

## Flood Prevention



HOMEOWNER



BUSINESS



LANDOWNER



COMMUNITY

## Are you at risk?

Landowner, Business, Homeowner or Community? Find out now if you are at risk of flooding by exploring our Flood Risk Map...

FLOOD RISK MAP

# Northamptonshire County Council

## Flood Toolkit

[www.floodtoolkit.com](http://www.floodtoolkit.com)

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PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

EDUCATION

REPORT A FLOOD

LOCAL WEATHER WARNINGS



# Purpose of the Flood Toolkit

- Created as the ‘legacy factor’ for the Defra Pathfinder project - seeking to improve community flood resilience in Northamptonshire
- “Your source of flood information” providing all the detail related to flooding and flood risk to help communities, individuals, landowners and professionals to help themselves
- Designed to answer any flood related query
- Reduces Officer time spent answering queries



# Structure and design

- **Layout and structure based on customer surveys**
- **Looking at frequently asked questions received by the Council, Environment Agency, Northamptonshire Highways etc**
- **Visually appealing and created in an interactive way - using mapping, animations, images, social media feeds and guides to reduce text heavy pages**
- **All pages are reached with one or two clicks, coupled with a search function**



In an emergency what should I do?

LEARN MORE

Flood Prevention



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# Home Page

- Calls to action for the most important information
- Rolling RSS feed displaying relevant Twitter accounts and Google alerts related to flooding in Northants
- Search function for quick navigation
- Footer menu holding appropriate legal information

# Flood Risk Map

## Am I at risk?

Use the map below to see if your community is at risk from different types of flooding...

Put in your Postcode or look for your community in the drop down list, then simply tick the layers you want to look at and click "Filter". Choose from "Risk of Flooding from Surface Water", "Risk of Flooding from Rivers", "Flood Map for Planning", "Upper Nene Catchment", "Water and Sewerage Companies", "Formal Flood Investigations" and "Main Rivers".

Please note "Risk of Flooding from Rivers" and "Flood Map for Planning" will not display when fully zoomed into the map.

FIND POSTCODE:   FIND SETTLEMENT:



### Risk of Flooding from Surface Water

- This is in an area that has a HIGH chance of flooding from surface water. This means that each year, this area has a chance of flooding of greater than 1 in 30 (3.3%).
- This is an area that has a MEDIUM chance of flooding from surface water. This means that each year, this area has a chance of flooding of between 1 in 100 (1%) and 1 in 30 (3.3%).
- This is an area that has a LOW chance of flooding from surface water. This means that each year, this area has a chance of flooding of between 1 in 1000 (0.1%) and 1 in 100 (1%).
- This is an area that has a VERY LOW chance of flooding from surface water. This means that each year, this area has a chance of flooding of less than 1 in 1000 (0.1%).

The maps are intended for guidance, and cannot provide details for individual properties. The maps have been produced by the Environment Agency, using information from Northamptonshire County Council where available/appropriate. You can [view this information and more on the Environment Agency's 'What's In Your Back Yard' map service.](#)

- The Risk of Flooding from Surface Water map shows the areas that are at risk from surface water flooding.
- The Risk of Flooding from Rivers map shows the extent and likelihood of flooding from rivers taking into account any flood defences.
- The Flood Map for Planning shows Flood Zones without flood defences, as required for land-use planning purposes.

- Map linked to Council mapping system
- Layers can be easily filtered
- All layers can be overlapped to show all flood risk
- Search function for quick navigation by postcode or settlement
- Able to zoom to 1:10,000
- Legend detail below map
- Soon to be fully interactive with pop up information



## About flooding

The different types of flooding...

There are different types of flooding that can happen depending on where the water comes from. Each of these flooding types are managed by different organisations across Northamptonshire, so why not visit our **Who is Responsible** page to understand who each organisation is and when to contact them.

In the meantime take a look below to see the six most common types of flooding and download a handy factsheet on each... don't forget to click the refresh button at the bottom of each animation to see where the water comes from!



