

## Flash Flood– What to do

<p><b>Before</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Communication</b> at an early stage is essential</li> <li>• Alert your Community Emergency Response Team to the rainfall forecast, especially if heavy rain has started</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Be aware. Know the signs.</b></li> <li>• <b>Start local observations.</b> Signs to watch for include:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Heavy rain and/or severe weather reports</li> <li>○ Rainfall not draining away, leading to surface water flooding</li> <li>○ Rising river levels, with dark churning water</li> <li>○ A build-up of debris in rivers, which could give way and cause a wave of water to surge</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Start an incident log</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>During</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Report flooding</b> and blockages that may increase flood risk: phone 0800 807060 and ask to speak to your local Flood Warning Duty Officer</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Call 999 if there's a risk to life</b>, or if you're trapped</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Stay safe. Prioritise your own safety</b> at all times</li> <li>• Be ready to relocate to a safe place, if told to do so by the emergency services</li> <li>• Do not walk or drive through flood water</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Provide support and guidance ahead of the arrival of the emergency services.</b> For example:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ "Stay in a safe place with a means of escape.</li> <li>○ If you're in a building with at least two storeys and believe it's safer to stay where you are, move to a higher storey of the building and wait for instructions from the emergency services. Turn off your gas, electricity and water mains supplies.</li> <li>○ If you are in vulnerable accommodation e.g. bungalow, caravan or tent, seek shelter in the nearest two storey building or go to higher ground</li> <li>○ Be ready should you need to evacuate your home.</li> <li>○ Cooperate with emergency services</li> <li>○ Do not walk or drive through flood water</li> <li>○ Call 999 if you're in immediate danger"</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Collect information about the flood</b>, if it's safe to do so             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Take photos</li> <li>○ Note the date and time</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>When emergency services arrive</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Community Emergency Response Team coordinator to make themselves known to the Operational commander at an early stage</li> <li>○ Provide an overview of the issues present. Relay concerns, local knowledge and issues to relevant authorities.</li> <li>○ You may be asked to help relay information to the community (e.g. by door to door visits), such as areas to avoid/promote health, safety and well-being</li> <li>○ You may be asked to assist with evacuation                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cooperate with emergency services</li> <li>▪ You can provide valuable support by directing people to a place of safety e.g. temporary community shelter/official local authority rest centre</li> <li>▪ Remember: Nobody has the powers to force people out of their homes</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liaise with emergency responders before interacting with the media, even if 'off the record'</li> </ul>
<p><b>After</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Collect information about the flood</b>, if it's safe to do so             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Take photos</li> <li>○ Note the date and time</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Help relay concerns</b>, local knowledge and issues to the relevant authorities</li> <li>• <b>Signpost</b> flood recovery advice e.g. <a href="http://www.bdma.org.uk/publications/flooddocs">http://www.bdma.org.uk/publications/flooddocs</a></li> </ul>