

# Oxfordshire County Council Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA)



Nick Mottram – Environment & Heritage Manager





# Flood Risk Management – Roles and Responsibilities

#### **National Highways**

Responsible for M40 & A34

### Oxfordshire County Council

Responsible as Highways Authority

#### **Environment Agency**

Responsible for Main Rivers and National Overview role

#### Lead Local Flood Authority

Responsible for Ground and Surface water

#### **Thames Water**

Responsible for Foul and Surface Water Sewers and pumping stations

## City & District Councils

Responsible for Ordinary
Watercourses and
delegated powers

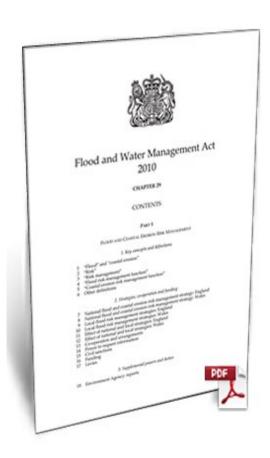
Voluntary sector and local flood groups





#### Flood and Water Management Act (2010)

- The Act clarified legal responsibilities for different forms of flooding
- It created the Concept of a Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA -County/ Unitary Authority)
- Transferred responsibilities from EA to LLFAs
- Partnership working is a key theme





#### LLFA – Key Responsibilities

- Developing, maintaining and putting in place a Local Flood Risk
   Management Strategy for Oxfordshire
- Establishing a local partnership with other local Risk Management Authorities (RMAs) to ensure there is a joined up management of flood risk.
- Being a statutory consultee on all major planning applications with surface water drainage implications.
- Completing a Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment
- Establishing and maintaining a register of flood risk management assets
- Co-ordinating flood risk management across the county
- Formal flood investigations (Section 19 Reports)





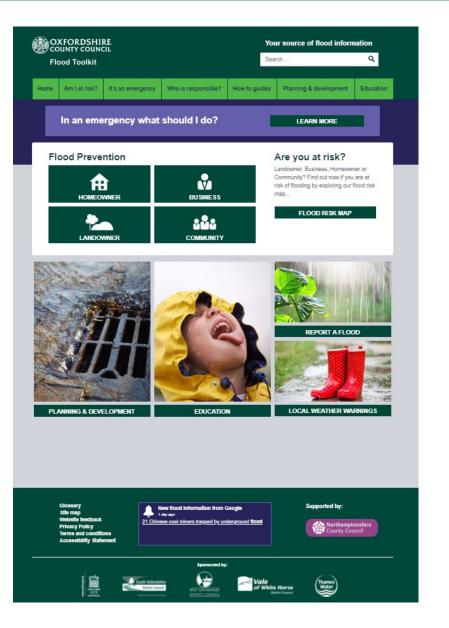
# Information and Support

#### Oxfordshire Lead Local Flood Authority





LOCAL STANDARDS AND GUIDANCE FOR SURFACE WATER DRAINAGE ON MAJOR DEVELOPMENT IN OXFORDSHIRE







#### Report a flood



It's an emergency! > Report a flood

#### Report a flood

If it's a flooding emergency you should focus on the safety of yourself and your family. Dial 999 if it is an emergency and you or someone else is in danger. If there is flooding to your property, make sure you stay safe and see our Help I'm Flooding page for more information on what to do.

If the flooding is from a highway such as blocked drains or a ditch, a main river or a burst water main or sewer then see our **It's an Emergency** page to find the correct organisation to contact and report this.

For all other types of flooding (groundwater, surface water and flooding from small watercourses) use the form below. Please note that this service is not to be used in an emergency situation. We will endeavour to respond to your submission within 21

Flood Investigations - When are they carried out?