### Surface water flooding

Surface water flooding is the main source of flooding in Northamptonshire. It happens when rainwater flows or ponds over the surface of the ground and does not soak into the land or enter a drain or river. It usually happens during heavy rainfall (more than 30mm per hour) and is made worse by blocked ditches, drains and compacted or waterlogged soil. Northamptonshire is quite a rural county so one of the main sources of surface water flooding is from **Agricultural Run-Off**. There is no early warning system for surface water flooding and it is difficult to predict, however our **Flood Risk Maps** do show the risk across the county.

[DOWNLOAD GUIDE](#)



### River flooding

River flooding happens when a stream or river (watercourse) cannot cope with the amount of water that is flowing into it from the surrounding land. Rivers are separated into "main rivers" and "ordinary watercourses". Main rivers are usually the larger ones in the county such as the River Nene, Welland and Ouse but also some smaller streams that are important for drainage. Ordinary watercourses are any other smaller rivers, streams or ditches. Our Flood Risk Maps let you explore **Northamptonshire's main rivers**.

[DOWNLOAD GUIDE](#)



### Groundwater flooding

Groundwater flooding happens when water levels in the ground rise above the surface. It is common after long periods of constant heavy rainfall and likely in low lying areas, those with natural springs and where chalk is present under the ground (which acts like a sponge to store water).

[DOWNLOAD GUIDE](#)



### Sewer flooding

Sewer flooding happens either when the pipes in the network are blocked or when there is heavy rainfall and the sewers cannot cope with the amount of water because they are not designed to cope with heavy, prolonged rainfall. The danger of this type of flooding is that water can become contaminated with raw sewage and enter land and property, or the river system.

[DOWNLOAD GUIDE](#)

# About Flooding

- Short descriptions about the seven most common types of flooding in Northants
- Assists individuals in identifying the correct source when reporting a flood
- Simple animations sourced from the Environment Agency
- Downloadable guide for each to provide extra information



## Flood prevention

Click on the icons below to read more about what can be done to help reduce the impacts of flooding

Whether you're a homeowner, business owner, community or landowner there are a whole host of ways to help reduce the impacts of flooding and protect your property and land. By **exploring the images below** you'll be able to see what's out there to buy and also what you can do at home or together as a community.

So click on the tabs in the images below and take a step closer to becoming flood resilient!



### Things the community and landowners can do



There are a vast number of ways to help reduce the risk of flooding to your community and so in turn to help reduce the risk of flooding to your own home. By acting as a community using the information in the points above, you'll feel better prepared when heavy rainfall and flooding eventually come. Our **How to become a flood resilient community** pages also have a lot of information, so why not take a look there as well? Otherwise read more about what your community responsibilities are and how to make these happen in our **Flood related roles of Parish Councils and Communities** guide found in the Flood Library.

## Flood Prevention

- Three interactive images for communities, landowners, householders and businesses – looking at flood minimisation
- Embedded “Numpties” animation to illustrate the importance of flood prevention

## Funding

Find out how to gain funding for your home, community or business

There are lots of ways that you can help reduce the damage from flooding to your home, business, land or community. If you haven't already seen what these are, take a look now on our **Flooding Prevention** page and find out which is best for you.

However as most things do, these products will more than likely require some funding! With a whole host of different organisations and funding sources out there for different reasons and types of projects, you can often hit a hurdle just trying to find out which one to apply for.



To make this job easier, we have created a five step question and answer **"Funding Tool"** to help you find the best sources of funding for your project. Simply complete the questions on the righthand side, and experiment with different searches and your results will be shown at the bottom of the page. You may also want to take a look at our **Funding for Flood Alleviation Guide** in the Flood Library.

So give it a go, find out where you could get money from and read some useful case studies of where people and communities have been successful!

Are you looking for individual, community or business funding?

COMMUNITY

What type of measure would you like to implement?

WARNING SYSTEM/PREPARATION

(e.g. flood warning, household survey, awareness/education)

Are you able to contribute towards funding the measure?

NOTHING

When do you require the funds?

LESS THAN 6 MONTHS

What level of contribution do you require?

£1000—£10,000

- Funding
- Funding toolkit
- Drop-down questions identifying; who the funding is for, type of measure required, contribution needed, when the funds are required and the amount
- Links to the application page and relevant flood related case studies



### People's Postcode Trust – Dream Fund

Provided by: People's Postcode Trust

APPLY NOW

CASE STUDY

Funding is available to give organisations in Scotland, England and Wales the chance to deliver the project they have always dreamed of, but never had the opportunity to bring to life. Projects should fall under one of the following categories: community development, environmental protection, health, human rights, sports, and the prevention of poverty, distress and sickness.



