

Preliminary flood risk assessment review

Self-assessment form

January 2017

This self-assessment form is provided to enable each lead local flood authority (LLFA) in England to complete the first review of its preliminary assessment report and identification of flood risk areas (FRAs), as required by the Flood Risk Regulations (2009).

Who should complete this self-assessment?

Every LLFA in England should complete parts A, C and D of the self-assessment form and submit it, with the additional information requested in sections C3 and C4, to the appropriate Environment Agency Partnership and Strategic Overview team **no later than 22 June 2017**.

All LLFAs should read the guidance document 'Preliminary flood risk assessment review: guidance for lead local flood authorities in England' before completing the self-assessment form.

Part A - LLFA contact information	
Name of LLFA	Northamptonshire County Council
Name of LLFA officer submitting the assessment	Aiden Grist
Job title	Flood and Water Officer
Telephone number	01604 367296
Email address	floodandwater@northamptonshire.gov.uk
Name of LLFA officer approving the assessment	Josie Bateman
Job title	Flood and Water Manager
Date submitted to Environment Agency	18.4.17
Link to PFRA report 2011	https://www.floodtoolkit.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Preliminary-Flood-Risk-Assessment.pdf

Part B - to be completed by the Environment Agency	
Name of Environment Agency officer receiving the completed assessment	
Job title	
Date assessment received from LLFA	
Date assessment agreed with LLFA	

Part C - LLFA self-assessment

PFRA report section	Activity for PFRA/FRA review	Yes/No	Summary description	Actions planned in response
1. Governance and partnership	1.1 Since publication of the PFRA in 2011, have there been any changes to, or creation of new, risk management authorities (RMAs) with responsibilities in the LLFA area?	Yes	The Bedford Group of Internal Drainage Boards (BIDB) issue flood defence consents and any associated enforcement action(s) on behalf of Northamptonshire County Council. This statutory requirement has been delegated under Section 13 of the FWMA (2010).	<p>The Northamptonshire Flood Toolkit, a web resource created by Northamptonshire County Council, clearly stipulates the need to contact the BIDB when, within Northamptonshire, consenting is required for works on or near to an ordinary watercourse or if changes are made to any structure that helps to control water. See https://www.floodtoolkit.com/planning/consenting/.</p> <p>In addition, the 'Flood Defence Consenting' flood guide, published on the Northamptonshire Flood Toolkit, provides further guidance on flood defence consenting and the role of the BIDB. See https://www.floodtoolkit.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/16.Consenting.pdf.</p> <p>As part of the Service Level Agreement between Northamptonshire County Council and the BIDB, the BIDB provide the County Council with data on all consent applications that have been received, which are then recorded.</p> <p>Northamptonshire County Council has established an organisational framework to provide governance and enhance partnership working as well as support local flood risk management. The structure provides strong accountability and transparency. The framework is illustrated in section 4.4 of the</p>

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				<p>Northamptonshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy: https://www.floodtoolkit.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Northamptonshire-LFRMS-Report-Final-November-2016.pdf.</p> <p>The Northamptonshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy details the roles and responsibilities of all Risk Management Authorities with flood risk responsibilities in the county. The Strategy is updated every three years to ensure that it remains relevant and up to date and includes an associated action plan, which is updated annually. The latest update was published online in November 2016 and can be found here: https://www.floodtoolkit.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Northamptonshire-LFRMS-Report-Final-November-2016.pdf. The Strategy will next be reviewed in 2019.</p>
	<p>1.2 Are all roles and responsibilities for collecting and recording flood risk data and information clearly defined, including the respective roles and responsibilities of upper and lower tier authorities and other RMAs where relevant?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Section 3.30 of the Northamptonshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy clearly states that the EA provide "Support to Lead Local Flood Authorities by providing data and guidance on assessing, planning and carrying out flood risk management for flooding from ordinary watercourses, surface runoff and groundwater."</p> <p>Northamptonshire County Council has established formal protocols for requesting and sharing information with all Risk Management Authorities, and has also entered into confidentiality and data licencing agreements with certain</p>	<p>The Northamptonshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy is published online and can be accessed here: https://www.floodtoolkit.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Northamptonshire-Local-Flood-Risk-Management-Strategy-Report-Final-November-2016.pdf.</p> <p>Northamptonshire County Council receives monthly email updates from all Northamptonshire Risk Management Authorities, including collated information on flood incidents and assets which help to inform Lead Local Flood Authority flood risk data.</p>

