

Derbyshire County Council's

Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

April 2023

PART 1



Part 1 of Derbyshire's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy has been designed to provide you with general information about flooding and flood risk, who to call and how you can help yourself become more resilient to the impacts of flooding.

Part 2 of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy focuses on the more technical details of understanding flood risk in Derbyshire, our action plan for how we intend to coordinate the management of the future risks and how we can fund our flood risk management Wfunctions and initiatives. Part 2 also includes the County Council's level of service for flood risk management functions.

There are a number of **Guidance Notes** that support the information within the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. They can be viewed on our website www.derbyshire.gov.uk/flooding



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Flooding

Many people within Derbyshire live in flood risk areas.

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For updates about roads closed due to flooding and surface water, please check our [weather related road closures](#).

Please remember that additional local roads may be closed across the county due to localised surface water flooding.

If you're heading out, only travel if your journey is essential, drive to the conditions and please don't be tempted to drive through floodwater. As little as 30cm of water can float a car. Driving through floodwater can also cause flooding to properties next to the road.

[Sign up to get flood warnings](#) or see the [latest flood warnings](#) for your area.

Search for [flood risk in your area](#) and find out the possible causes of flooding and how to manage flood risk.

Find out [how to report flooding](#).

[Follow us on Twitter](#) or [find us on Facebook](#) for the latest information.

Flood warnings

The Environment Agency is responsible for issuing flood warnings to the public. It provides a dedicated Floodline information service tel: 0845 988 1188. The line operates 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

The [flood warning information](#) is updated every 15 minutes.

Flooding support

Here we provide information on:

- organisations involved in [managing flood risk in Derbyshire](#) and their responsibilities
- identifying if you are at [risk from flooding](#)
- [reporting flooding](#)
- flood protection and resilience measures
- cleaning up after a flood
- how to access help if your home or business has been directly affected by flooding

Foreword

Communities in Derbyshire have over the years been subjected to the physical, emotional, and economic impacts of flooding, and it's been particularly prevalent in recent years, if the significant rainfall events of November 2019 and February 2020 are anything to go by.

The last decade has been on average 1% wetter than previous ones, which clearly demonstrates that the onset of climate change will become an ever increasing challenge in the future.

It is therefore key that the County Council ensures that this strategy document is reviewed and refreshed, to reflect the challenges we face, both now and in the future.

The consequences of flooding will see greater risks to life, the wider economy and the environment in Derbyshire, and therefore we must look at ways as to how we can adapt and become more resilient to flooding, including how we can recover more quickly.

The comprehensive review of this document has tried to reflect the ongoing challenges Derbyshire will face in terms of local flood risk management, alongside ensuring it is aligned with the Environment Agency's updated National Strategy.

It is even more key now, that all Risk Management Authorities, community groups and individual residents work together, to achieve the objectives as set out in this Strategy document.

The key aim of this updated Strategy, is to provide a document that's useful to Risk Management Authorities, Residents and Businesses alike, ensuring it is fit for purpose both now and in the future, in relation to how flood risk is managed across the whole of Derbyshire.



Cllr Kewal Singh Athwal - Cabinet member for Place

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Why is this document important to you?

Extreme weather events are occurring more often and we cannot stop flooding from happening. However we can look for ways to minimise the damage and support those affected.

This updated document forms the framework within which communities can have a greater say in local flood risk management decisions to help improve life for local people. It also provides a common source of information for the residents and businesses of Derbyshire.

1. WHAT IS A LOCAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY?

Derbyshire County Council (DCC) has a legal duty under the Flood and Water Management Act (FWMA, 2010) to produce a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (hereafter referred to as 'the strategy'). The strategy is a document that will set out how the coordination of flood risk will be managed in Derbyshire, indicating how we will coordinate services from across the County with the key aim of mitigating flood risk. This version is an update to the original strategy, published in 2015.

2. FLOODING AND FLOOD RISK

WHAT IS FLOODING?

Flooding is the result of water covering land which is normally dry. Flooding can be an important source of nutrients for agriculture and for recharging groundwater sources. Flooding can however result in wide ranging environmental, social and economic impacts when it interacts with the human environment. Floods can develop over days as a result of water taking its time to reach a watercourse and overwhelming it. Flash floods generate quickly, with little warning and can be dangerous.

WHAT CAUSES FLOODING?

Natural causes of flooding include:

- Intense rainfall and thunderstorms over a short time period,
- Prolonged, extensive rainfall, or
- Rapid snow melt.

Although flooding is a natural phenomenon, its impact upon the surrounding environment and population is determined by both human and natural factors. The natural catchment response to rainfall is determined by factors such as the gradient of the land, the amount/type of vegetation, and the catchment soil and geology.

It is an increasingly common occurrence that human influences on a catchment affects local flood risk. This can include:

- Loss of undeveloped (greenfield) land and increase in impermeable hard surfaces
- Incorrect maintenance of watercourses and drainage infrastructure (culverts, pipes, bridges, trash screens, storage tanks etc.)
- Rural land management practice (deforestation, compaction, ploughing etc.)
- Reservoir, embankment, canal or dam failure or partial collapse.
- Climate change increasing the risk of flood from all natural sources.

WHAT IS FLOOD RISK?

The definition of 'risk' is the combination of the probability (likelihood or chance) of an event happening and the consequences (impact) of it occurring. Floods can happen often or rarely and have little or major consequences. Where the probability and the consequences of flooding are high, then an area is considered to be at a high risk of flooding. Areas at high risk of flooding are a high priority in Derbyshire.

Flood Risk = Probability x Consequences

3. WHAT TYPES OF FLOOD RISK ARE THERE?

Floods can arise from a number of different sources with widely varying consequences depending on the magnitude of the storm event and the susceptibility of the receiving community. Following the devastating national floods of summer 2007 the Central Government initiated an independent review into national flood risk management which was led by Sir Michael Pitt. One of the recommendations from Sir Michael Pitt's review was that:

“the role of local authorities should be enhanced so that they take on responsibility for leading the co-ordination of flood risk management in their areas”.