### Northamptonshire – Empowering Councillors and Communities Scheme

Provided by: Northamptonshire County Council  
Maximum value: Discretionary

APPLY NOW

CASE STUDY

Grants are available for local voluntary and community organisations for projects and activities that benefit local people and the local community of Northamptonshire.



### Fundraising

There are numerous ways that communities can raise funds from small events which can be labour intensive but can turn

MORE INFORMATION



## Local weather warnings

Check out the local weather, flood warnings and rainfall levels

It's always important to keep an eye on what the weather is doing in your local area so you can be best prepared for the days ahead. This becomes even more important if there is severe weather approaching that could lead to flooding in your community or across the county.

To keep you aware of the situation in Northamptonshire, the widgets to the right show any severe weather warnings released by the Met Office for the next 5 days as well as any flood warnings from the Environment Agency.

If a warning is showing, click on it to find out more!

Did you know there are Flood Sirens in Northampton? These are tested on a regular basis so you may have heard them. Find out more by watching the **Northampton Flood Sirens** video. If you would like to know more about Flood Warnings then why not read our **Flood Warning Guide**.

We have also put 15 rain gauges in different communities across the county to help provide information about local rainfall levels. The rain gauges also provide an early warning system to **surface water flooding**. Why not explore the rainfall in these communities using the drop down menu below?

## Local Rainfall

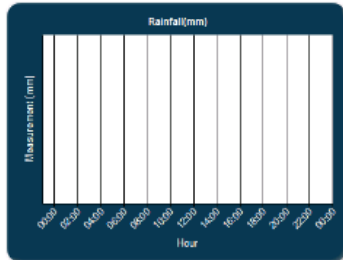
Choose a location below then click "Display Rainfall Charts" to show details of recent rainfall.

BRIGSTOCK



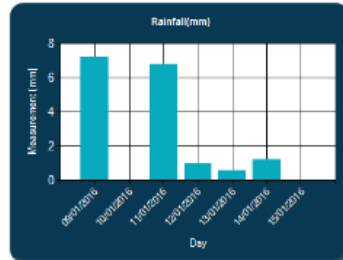
DISPLAY RAINFALL CHARTS

Rainfall in the last day

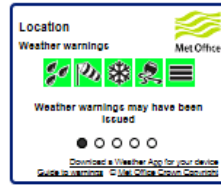


Readings	Total	Maximum	Minimum
24	0.00	0.00	0.00

Rainfall in the last week



Readings	Total	Maximum	Minimum
7	16.00	7.20	0.00



[Register here for free flood warnings](#)  
from the Environment Agency



## Local weather warnings

- Met Office Severe Weather Warning widget
- Environment Agency Flood Warning widget displayed for Northamptonshire
- Rainfall charts - 15 rain gauges displayed
- Quick link to the Environment Agency Flood Warning Direct service



## It's an emergency!

What should I do?

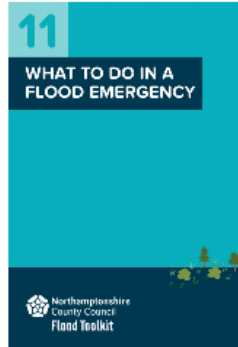
If you have a flooding emergency contact Fire and Rescue on **999** or **112**.

Although Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue's main responsibility is saving lives, they may also help pump out floodwater from your property depending on how busy they are.

During a flood incident you should focus on the safety of yourself and others and make sure to stay out of floodwater. See our **Help I'm Flooding** page for more details on what to do.

See below for other useful emergency contact details for flooding from a highway, watercourse, water pipe or sewer.

Share this:



## It's an emergency!

- Information on what to do before, during and after a flood
- Explains the role of Northants Fire and Rescue
- Provides contact details for all RMAs with emergency call-out services
- Ability to share the page via social media or email

Northamptonshire  
Highways

### Northamptonshire Highways

To report flooding relating to a highway such as blocked ditches, blocked drains or flooding on a road call Northamptonshire Highways or visit the Street Doctor website.