If a reported incident meets the threshold for a formal **Section 19** flood investigation, this information may be published publicly online. The following tests are used to decide this:

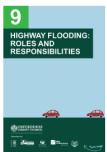
- Has internal flooding (excluding basements) of five or more residential properties or businesses been experienced within an area of 1km<sup>2</sup>?
- Has <u>internal flooding</u> of a business premises employing more than 10 people been experienced within an area of 1km<sup>2</sup>?
- Has <u>internal flooding</u> (excluding basements) of at least one property or business been experienced for one week or longer?
- Has flooding of one or more items of critical infrastructure, which could include hospitals, health centres, clinics, surgeries, colleges, schools, day nurseries, nursing homes, emergency services (police, fire, ambulance) stations, utilities and substations, been experienced?
- Has flooding been experienced that has caused a transport link to be

NB: Motorways, trunk roads, Class A and B highway and rail link closures shall all be investigated.

Class C highways shall be investigated if there has been flooding for 10 hours or more unless the route is the only means of access, or is primary route for critical infrastructure then this is reduced to 4 hours.

Class U highways shall be investigated if there has been flooding for 24 hours or more unless the route is the only means of access, or is primary route for critical infrastructure then this is reduced to 4 hours







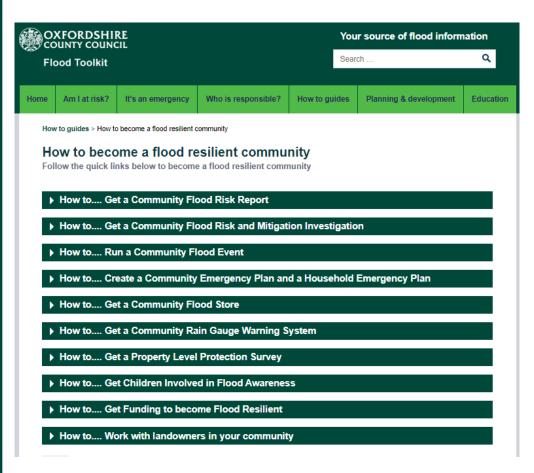
- Online form: location, duration, date, depth, cause and impact of flooding – thresholds explained
- Ability to upload photos and videos
- Forms instantly sent to the OCC LLFA team to log and investigate

Are you reporting a blocked dra	ain or an issue with highway drainage? *
○ Yes	
○ No	
Address * (Where the flooding occurred)	
Street Address	
VIIIage or Town	Postoode
Additional location details	
i.e road junction, or grid reference	
When did the flooding happen?	*
dd/mm/yyyy —	





# How to become a flood resilient community



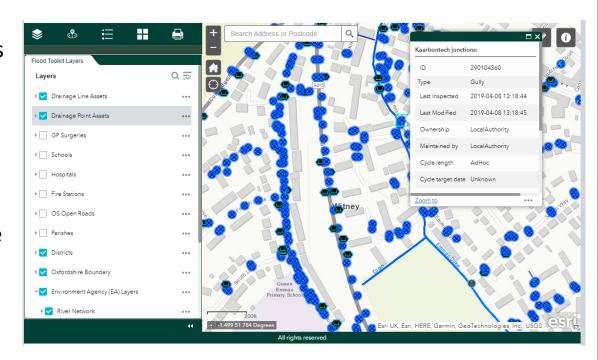
- How to guides for communities
- Empowers communities by providing self help information
- Includes links to other websites e.g.
   Buy with Confidence and Blue Pages





#### **Asset Register**

- LLFAs must establish and maintain a register of structures or features that are likely to have a significant effect on flood risk.
- An external version of OCC'S asset register is available on the Flood Toolkit for members of the public to use.
- The asset register is an interactive map showing OCC highway assets, Environment Agency flood risk maps, critical infrastructure and district and parish boundaries.

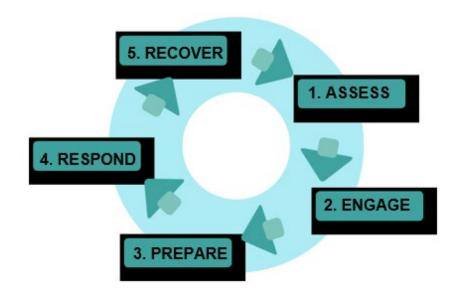


https://www.oxfordshirefloodtoolkit.com/risk/



#### Flood Warden Pilot Scheme

- The LLFA recognises that local community residents are well placed to provide information concerning flood risk and drainage issues.
- We are trialling a Flood Warden Pilot Scheme with local volunteers
- Flood Wardens will be the eyes and ears on the ground and report blocked drains, gullies and ditches etc. It is hoped these actions could help prevent or reduce flood risk in local communities.
- Discussions are underway with Witney
  Town Council in involving Witney as part
  of a pilot group to trial the scheme before
  county rollout.