LOCAL SOURCES OF FLOOD RISK

The County Council is responsible for coordinating the management of flood risk from local sources as illustrated below. (Please note, Derby City Council is a separate LLFA managing local flood risk within the City Council boundary).

At the base of the description of each flood risk type there is a contact number (and email address if available) for the relevant organisation. Please also refer to the Surface Water, Groundwater and Riparian Landownership (ordinary watercourses) Guidance Notes.



Surface Water

Surface water flooding is caused by the build-up of water on surfaces because it cannot soak into the ground due to it being hard paved, frozen, baked solid etc., or where rainfall exceeds the infiltration capacity of the soil. It can occur for both intense and prolonged rainfall events or short heavy storms.

Contact Derbyshire on (01629) 533190 or flood.team@derbyshire.gov.uk



Ordinary Watercourses

Ordinary watercourses are any watercourses not designated a Main River (statutory designated watercourses by the Environment Agency) that carry a flow of water. Often ordinary watercourses are smaller brooks, drainage channels, ditches, cuts, dykes, sluices, soughs or culverts that may only convey water for a short length of time in a year. Flooding from ordinary watercourses can occur when heavy and/or prolonged rainfall exceeds the capacity of the watercourse or when restrictions occur (for example by debris or when infrastructure fails).

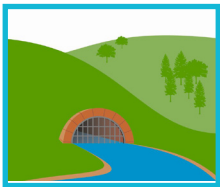
Contact Derbyshire on (01629) 533190 or flood.team@derbyshire.gov.uk



Ground Water

Groundwater flooding occurs when the water table (the water level below ground) rises above the ground surface. During periods of heavy and prolonged rainfall, the water level in the ground may rise to such an extent that it seeps into property basements, or the emergence of groundwater at the surface (can often be a natural spring) may cause damage to properties and infrastructure. Some areas are known to be more prone to groundwater flooding than others due to their naturally high level of the water table.

Contact Derbyshire on (01629) 533190 or flood.team@derbyshire.gov.uk



Sough

Due to the historic mining and mineral extraction operations in Derbyshire, networks of underground drainage channels, known as soughs, exist in parts of the County. At present DCC has very limited knowledge of the location, alignment and impacts of these soughs on flood risk. Soughs are known to be abundant in the Derbyshire Dales District and High Peak Borough areas of Derbyshire. For further guidance on soughs please **call Derbyshire on (01629) 533190**



Highway Water

Highway flooding (non-trunk roads) is the accumulation of surface water on the adopted Highway network. Highway flooding may be caused by blockages or capacity issues in highway drainage systems, or simply by sheer volume of rain water falling on the carriageway, which the existing drainage network does not have the capacity for. **The County Council's Highways Division** has the responsibility to manage flood risk on the county's non-trunk roads.

Contact Derbyshire on (01629) 533190 or flood.team@derbyshire.gov.uk

The **District/Borough Councils** provide assistance with local flooding issues and work collaboratively with the LLFA.

Do you know of a County Council owned culvert, gully or other structure/asset that needs cleansing? Please contact Call Derbyshire on (01629) 533190 or <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/transport-roads/roads-traffic/road-maintenance/flooding/flooding-drainage-and-gullies.aspx>

OTHER SOURCES OF FLOOD RISK



Main Rivers

Main Rivers are larger rivers that can span several counties but also include some smaller watercourses (those which are deemed to require specialist management). DEFRA have set the criteria for defining these rivers as Main Rivers in England and Wales.

The **Environment Agency** is responsible for the management of flood risk from Main Rivers.

Contact the Environment Agency on (03708) 506 506



Sewer Water

Sewer flooding can occur when large volumes of rainwater enter the public sewer system or when the public sewer system becomes blocked.

Water companies are responsible for managing the risk of flooding from sewers and water mains. There are 3 water companies within the County of Derbyshire (see below)

Contact Yorkshire Water on (0345) 124 24 24

Contact United Utilities on (0345) 627 3723

Flooding from **private sewers** is the responsibility of the landowner.

The definition of what is deemed to be a public or private sewer can be found on the relevant water companies' website.



Reservoir Flooding

Reservoir flooding occurs when a reservoir fails or breaches resulting in this water escaping and flooding on to the adjacent land and or properties. Reservoirs are artificially created ponds or lakes that are usually formed by building a dam (wall), across a river or watercourse.

DCC's Emergency Planning Division is responsible for developing emergency plans for reservoir flooding for the County. The Emergency Planning team work closely with emergency services, reservoir operators and the Environment Agency to develop these plans.

Contact Derbyshire on (01629) 533190 or flood.team@derbyshire.gov.uk



Canal Flooding

Canal flooding can be as a result of excessive surface water running off or discharging to an artificially created waterway. The water levels within canals can vary (although not as much as rivers) due to many factors including proximity to controlled/uncontrolled inflows, lock usage etc. The relevant **Navigating Authority** (Canal and River Trust or DCC) are responsible for looking after the canal network across Derbyshire.