Tel: 0300 126 1000  
(Select Option 4) (8:00am - 6:00pm) 07000 782 112  
(out of hours)

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

highways  
england  
@highforward

### Highways England

To report flooding on the M1, M45, A5, A14, A45 (M1 to A14) or A43 (M1, south of Northampton to Oxfordshire border) contact Highways England.

Tel: 0300 123 5000 (say "Report")

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

ENVIRONMENT  
AGENCY

### Environment Agency

To report flooding from a main river contact the Environment Agency through the Floodline or visit their website. Visit our Flood Risk Map page to see all **main rivers in Northamptonshire**.

Tel: 0345 988 1188 or  
0800 80 70 60

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

love every drop  
anglianwater

### Anglian Water Services

To report flooding from an Anglian Water burst water main or sewer use the contact details to the right.

Tel: 03457 145 145 (Select option 1)

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

Check who your **Water and Sewerage provider is in Northamptonshire** on our Flood Risk Maps.



## Report a flood

If it's a flooding emergency you should focus on the safety of yourself and your family. **Dial 999 or 112 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 company 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 days.

### 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 flooding affected critical infrastructure for a period in excess of 3 hours from the onset of flooding?
- Has **internal flooding** of one property been experienced on more than one occasion in the last five years?
- Has **internal flooding** of five properties in **close proximity** been experienced during one single flood incident?

### Flooding Information

#### Address \*

(Where the flooding occurred)

#### Street Address

#### Village or Town

#### Postcode

#### Additional location details

ie road junction, or grid reference

#### When did the flooding happen? \*

Enter a date in the format 15/01/2016



## Report a flood

- Online form: location, duration, date, depth, cause and impact of flooding – thresholds explained
- Ability to upload photos and videos
- Forms instantly sent to the Flood and Water management team
- Allows real time tracking of incidents



## Who is responsible?

Find out who is responsible for what when it comes to flooding

There is no single organisation responsible for all flooding across Northamptonshire. Instead it's a group approach with different organisations managing different types of flooding.

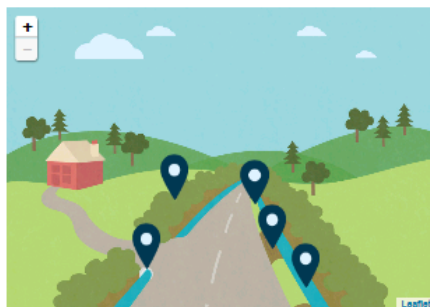
The **table below** shows exactly who each organisation is across Northamptonshire and what their responsibilities are, as well as useful contact details and when you may need to contact them.

The responsibility for flood risk management across the county rests with everyone. If you are a landowner of any kind; be it a homeowner, business owner, community, farmer, developer, authority, tenant or whoever you have a responsibility to prevent flooding from your land. This is called **Riparian Responsibility**. You are a riparian owner of any **watercourse** within or adjacent to the boundaries of your land. This could be an open watercourse (river or stream), a ditch or a **culvert** for example.

### Responsibilities for Urban Drainage



### Responsibilities for Rural Drainage



### Roles and Responsibilities

**RIPARIAN OWNERSHIP AND FLOOD RISK**

#### Riparian Owners

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

**Riparian owners** are responsible for maintaining the watercourse or ditch running through or adjacent to their land as well as the vegetation on the banks, in order to keep these clear and prevent flooding. Riparian owners can face legal action if the lack of maintenance of their watercourse causes flooding. For more information about responsibilities, read our **Riparian Ownership and Flood Risk** guide.

Land ownership is sometimes unknown, disputed or difficult to work out. To find out who owns certain parcels of land (and therefore whether or not they have a riparian responsibility), obtain copies of title registers and title plans use the online **Land Registry** services.

## Who is responsible?

- Responsibilities and contact details provided
- Focuses on Riparian ownership and what this entails
- Interactive images with text detailing responsible bodies for urban and rural drainage
- Useful links to the Land Registry service, ordinary watercourse consenting forms and extensive guidance



## How to become a flood resilient community

Follow the quick links below to become a flood resilient community

▶ [How to.... Get a Community Flood Risk Report](#)

▶ [How to.... Get a Community Flood Risk and Mitigation Investigation](#)

The Community Flood Risk and Mitigation Investigation is the next step after the Community Flood Risk Report. Using the community flood risk report as a baseline, a qualified engineer would visit the community and prepare a more detailed assessment of flood risk, to include mapping of privately owned **flood assets**, current land ownership, locations of historic land drainage ditches, and local knowledge of historic flood risk. The Investigation should provide recommendations of actions that can be taken by the community to reduce the likelihood and impact of flooding, including a regime for inspection and maintenance of community flood assets.

