

Flood risk management in Scotland



Working together to deliver
Flood Risk Management Strategies and
Local Flood Risk Management Plans

In Scotland, **one in 22 homes** and **one in 13 businesses** are at risk of flooding from rivers, the sea, surface water and drainage systems overwhelmed by heavy rainfall.

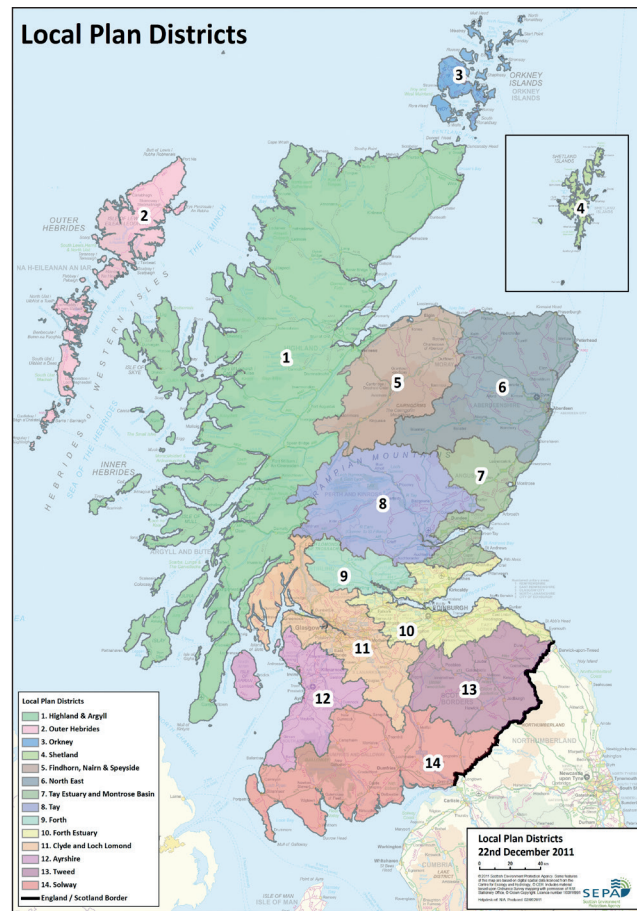
To help us manage flood risk and reduce the impacts on our communities, economy and environment, Scotland is developing its first **Flood Risk Management Strategies**, published by Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) in 2015, and **Local Flood Risk Management Plans**, published by local authorities in 2016.



In partnership with local authorities and Scottish Water, SEPA is taking action to manage flood risk in a more co-ordinated, sustainable and targeted way, where the benefits of intervention will make the greatest impact.

To support this new approach, Scotland has been separated into 14 Local Plan Districts. These districts are based on river catchments and cross administrative and institutional boundaries, encouraging local authorities, Scottish Water and SEPA to work closer than ever before.

SEPA's approach to Flood Risk Management Planning is underpinned by the National Flood Risk Assessment. This provided the first national picture of flood risk which looked at flooding from rivers, the sea and heavy rainfall in urban areas. It identified 243 areas, called Potentially Vulnerable Areas, which contain the greatest risks from flooding in Scotland and where we should prioritise our efforts.



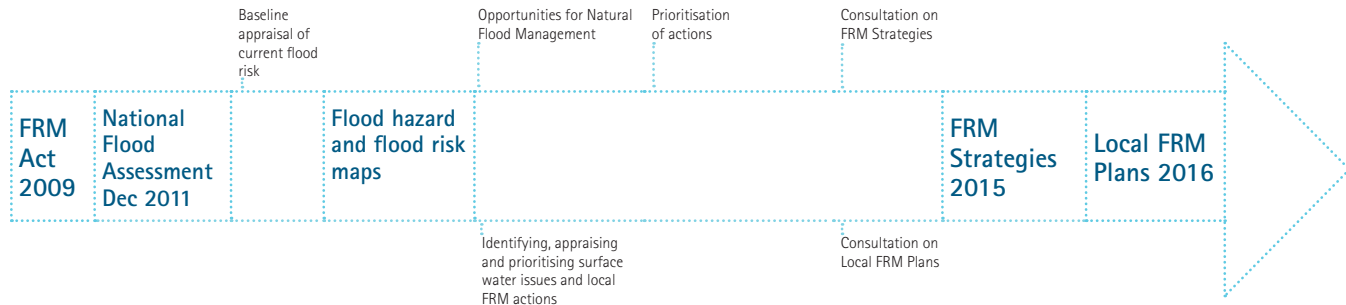
View the National Flood Risk Assessment: map.sepa.org.uk/nfra/map.htm

Building on the National Flood Risk Assessment we have produced a new flood map for Scotland which gives us a better understanding of the location and character of flood hazard. The maps, which will help us to make flood risk management decisions, consider flooding from rivers, the coast, ground water and surface water.

This change of approach was brought in by the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009, which also impacted on the way public bodies work together. It brought about more partnership working, so we can improve our knowledge and understanding of flood risk collectively and be more proactive in how we manage it.



Timeline of FRM Act



Flood Risk Management Strategies

SEPA will produce a Flood Risk Management Strategy for each Local Plan District by the end of 2015. These strategies will set out the most sustainable combination of actions to address flooding in the areas at greatest risk, where the benefits of intervention can have the greatest impact. Taken together, the 14 Flood Risk Management Strategies will provide a national plan for Scotland.

Local Flood Risk Management Plans

Local Flood Risk Management Plans will take each Flood Risk Management Strategy and turn it into a local delivery plan. These will provide a summary of local activity to manage flood risk and will be produced by the lead local authority in each Local Plan District. The plans, published in June 2016, will include delivery dates, consider funding and identify how actions will be co-ordinated at a local level for the next six years. This is the time that each FRM Planning cycle will take. FRM Strategies will cover three of these cycles.

Working together

Partnership working and consultation are at the heart of tackling flooding in Scotland and there are a lot of organisations helping us to manage flooding better. The National Flood Management Advisory Group (NFMAG) has over 50 member organisations, reflecting the national importance and wide impact of flooding on our communities, economy and environment. At the local level we also receive advice and guidance from Local Advisory Groups to make sure that local knowledge and circumstances are taken into consideration. Through membership of the Scottish Advisory and Implementation Forum for Flooding (SAIFF), local authorities, SEPA, Scottish Water, Forestry Commission Scotland and the National Park

Authority share technical knowledge and resources, and get advice from the Scottish Government and other key interested organisations.

Floodline

It's not just SEPA, local authorities and Scottish Water that have a role in managing flood risk, you have a part to play too. Being prepared for flooding is one of the main ways you can help to protect your family, your home or your business. SEPA's Floodline service provides live flooding information and advice on how to prepare for or cope with the impacts of flooding 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Our telephone service and website is available for everyone to use and if you sign up to Floodline you'll also receive free flood messages direct to your phone.



SEPA:

www.sepa.org.uk

Scottish Government:
www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Water/Flooding

Scottish Water:

www.scottishwater.co.uk

COSLA:

www.cosla.gov.uk



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