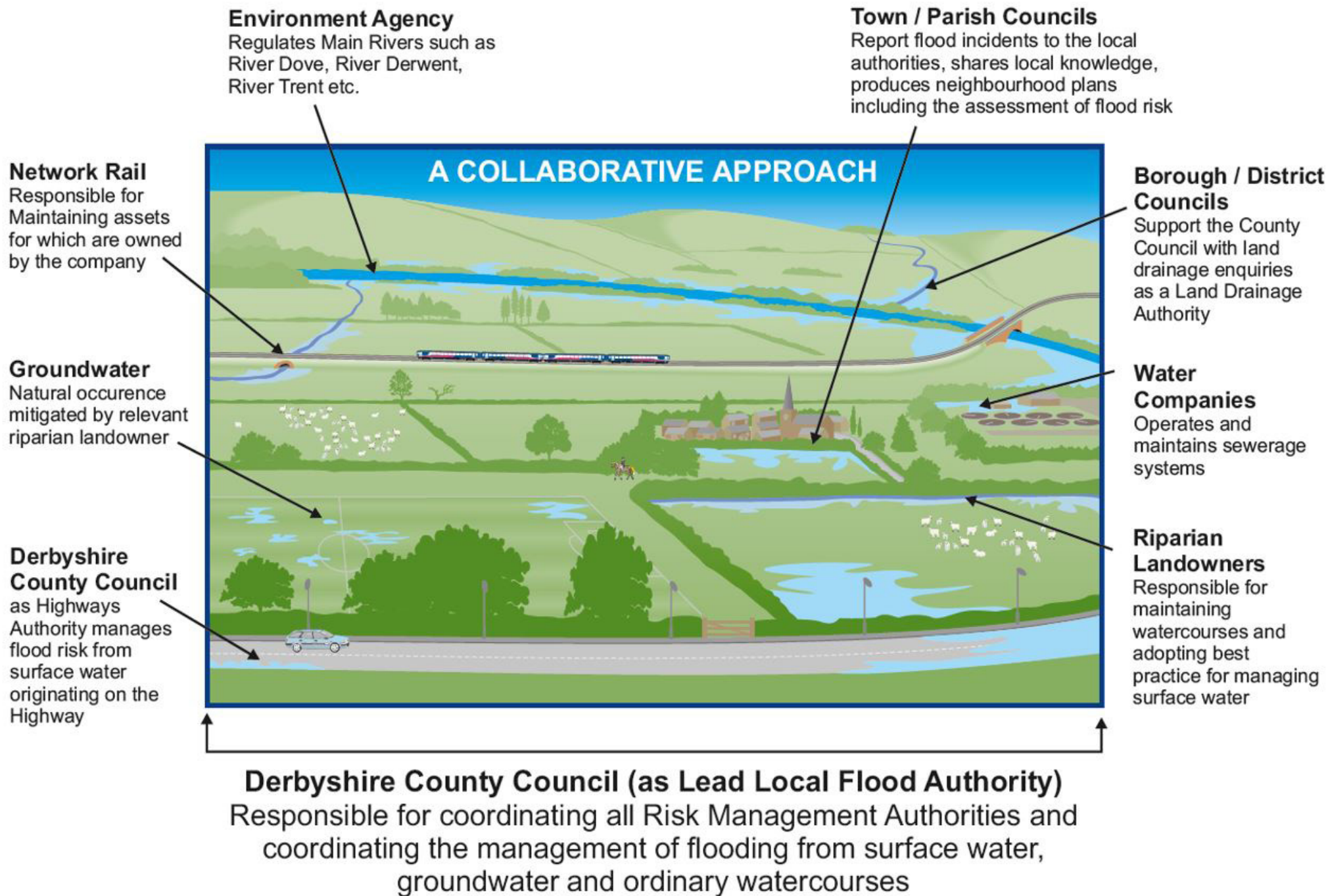
Highway Water

Highway flooding (trunk roads) is the accumulation of surface water on the strategic road network.

The responsibility for flooding to major trunk roads (motorways and some major A Roads) falls within the duties of the National **Highways**.

Contact National Highways on (0300) 123 5000

For further details on how to report a flooding incident please refer to the **Flood Reporting and Enquires Investigation Guidance Notes**



4. WHO HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY TO MANAGE FLOOD RISK?

Section 3 has identified a number of responsible bodies for managing different sources of flood risk. The Pitt Review recommended that the LLFA bring together all relevant bodies, known as Risk Management Authorities (RMAs) to manage flood risk. Legislation that governs the roles and responsibilities of RMAs for Derbyshire can be found in the **Legislation Guidance Notes**. No single body has the means to reduce all sources of flooding however everyone has a part to play in effective flood risk management for the County as illustrated in Figure 1. Figure 2 illustrates the key RMAs work together for flood risk management in Derbyshire.

For more information regarding the roles and responsibilities for coordinating flood risk please refer to the **Roles and Responsibilities Guidance Notes** and relevant information contained within Part 2 of the strategy.