The reports need to be prepared by a suitably qualified flood risk engineer. If you are considering hiring a professional, we would recommend that you use the **Buy with Confidence** website, which provides a directory of businesses who have been vetted and approved by Trading Standards to ensure that they operate in a legal, honest and fair way. The **National Flood Forum's Blue Pages** website and the **Property Care Association** website both provide independent directories of flood protection products, services and providers.



▶ [How to.... Run a Community Flood Event](#)

▶ [How to.... Become a Community Flood Warden](#)

▶ [How to.... Create a Community Emergency Plan and a Household Flood Plan](#)

▶ [How to.... Get a Community Flood Store](#)

▶ [How to.... Get a Community Rain Gauge Warning System](#)

▶ [How to.... Get a Property Level Protection Survey](#)

▶ [How to.... Get Children Involved in Flood Awareness](#)

▶ [How to.... Get Funding to become Flood Resilient](#)

▶ [How to.... Work with landowners in your community](#)

## How to become a flood resilient community

- How to guides for communities
- Brings together learning from the Pathfinder project
- Empowers communities by providing self help information
- Includes links to other websites e.g. Buy with Confidence and Blue Pages



## Flood Library

### ▶ Flood Guides

Explore and download our 27 interactive Flood Guides, providing you with all you need to know about flooding.

### ▶ Flood Investigations

Discover if a Flood Investigation has taken place in your community, and find out what the cause was.

### ▶ Statutory Documents

Find out more about the County Council's role as Lead Local Flood Authority in these statutory documents.

### ▶ Community and Landowner Guidance

Explore our suite of useful guides to help you as a community or landowner become more flood resilient.

### ▶ Case Studies

Find out how organisations in Northamptonshire have reduced their risk of flooding.

#### Business Resilience Case Study - Plantool Hire

This case study describes how a tool hire depot operated by Plantool Ltd in Kettering was affected by flooding in June 2007, and the steps the company has taken to minimise the impact that future flooding could have on the business.



DOWNLOAD CASE STUDY

#### Business Resilience Case Study - Granary Hotel

This case study describes how The Granary Hotel and the Fawsley Estate near Daventry, Northamptonshire, undertook work to improve the flow of a stream running close to the hotel, creating space to store water and reducing flood risk to protect the business.



DOWNLOAD CASE STUDY

Share this:



# Flood Library

- Five drop down menus
- Downloadable takeaways
- 27 flood guides cover all aspects of flood risk management



## Planners

Flood risk management basically interacts with spatial planning in two main ways:

1. Using the planning system to avoid locating unnecessary new development in areas of high flood risk.
2. Mitigating the surface water run-off impacts of new development on downstream areas through planning policies.

Specific policy relating to flood and water management in Northamptonshire is set out in our **Local Flood Risk Management Strategy**. This establishes the responsibilities of local authorities and the developers themselves with regards to flood risk and sets out the co-ordinated approach to the management of all local flood risks in Northamptonshire.

### Local Plans

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) explains how Local Plans should take account of flood risk. A local plan should set out the strategic priorities and policies for an area, including those to deliver the infrastructure for flood risk.

Local Planning Authorities can develop policies which contribute to the active management of flood risk and can include:

- Allocating new development outside areas of high flood risk or securing of flood protection measures;
- Protecting watercourse corridors and green networks;
- Avoiding new culverting of watercourses;
- Actively encouraging the de-culverting of watercourses;
- Requiring **sustainable drainage systems** (SuDS) in new developments;
- Using Section 106 agreements from the Town and Country Planning Act or community infrastructure levy (CIL) to secure suitable surface water drainage arrangements and;
- Encouraging the use of in-built property level **resistance** and **resilience** measures.