## Oxfordshire County Council Emergency Planning Flood Response 2022



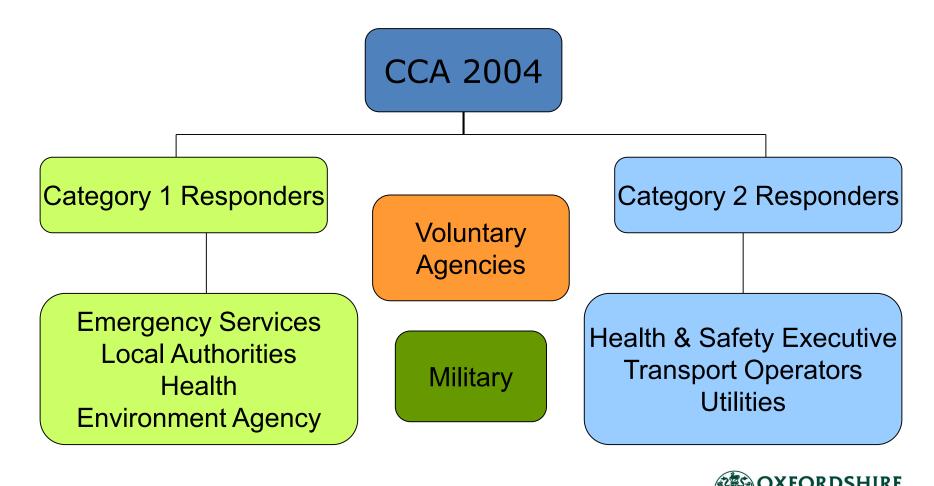


#### Oxfordshire Emergency Planning Unit

- Based at OFRS HQ, Kidlington
- Team of 6 Carol (County Emergency Planning Officer), Andy (Business Continuity Officer), James, Paul, Emily and Joe (Five Emergency Planning Officers)
- 24/7 Duty Emergency Planning Officer (DEPO). One member of the team is always available.



# As a local Authority we work with other agencies in an emergency





Civil Contingencies Act 2004

Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations 2019 (REPPIR)

Control Of Major-Accident Hazards involving dangerous substances 2015 (COMAH)

Major Accident Control Regulations (MACR) (JSP498) National Pipelines Safety Regulations 1996

**Reservoirs Act 1975** 

Preparedness (Duties under CCA)

Emergency Response and Recovery (Guidance to CCA)



#### Plans & Frameworks include:

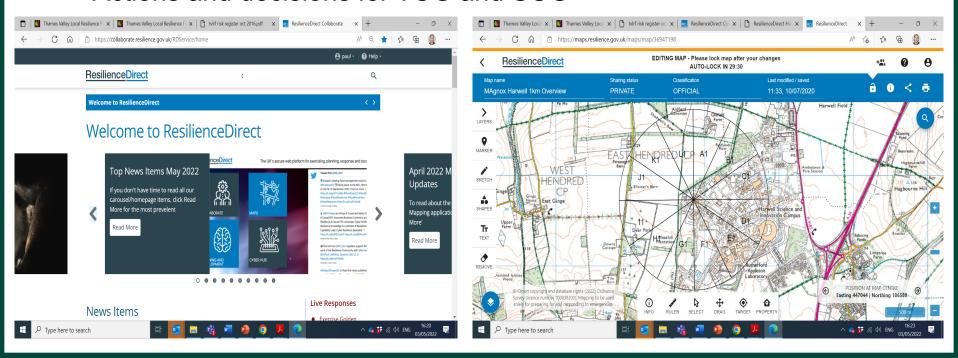
- Adverse weather & Flooding
- Incident management Framework ( also County Contact Directory for emergencies)
- Strategic roads
- Crowded places, Evacuation and Lockdown
- Death of a Senior Figure
- Operation Bridge
- Operation Return
- Human Infectious Disease,
- Community Resilience,
- Mass Fatalities
- Excess Deaths
- Animal Health (produced by Trading Standards, audited by EPU)
- Humanitarian Aspects
- Evacuation and Shelter