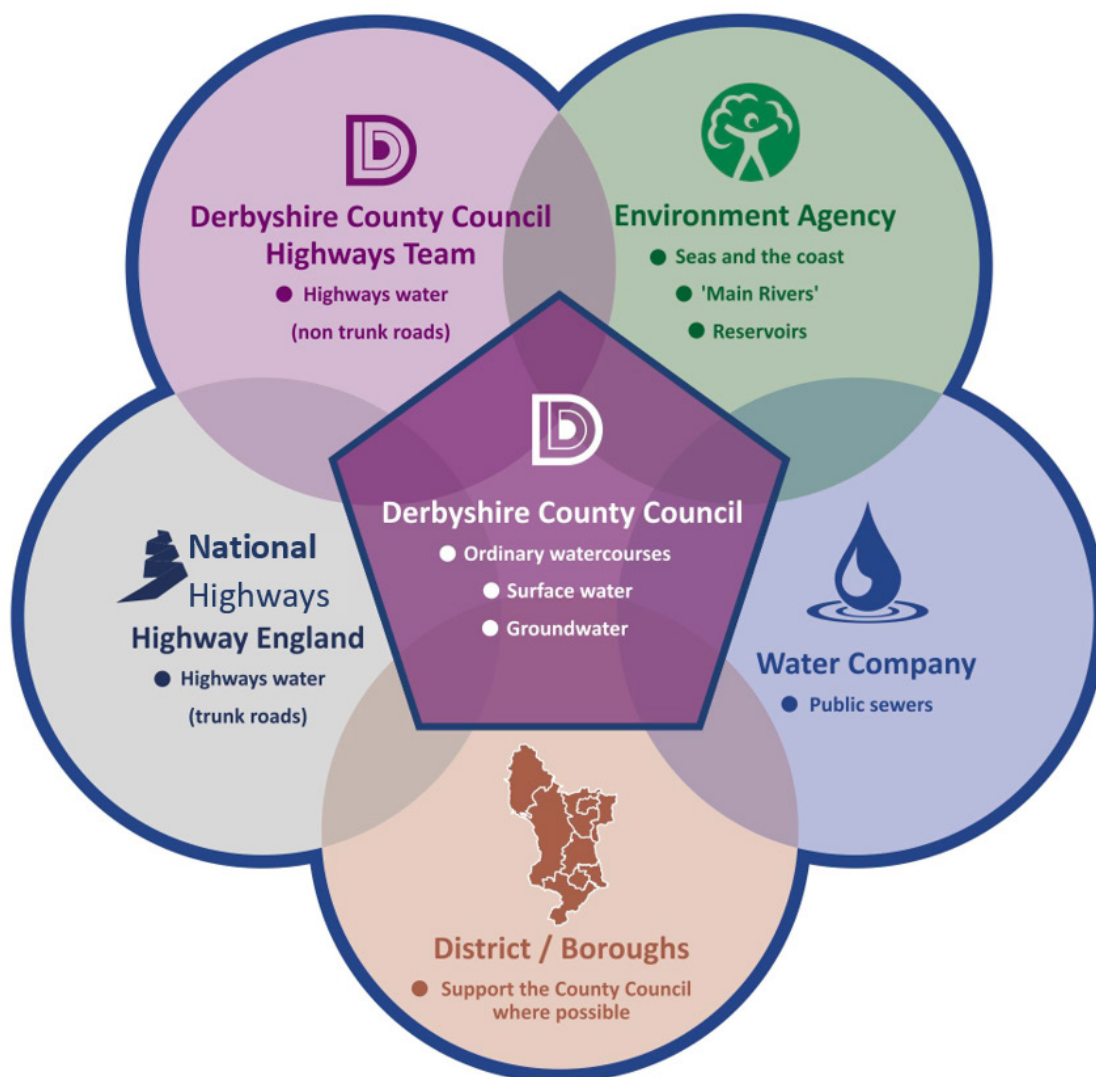


Figure 2: Key Risk Management Authorities

5. YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES FOR FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY OWNERS/BUSINESSES

Whilst there are a number of organisations and RMAs who have a responsibility for the management of the risk of flooding from different sources, an individual property owner or business still has the responsibility to take measures to protect their property from flooding. Flooding is a natural process, therefore there will be instances where flooding still occurs despite all stakeholders meeting their responsibilities and therefore it is important that business/property owners or residents take appropriate steps to ensure that their property and contents are protected where they are at risk.

RIPARIAN LANDOWNERS

A riparian landowner is defined as someone who owns land or property next to or over a river, stream, ditch, or culvert/pipe that forms part of a watercourse. The riparian landowner is responsible for the section of watercourse which flows through their land. If a land boundary is defined next to a watercourse it is assumed that the landowner owns the land up to the centre of the watercourse unless it is owned by someone else.

Figure 3 illustrates how a length of watercourse can have several riparian landowners, each responsible for a section of a watercourse.

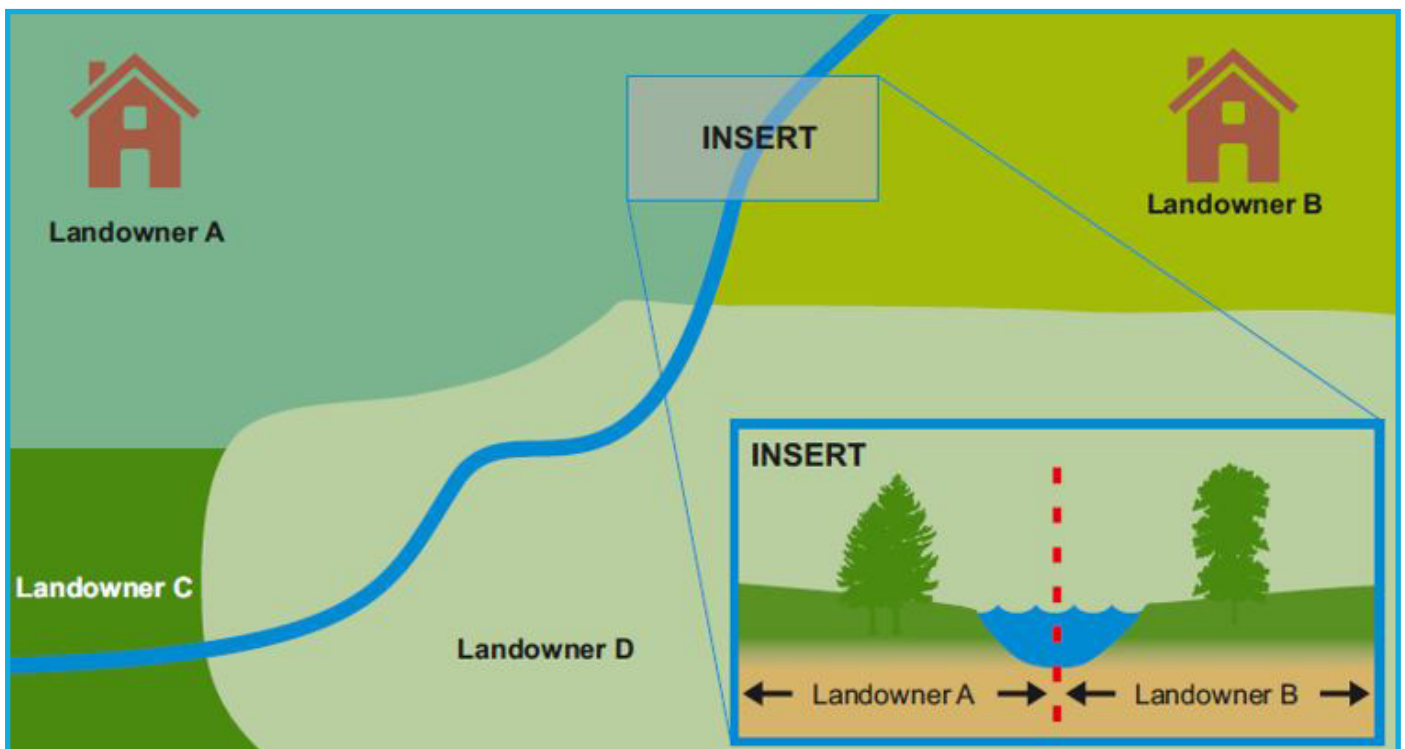


Figure 3: Illustration of riparian landownership (Four landowners – A, B, C & D)

Under the Land Drainage Act (1991) riparian landowners have a legal responsibility to maintain the free passage of flow through the section of watercourse that flows through their land. The government website GOV.UK provides guidance on your responsibilities if you own a watercourse and for further information please refer to the **Riparian Landownership Guidance Notes**.

