiltration	The penetration of water through the ground's surface.
Land Drainage Act 1991	Sets out the statutory roles and responsibilities of key organisations such as Internal Drainage Boards, local authorities, the Environment Agency and Riparian owners with jurisdiction over watercourses and land drainage infrastructure. Parts of the Act have been amended by the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.
Local Flood Risk	Defined in the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 as flooding from surface runoff, ordinary watercourses and groundwater
Lead Local Flood Authority	The statutory body defined under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 responsible for the management of local flood risk, namely surface water runoff, groundwater and ordinary watercourses.
Local Flood Risk Management Strategy	The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 requires lead local flood authorities to develop, maintain, apply and monitor a local flood risk management strategy. The strategy should consider all sources of local flood risk, i.e. surface water, groundwater, and ordinary watercourses in order to determine distinct objectives to manage local flood risk to local communities. Local flood risk management strategies should be consistent with the National Strategy and other flood risk management documents.
Local Planning Authority	Body that is responsible for controlling planning and development through the planning system.
Main River	Watercourse defined on a 'Main River Map' designated by Defra. The Environment Agency has permissive powers to carry out flood defence works, maintenance and operational activities on Main Rivers.
National Strategy	National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England, developed by the Environment Agency.
Ordinary Watercourse	A watercourse that does not form part of a Main River. This includes "all rivers and streams and all ditches, drains, cuts, culverts, dikes, sluices (other than public sewers within the meaning of the Water Industry Act) and passages, through which water flows" according to the Land Drainage Act 1991.
Overland Flow	Flooding caused when intense rainfall exceeds the capacity of the drainage systems or when, during prolonged periods of wet weather, the soil is saturated such that it cannot accept any more water.
Overtopping	Water carried over the top of a defence structure due to the wave height exceeding the crest height of the defence.
Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment	The Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment aims to provide a high level screening exercise to facilitate flood risk management. The assessment involves the collection and collation of historic and future flood risk data which will facilitate the identification of Flood Risk Areas (where appropriate) and local flood risk management.
Property Flood Resilience	An element of Flood Risk Management that includes a range of measures that can be installed on buildings to reduce the risk of flood water for the property
Residual Flood Risk	The remaining flood risk after risk reduction measures have been taken into account.
Return Period	The average time period between rainfall or flood events with the same intensity and effect.

Term	Definition
Riparian Owner	Anyone who owns land or property alongside a watercourse. Responsibilities include maintaining river beds/banks and ensuring the normal flow of water can pass without obstruction.
Risk	The probability or likelihood of an event occurring.
Risk Management Authorities	The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 identifies certain organisations as risk management authorities which have flood risk management powers and duties.
River Basin Management Plan	The River Basin Management Plans describe the river basin district, and the pressures that the water environment faces. It shows what this means for the current state of the water environment in the river basin district, and what actions will be taken to address the pressures.
River Catchment	The area drained by a river.
Standard of Protection	The flood event return period above which significant damage and possible failure of the flood defences could occur.
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment	A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) gives an overview of flood risk in a given area to sequentially guide development to areas of lower risk.
Surface Water Management Plan	Surface water management plans are projects to investigate local flooding issues that occur as a result of heavy rainfall. They should identify options to mitigate local flooding and incorporate a realistic action plan to implement or deliver the agreed management measures.
Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS)	A method of drainage design which mimics the drainage characteristics of an area prior to development.
Sustainable Development	Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations meeting their own needs.
Tributary	A body of water, flowing into a larger body of water, such as a smaller stream joining a larger stream.
Water Cycle Study	Water Cycle Studies seek to identify and understand the relationship between development and the water environment within the defined study area, by examining the potential impacts of future growth on water resources, water quality and flood risk.
Water Framework Directive	The European Water Framework Directive (WFD) came into force in December 2000 and became part of UK law in December 2003. It provides an opportunity to plan and deliver a better water environment, focussing on ecology.