- Brize Norton MACR
- Magnox REPPIR
- UKAEA Culham REPPIR
- Oqema COMAH
- Heyford Park Southern Bomb Store COMAH
- Recovery
- Major Utilities Outage
- Media /Warning and Informing
- Fuel Disruption
- MAHP Pipelines
- Reservoirs
- Ardley Tunnel
- Bicester Village Evacuation
- In addition the unit assists with parish plans, Oxford airport plan, RAF Benson, Weston on the Green.
- TVLRF plans- Emergency Response Arrangements, CBRNe, Mass casualties, Psychological support, Faith, Water distribution...plus others



## ResilienceDirect

- Information sharing (sited centrally)
- Shared situational awareness
- Reporting schedules with actions (COPs)
- Repository for plans
- Mapping function ( Place Cordons, Infrastructure, Property and Chemet )
- Actions and decisions for TCG and SCG



## Thames Valley Local Resilience Forum



- Local Resilience Forums (LRF's) are based on police force areas.
- TVLRF holds Working on Wednesdays (WOW) on the second Wednesday of each month where partners can work together to produce and update joint plans and frameworks and attend training.
- As the LRF does not represent a single county there also have to be county level plans under the TVLRF. For this reason TVLRF tends to produce Frameworks under which sit county plans. In a single county LRF there is only one level of planning.



#### Risks

Planning has to be provided against the National Security Risk Assessment, national capabilities programme and against known local risks and specific risk sites

#### Top 10 risks:

- Influenza type disease,
- Flooding,
- Adverse weather,
- Fuel shortage,
- Loss of Critical infrastructure (planning for 5-10 day widespread power loss for example),
- Animal health,
- Industrial accidents and Environment Pollution
- Transport incidents
- Terrorism
- Cyber security







## Response

- In response mode to a Major Incident operational and tactical response and decision making are made at county level.
- Each county will have a Tactical Co-ordinating Group(TCG) (and possibly Emergency Operations Centres as well). Oxfordshire TCG location would normally be at Oxfordshire Fire HQ, Kidlington. This TCG has all multiagency & DLUHC
- These TCG's will report in to a TVLRF multi agency teleconference which will have two way communication with the TVLRF SCG
- Strategic Co-ordinating Group(SCG) will normally be held at TVP HQ South, Kidlington. This group provides the direct link in to central government.





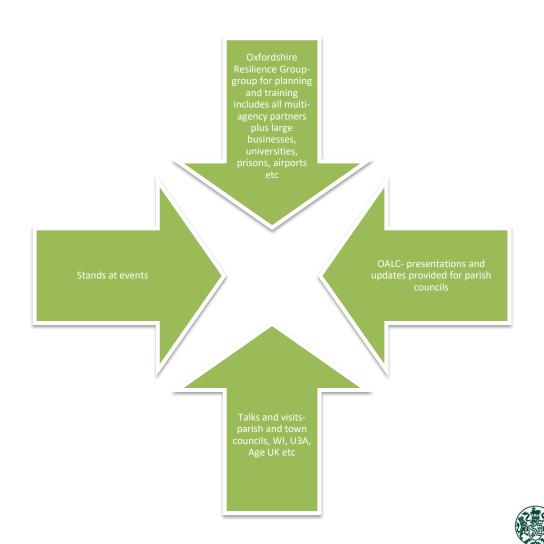
## Partnership working in Oxfordshire

- A major incident may be a 'big bang' incident with no warning or a 'Rising Tide' incident with time to prepare.
- During a major incident it is about teams carrying out business as usual in extenuating circumstances. Social services still assist vulnerable people but this may be at a reception centre, district housing teams still provide housing provision, media teams still deal with media information, these services work together via the EOC/TCG.





## **County Planning & Preparedness**



OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



## Safety Advisory Group (SAG)



Each district/city has a SAG which assesses events which meet a certain criteria for example over 2000 people attending, impact on the highways, large number of children and vulnerabilities etc.