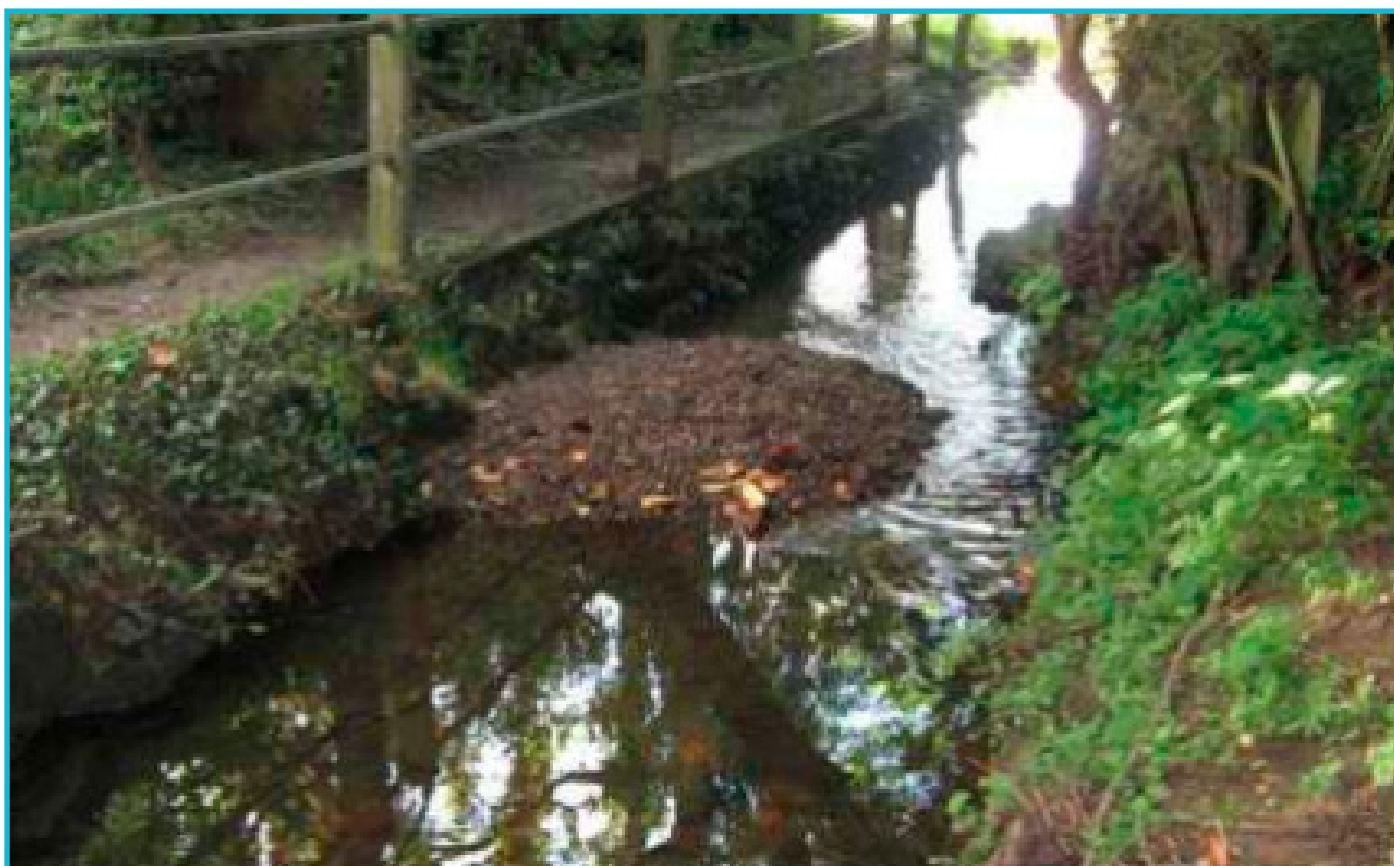
Working within a river or watercourse

Before undertaking any work within or in close proximity to a river or watercourse (such as maintenance, constructing new river banks or installing a trash screen) you should check with the Environment Agency (if the work relates to a Main River) or the County Council if the works relate to an ordinary watercourse.

For more information please refer to the **Land Drainage Consent Guidance Notes**.

ENFORCEMENT POWERS

The County Council are committed to promoting the awareness of land drainage laws and riparian landowner responsibilities (please refer to the **Riparian Landownership Guidance Notes**). The County Council do have Permissive Powers under Sections 24 & 25 of the Land Drainage Act to remove obstructions or undertake works to maintain the flow of an ordinary watercourse and to carry out the works in default and recover their expenses from the riparian landowner who can be, on summary conviction, be liable to a fine. It is at the County Council's discretion however as to when they exercise these powers. For further information please refer to the **Relevant Legislation, Strategies and Plans Guidance Notes** and the **Enforcement Powers Guidance Notes**.



6. INCREASING RESILIENCE – HELPING YOU TO HELP YOURSELF

It is impossible to completely flood-proof a property, but there are many measures that can be taken to reduce the damage of flooding and enable a swift recovery.

HOW DO I FIND OUT IF I AM AT RISK OF FLOODING?