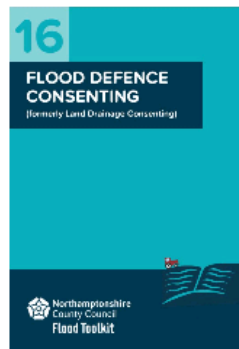
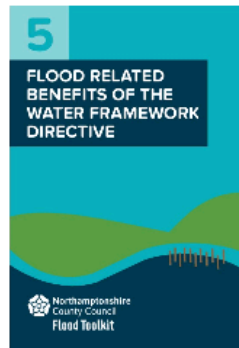
### Strategic Flood Risk Assessments

Section 10 of the NPPF and its supporting Technical Guidance, state that Local Plans should be supported by Strategic Flood Risk Assessments (SFRAs). Local Plan policies and allocations for new development should be considered in the light of these assessments.

SFRAs consider the risk of flooding from all sources, taking into account climate change and are normally prepared in consultation with the Environment Agency, relevant Water and Sewerage Companies (WASCs) and other relevant flood risk management bodies including emergency planning and drainage teams. To find out what SFRAs have been carried out in Northamptonshire, please see **Appendix 4 of the Northamptonshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy**.

### Water Cycle Studies

Water cycle studies and Strategies (WCS) identify any tensions between new development proposals and infrastructure and environmental requirements in relation



# Planning and Development

- **Technical flood risk management information for planners, developers, landowners and homeowners.**
- **Guidance on local plans, FRAs, WCSs, SWMPs and Neighbourhood Plans**
- **Surface water drainage requirements**
- **Online data requests and technical flood advice processes**



The Flood Aware Schools Pack has been developed for use by primary school teachers with Key Stage 2 pupils, with a particular focus on Year 5. It is designed to inform, educate and empower children and build their understanding and awareness of flooding, and the impact flooding has on communities.



The curriculum-linked resources include a Scheme of Work, pupil activity sheets, word glossary, PowerPoint presentation (for class and whole school use) and an Interactive component, which is designed to promote engagement and active learning.

Share this:



[Back to top](#)

Scenario A

Scenario B

Scenario C

### Scenario A

Imagine that there has been a lot of rain in the area where you live and there's talk of flooding. You need to gather some information and think about what you should do.



#### Rivers flooding?

What's happening to the rivers in your area?

Media | Audio



#### What's happening in the next town?

See what's on the local news about flooding

Media | Video



#### What's happening in the countryside near you?

See what a local farmer is making of the weather.

Media | Audio



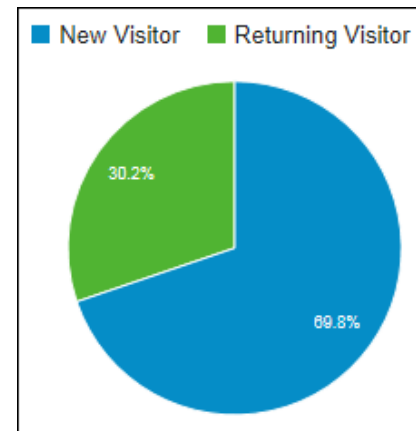
## Education

- Flood Aware - focussed on Year 5 students
- To educate and empower children about flooding
- Curriculum linked
- Scenario based with interactive visuals and audio
- Scheme of work for teachers, pupil resource sheets and parents guide





# Usage



- Launched Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2015
- Usage shown to 17<sup>th</sup> January 2016
- **12,060 sessions** of which **8,416 are new visitors** - showing continued engagement by attracting back 1/3 of users
- An average of **2.4 page visits per session** indicating users reach the information they need within a few clicks
- **13% of all sessions are via a mobile or tablet** highlighting the need to ensure optimised usage whilst out of the office
- **40% of all traffic from links on other websites** - importance of having one local source of flood information



## Next steps

- **Currently working with a number of other Lead Local Flood Authorities to implement Flood Toolkit websites**
- **Website is under constant review to ensure it is kept fresh and up to date**
- **New features to include a more interactive mapping system, a secure login page for RMAs to access asset register and records**



## Flood Prevention



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BUSINESS



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COMMUNITY

## Are you at risk?

Landowner, Business, Homeowner or Community? Find out now if you are at risk of flooding by exploring our Flood Risk Map...

FLOOD RISK MAP

# Thank you for listening

[www.floodtoolkit.com](http://www.floodtoolkit.com)

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