Multi agency partners meet regularly to assess plans meet legislatory and licence criteria and that event organisers have in place emergency management, traffic, medical and fire plans to ensure that events run as smoothly and safely as possible.





## Response in Oxfordshire



EPU hold a database which can be searched to locate nearest parish hall with 24/7 keyholder details, nearest hotel etc. this allows prompt opening of a local building to shelter people in the initial couple of hours. ERVs trained to help set up and run reception centres



Kassam stadium and most sports centres mapped for strategic reception centres



It is important that evacuees, friends and families, press and responders are all accommodated in separate hotels during an incident.



Schools are not used- furniture and toilets are too small, school attendance may be affected, unknown individuals are introduced into a safe children environment, psychological impact on children afterwards.

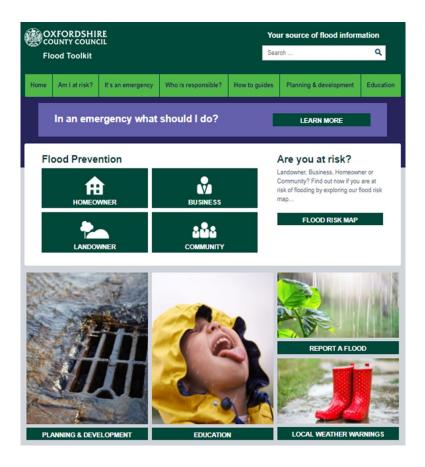


Hotels are preferable as evacuees maintain the ability to decision make, privacy and may avoid safeguarding and psychological issues and assist with recovery.





## **Flooding**



www.oxfordshirefloodtoolkit.com





## **Community Emergency Plans**

- Why do we need a Community Emergency plan?
- Is producing a plan complicated?
- Where do we start?
- Can we get help to write a plan?
- Access to SSEN Community funding





#### What goes into a plan?

- Consider the risks that might affect your community
- Consider your local resources
- Safe locations
- Emergency contact list
- How to help vulnerable people
- Activation triggers and first actions

#### Key locations identified with emergency services for use as places of safety

Building	Location	Potential use in an emergency	Contact details of key holder  Colin Molesworth – Warden 07749 8557xx	
Example: Church Hall	1 Church Square	Rest Centre/safe place		
Watley Central; Watley Street High School		Rest Centre/safe Jane Shulman – Caretaker 07749 8655xx		

#### Local skills and resources assessment

Skill/Resource	Who?	Contact details	Location	When might be unavailable?
Trained first aider	Sandy <u>Fortman</u>	01700 5668xx	17 Brookvale Street	Can usually leave work within one hour
4x4 owner/driver	Bob Southwold	01700 5648xx	Garages to rear of High Street	Tuesday mornings (already volunteers)
Chainsaw owner (tree surgeon)	Simon Chalmers	01700 5605xx	Simon's Landscaping – 4 Terrace Yard	Will need to travel from site
Water/food supplies	Village Shop	01700 5608xx	2 High Street	Shop closed on Weds but can call owner



#### Flooding events with CEP groups









#### **CEP** in Action

- Following Christmas flooding Duns Tew, completed their plan and now have a sandbag store.
- Residents of East and West Hanney demonstrated a fantastic example of community spirit and emergency preparedness.
- Village hall flood defense barriers were fitted when the brook began to overflow
- In keeping with the CEP, the brook was initially reinforced with locally sourced sandbags. After coordinating with Oxfordshire County Council Emergency Planning Unit, more sandbags were delivered to bolster the defenses.







## **Community Resilienc**

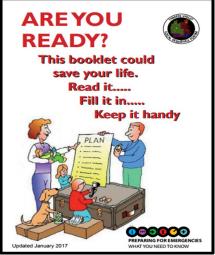
- Be a good neighbour
- Prepare a Grab bag
- Sign up to alerts
- Have a wind up torch/radio
- Sign up to PSR lists
- Invite us to your group















## Resources to help your community

- 10 Minute BC assessment
- Leaflets
- Emergency planning | Oxfordshire County Council















## Any Questions?

emergencyplanning@oxfordshire.gov.uk floodmanagement@Oxfordshire.gov.uk