You can check online for whether you are at risk of fluvial ‘Main River’ flooding or surface water flooding using the GOV.UK ‘Check the long-term flood risk for an area in England’ facility. For other sources you can contact the relevant organisation directly requesting any historical or predicted flood related information. Please also refer to our **Groundwater and Surface Water Guidance Notes** for more information.

PREPARATION FOR FLOODING

Even if you think your home or business is many miles from the nearest watercourse and therefore not directly at risk from river flooding you could still be affected by surface water or groundwater flooding.

The first key step is to check if your property is at risk from flooding which you can do on this website;

<https://www.gov.uk/check-flooding>

If you are at risk of flooding you can then sign up to receive flood alerts and warnings on this website;

<https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings>

Preparatory steps taken before flooding occurs or is threatened have been shown to be far more effective and successful, as a means of protecting against flooding. If your home or business is flooded it can be costly, not just in terms of money and time but also emotionally.

The Environment Agency offers guidance for householders and small businesses ‘Prepare your property for flooding’ and ‘A guide to preparing your business for flooding’. You can read online guidance on flooding from groundwater. For guidance on how to prepare for/protect yourself from sewer flooding please contact your relevant water company. There is also guidance material available online for Yorkshire Water⁶, Severn Trent Water⁷ and United Utilities⁸.

²<https://www.gov.uk/check-long-term-flood-risk>

³<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prepare-your-property-for-flooding>

⁴<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preparing-your-business-for-flooding>

⁵<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/flooding-from-groundwater>

⁶<https://www.yorkshirewater.com/your-water/flooding/>

⁷<https://www.stwater.co.uk/in-my-area/flooding/>

⁸<https://www.unitedutilities.com/emergencies/got-a-problem/flooding/>

Table 1 illustrates some preparation techniques that can be employed to help you become more resilient to the impacts of flooding. For further information please refer to the Before, during and after a flood & Self Resilience Guidance Notes.






 <p>Sandbags</p>	<p>Sandbags, if laid correctly, offer some (short term) protection against flood water, or can divert water away. The EA have produced guidance for 'How to use sandbags properly for flood protection'⁹ which is Available online. The County Council's current policy for sandbags¹⁰ is available online or a hard copy provided on request.</p>
 <p>Alternatives to Sandbags</p>	<p>There are many alternative products to sandbags that may be easier to transport (lighter). These types of products have many advantages and/or disadvantages in comparison to using sandbags. More information in relation one of the alternative products can be obtained in Flood Sax Guidance Notes*.</p>
 <p>Property Flood Resilience</p>	<p>There are a number of products available on the market for property flood resilience, all of which offer more advanced protection than traditional sandbags. The National Flood Forum¹¹ offers an independent directory of flood protection products and services as well as a wealth of other information and guidance.</p>
 <p>Flood Plan</p>	<p>An individual property/business flood plan may include the location of gas taps or electricity supply, emergency numbers, information including emergency responders and your insurance company and preparation of emergency supplies such as food etc. For guidance for how to complete an individual property/householder flood plan please contact the Environment Agency or speak to a member of the FRM team.</p>
 <p>SEVERE FLOOD WARNING SEVERE FLOODING. DANGER TO LIFE. Flood Warnings</p>	<p>The Environment Agency offer a flood warning service to subscribers and a live flood warning map (updated every 15 minutes online) for large parts of the country, particularly those areas affected by flooding from Main Rivers. You can sign up to the Environment Agency's Flood Warning Service¹² online or telephone 0345 988 1188.</p>

Table 1: Guidance for helping you become more resilient to flooding

⁹<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sandbags-how-to-use-them-to-prepare-for-a-flood>

¹⁰https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/environment/flooding/emergency_preparedness/resilience_and_sandbags/default.asp

¹¹<http://www.nationalfloodforum.org.uk/>

¹²<https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings>

INSURANCE AGAINST FLOOD DAMAGE

Derbyshire County Council's Flood Risk Management team actively encourage the take up of flood protection insurance and promote property level flood resilience measures which can help reduce insurance premiums.

If your property has suffered flood damage in the past, if there is a history of flooding in your neighbourhood or you are located within an identified flood risk area, it can be difficult to find flood insurance cover. Defra have produced guidance available online for [obtaining flood insurance in high risk areas](#)¹³. If you are concerned about flood insurance or are having trouble getting insurance, please visit the [National Flood Forum](#)¹⁴ website.

In June 2013 the National Government announced an agreement with the insurance industry to guarantee affordable flood insurance for people in high-risk areas. 'Flood Re' stands for flood reinsurance and is a not-for-profit fund financed by insurers which will cover the cost of flood claims from high-risk homes. Please visit the [Association of British Insurers website](#)¹⁵ for further information about [Flood Re](#)¹⁶. In 2022 Flood Re started the build back better initiative which enables homeowners to access up to £10K extra on top of their insurance pay out for property flood resilience measures such as flood doors, flood barriers or flood resilient flooring or a flood resilient kitchen, which is available through certain insurance companies that are part of the Flood Rebuild Back Better scheme. It is important to note that both schemes are for residential properties and not commercial.

If you have experienced flooding, you may be nervous to report the incident to your insurer or the relevant body. However, it is important that you report any flooding to the relevant responsible organisation, so that the data can support future work and guide any potential future investment for flood risk management (please refer to the [Flood Reporting and Enquiries Investigation Guidance Notes](#)).

Flood data currently available (including that held by insurance companies and the County Council) gives information on flood risk for the general location of your property and does not identify individual properties. This data does not take account of specific features of your home or business.

You may be able to demonstrate that your property is at a much lower risk of flooding than the general area in which it is situated and therefore increase your chances of obtaining a more competitive insurance quote.

You may wish to consider the following list of suggested tips for when seeking to obtain flood insurance:

- Contact a specialist insurance broker who has access to insurers that specialise in flood risk cover.

¹³<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/obtaining-flood-insurance-in-high-risk-areas>

¹⁴<http://www.nationalfloodforum.org.uk/trouble-getting-insurance/>

¹⁵<https://www.abi.org.uk/Insurance-and-savings/Topics-and-issues/Flooding>

¹⁶<https://www.floodre.co.uk/>

- Understand your risk better by going online or contacting the County Council and Environment Agency to obtain flood risk data.
- Consider investing in a flood mitigation survey.
- Consider flood resilience measures or products appropriate for your property.
- Sign up for the Environment Agency's Flood Warning Service.
- Join a local flood action group.

7. INCREASING RESILIENCE – COMMUNITY WORKING

Effective communication is key to promote awareness of flood risk management issues, promoting better relations between the County Council and the local communities, empowering localism and encouraging people to take action before, during and after a flood event.

DCC are committed to providing a valuable and effective public service and recognise that local communities can offer a wide range of perspectives and 'a local understanding'. DCC recognise the importance of local communication in the management of local flood risk and the promotion of potential mitigation measures and/or solutions. DCC aims to focus on the needs of the individuals, communities and businesses of Derbyshire, including them at the heart of decision making and the management of risk.

A key objective for this strategy is to build relationships and trust at a local level to ensure that people are well informed and feel supported by flood risk management services. This will be achieved by:

- Increasing awareness via public consultations events, newsletters, and online resources. (See photo below of a partnership event with the Environment Agency in Bakewell in October 2022)
- Actively encouraging all to get involved and be proactive.
- Listening to local concerns.
- Liaising and engaging with local businesses and individuals regarding any proposed mitigation measures.
- Encouraging discussion and debate to progress towards a collective action plan.



As with all aspects of the work of the FRM team our priorities in targeting communication will be aimed at those who are most at risk. Please refer to the Communication Strategy Guidance Notes for further details.

FLOOD AWARENESS EVENTS

A successful way of ensuring that all members of a local community can have a say, report their side of the story, and be heard by members of the FRM team or other RMAs is through flood awareness events. A flood awareness event offers the opportunity to inform communities of the FRM team's current understanding of the flood risk to that community and offers the community the chance to inform or confirm that understanding. It also gives the opportunity for the FRM team to highlight any other sources of flood risk that a community may not already be aware of and vice versa. A flood awareness event or public meeting may have representation from a number of RMAs or charitable organisations such as the National Flood Forum . DCC have arranged and held a number of flood awareness events and public meetings, often after a flood event, to offer help, support, and guidance. Members of the FRM team also regularly attend public meetings supporting Parish Councils or the local community presenting a variety of information from flood risks and relevant RMAs to flood warden schemes.

Is your community at risk of flooding? Do you want to get involved in the discussion of flooding at a local level?

Find out if your local area has a flood action group - Contact DCC's FRM team for more information.

FLOOD WARDEN SCHEMES

Derbyshire County Councils's Flood Risk Management (FRM) team has implemented numerous 'Flood Warden Schemes' across the County (in particular those areas that have been affected by flooding), working closely with Town/Parish Councils and local communities. The main aim of the Flood Warden Schemes is to provide the members of communities (known to be at a flood risk) with appropriate resilience equipment and skills to be able to help mitigate the impacts of flooding before the emergency services or any other emergency responder/RMA can attend. Equipment provided can range from portable storage units to sandbags and personal protective equipment. The County Council will work with the Town/Parish Council and local community to appoint 'Flood Wardens' to act as local contacts providing access to the resources and developing a Community Flood Plan. For more information regarding Flood Warden Schemes or a Community Flood Plan then please refer to **Flood Warden Schemes Guidance Notes**.

PUBLIC SITE VISITS

Members of the FRM team undertake site visits for the majority of reported flooding concerns or land drainage enquiries that relate to internal property flooding for both residential and commercial. Public meetings are a good opportunity for the FRM team to gather local knowledge and in turn provide guidance for personal resilience, effective land management, stakeholder responsibilities etc., whilst also passing on information about the wider drainage catchment.

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Flood Action Groups

Many communities affected by flooding in Derbyshire have already set up Flood Action Groups. These groups are an effective way for affected residents to provide a link between the RMAs and the wider community. The groups also provide a good way to identify ways to work together with an aim of reducing flood risk in an area. To find out whether your community already has a flood action group or to obtain guidance of how to set one up please contact the FRM team.

Derbyshire Case Study: Community Flood Action Groups

Across the county the Council have assisted in setting up several flood wardens and flood action groups in areas that are prone to flooding.

The Council have assisted these groups to find leaders, write flood plans and pay for equipment, such as personal protective equipment, so that they can undertake their flood warden roles safely.

Groups have been set up in Repton, Bakewell, Bradwell and Stoney Middleton to name but a few.



Community Level Maintenance

Some communities in Derbyshire have adopted informal arrangements for members of the community to be proactive and check assets in the event of a severe weather warning or a flood warning. These arrangements can be very productive at a local level and reap great benefits for areas that suffer regularly or in times when the demand for support/response outweighs the available resource.

Community Led Schemes

With any Flood Mitigation scheme that Derbyshire County Council has delivered, it is key at the very outset, to ensure that the community is engaged and on-board to ensure the best outcome for all. Below is a classic example of how that can work in practice.

The scheme is located in Renishaw in North East Derbyshire.

The total cost of the scheme was £145K with £30K from Local Levy funding.

Scheme completed August 2022, 13 residential properties protected from surface water and ordinary watercourse fluvial flooding by installing various property level flood resilience and resistance measures (flood doors, flood barriers, automatic air bricks, sumps and pumps, non-return valves, sealant and puddle pumps).

The 13 properties have all been flooded up to 4 times since 2002 causing extensive internal damage and in most cases leading to temporary relocation during property repairs.



Local residents are very pleased with the outcome of the project with one of the residents saying, the first flood was the worst in 2007 “we had to move out and live in a caravan for 10 months while our bungalow dried out. The next two floods (2012 and 2019) were not so bad, but you get to a point where you don’t sleep when it rains. If I could hear rain in the night, I’d be up early in the morning checking to see how high the brook was” But now the residents can sleep soundly at night as work organised by DCC and paid for by the council and the Government has been completed to make their homes more resilient to flooding.

8. INCREASING RESILIENCE – WORKING WITH LANDOWNERS AND DEVELOPERS

Both urban and rural landowners must work together across entire catchments to find solutions for flood risk management. A balanced approach for flood risk management is required that looks at:

- Reducing rural runoff by improving soil infiltration and increasing water interception;
- Using Natural Flood Management techniques and structures where appropriate and effective to reduce flood risk further down catchments;
- Reducing urban runoff through Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS); and
- Looking for opportunities for storing water strategically.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

DCC's FRM team are a statutory consultee to the planning process under current planning law for major developments (10 or more residential buildings or a site 1 hectare or larger). As such we are working with the Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) (District/Borough Authorities) to ensure that any proposed development in Derbyshire takes into account flood risk and utilises sustainable drainage techniques. For more information about planning and development please refer to **Part 2 of the strategy**.

If you have concerns over any proposed or constructed development relating to minor developments, you are advised to liaise with the relevant Planning Development/Enforcement Team at your District/Borough Council; contact details of which are detailed below:

District/Borough	Telephone Number
Amber Valley Borough	(01773) 570222
Bolsover District	(01246) 242424
Chesterfield Borough	(01246) 345345
Derbyshire Dales District	(01629) 761100
Erewash Borough	(0115) 9072244
High Peak Borough	(01298) 28400
North East Derbyshire District	(01246) 231111
South Derbyshire District	(01283) 595795
Peak District National Park	(01629) 816200

LAND MANAGEMENT

Large parts of Derbyshire are categorised as rural farmland. Farmers are key in helping to mitigate flood risk for the County as often large amounts of farmland drain towards urban communities. Farmland is a huge asset and requires careful management so as not to cause or exacerbate flooding for the upstream/downstream community or have an economic impact on the farmers' livelihood.

The National Farmers Union (NFU) are actively campaigning to ensure that agriculture is properly valued in flood risk management and rural flooding is managed effectively. The NFU are also working to make continued improvements in soil management. For example, farmers are participating in Catchment Sensitive Farming.

DCC will continue to work closely with landowners, including farmers to ensure that all views are taken into account in managing flood risk across the County. DCC will also encourage, where we think it will be beneficial, landowners to construct natural flood management techniques to reduce flood risk further downstream in the catchment.

For guidance about how you can manage your land more effectively to help reduce flooding please refer to the [Catchment Land Management Guidance Notes](#).

9. HOW WILL DERBYSHIRE COORDINATE THE MANAGEMENT OF FLOOD RISK FOR DERBYSHIRE?

As the overarching Lead Authority for coordinating the management of surface water flood risk in Derbyshire, the FRM team have developed five key objectives for local flood risk management.

LOCAL OBJECTIVES FOR MANAGING FLOOD RISK

Objective Number	Local Objective
1	To understand flood risk in Derbyshire and the increasing impacts of climate change whilst working collaboratively with all other Risk Management Authorities and relevant groups.
2	To work with all relevant bodies to ensure development in Derbyshire delivers Sustainable Drainage with multiple benefits.
3	To reduce the level of flood risk to the residents of Derbyshire.
4	To enable and support Derbyshire communities & residents to recognise, understand and manage their own flood risk.
5	Work to restore, protect and enhance the historic and natural environments of Derbyshire.

For a breakdown of actions relating to the above five local objectives please refer to [Part 2](#) of the strategy.

10. MONITORING AND REVIEW OF THE STRATEGY

The strategy will be informed and updated by on-going reviews, risk assessments and new flood data. Any changes in flood risk management legislation will also prompt a review of the strategy. The strategy will be monitored by measuring indicators from the Action Plan set out in Part 2 of the strategy as set out in the legislation.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Term	Definition
Critical asset	A structure or feature that is considered to have a significant effect on a flood risk in its area
DCC	Derbyshire County Council
DEFRA	Department For Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
EA	Environment Agency
EU	European Union
Flood Warden Scheme	An initiative to provide a community with equipment, skills, and training to enable them to be more resilient to flooding
FRM	Flood Risk Management
FWMA	Flood and Water Management Act
LFRMS	Local Flood Risk Management Strategy
LLFA	Lead Local Flood Authority
Local sources of flooding	Flooding from surface water, groundwater, and ordinary watercourses
LPA	Local Planning Authorities (District/Borough Councils)
NFU	National Farmers Union
Pitt Review	An independent review of the summer 2007 floods undertaken by Sir Michael Pitt
Resilience	The capacity to recover more effectively from difficulties
RMA	Risk Management Authority
Soughs	An underground channel for draining water from a mine
SuDS	Sustainable Drainage Systems
STW	Severn Trent Water

Part 2 of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy focuses on the more technical details for understanding flood risk in Derbyshire, our action plan for how we intend to manage the future risks and how we can fund our flood risk management functions and initiatives. Part 2 also includes the County Council's level of service.

FLOODING - WHO TO CALL?

In an emergency please either call 999 for emergency services or 112 for local police for non-emergency flood related enquiries please see the details below.

	Query	RMA	Contact Details
 <p>Surface Water</p>  <p>Ordinary Watercourses</p>  <p>Ground Water</p>	Surface water, ground water, watercourse flooding	Derbyshire County Council	flood.team@derbyshire.gov.uk 01629 533190
 <p>Highway Water</p>	Highway water (non-trunk roads)	Derbyshire County Council	etenetmanadmin@derbyshire.gov.uk 01629 533190
 <p>Main Rivers</p>  <p>Reservoir Flooding</p>	Main River, reservoir, and coastal flooding	Environment Agency	enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk 03708 506 506
 <p>Sewer Water</p>	Sewer Flooding	Severn Trent Water Yorkshire Water United Utilities	STW - 0800 783 4444 YW - 0345 124 24 24 UU - 0345 672 3723
 <p>Highway Water</p>	Highway Water (Trunk roads)	National Highways	https://report.nationalhighways.co.uk/ 0300 123 5000