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			<p>organisations. A protocol for the secure storage of data and routine updates has also been established. This is detailed in 'Appendix 9: Protocols for Data Management' in the Northamptonshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy: https://www.floodtoolkit.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Northamptonshire-LFRMS-Report-Final-November-2016.pdf.</p> <p>One of the primary aims of the Northamptonshire Flood and Water Management organisational framework is to provide governance and enhance partnership working. This includes a principle "To share data, skills and best practice within Northamptonshire to ensure that flood risk management delivery is feasible, proportionate and sustainable." The framework therefore acts as a forum in which RMAs share their flood risk data and information in accordance with the provisions of the Northamptonshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.</p>	<p>Communities, individuals and organisations are able to report flood incidents to the Lead Local Flood Authority via the Northamptonshire Flood Toolkit. See the 'Report a flood' section of the website to access the flood incident report form: https://www.floodtoolkit.com/emergency/report-flood/. Submitted information is interrogated internally and recorded on the Northamptonshire County Council flood asset register and flood hotspot register to inform the Lead Local Flood Authority's understanding of local flood risk.</p> <p>Northamptonshire County Council collates all relevant data pertaining to flood risk within its mapping system, flood asset register, flood hotspot register and internal databases.</p>
2. Data systems and management	2.1 Do you have an up to date record of relevant sources of flood risk data and information for the LLFA area, including those held by other organisations?	Yes	Northamptonshire County Council maintains a database of all relevant organisations within the county that hold information on flood risk. These organisations are contacted on a six monthly basis to ensure that this database is up to date and to request flood risk data (as per the confidentiality and data licence agreements outlined in the review of activity 1.2 above).	The latest Northamptonshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Action Plan update, published in November 2016, prioritises the need to develop a greater understanding of local flood risk by improving the scope of local knowledge and understanding of current and future local flood risks. This includes the obtainment of relevant flood risk data to inform updates to Northamptonshire County Council's mapping system as detailed in Objective 2 of

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				the Action Plan (https://www.floodtoolkit.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/NCC-LFRMS-ActionPlan-Final-November-2016.pdf) and Appendix 9 of the Northamptonshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.
	2.2 Have sources of 'locally agreed surface water information' been established and maintained for the LLFA area and agreed with relevant partners?	Yes	The Environment Agency's openly accessible flood risk maps for surface water are used by all Risk Management Authorities in Northamptonshire.	This surface water information is regularly reviewed and updated as part of the review and update process of the Northamptonshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.
	2.3 Are systems in place to collect, record and share data and information for the purpose of assessing flood risk in the LLFA area?	Yes	<p>Northamptonshire County Council has access to a hand-held Trimble device which can be used to collect and record flood risk data and information during site visits, and is committed to proactive data collection within high priority geographic wards. Data is also collected through online report forms, such as the flood incident report form which can be accessed via the 'Report a flood' section of the Northamptonshire Flood Toolkit. See https://www.floodtoolkit.com/emergency/report-flood/.</p> <p>All data and information pertaining to the assessment of flood risk is held on Northamptonshire County Council's mapping system; this data is regularly reviewed, updated and shared with partner RMAs.</p> <p>As detailed in the review of activity 1.2 above, Northamptonshire County Council</p>	<p>Northamptonshire County Council is currently developing a live Asset Register database presenting a record of all flood assets in the county, which includes data shared by Risk Management Authorities (RMA). Each RMA is to be issued with a unique login to access the mapping service and will be able view each individual layer and its supporting information to help inform the understanding of local flood risk.</p> <p>The Northamptonshire Flood Toolkit contains a 'Flood risk map' which allows the general public to better understand and appreciate flood risk within Northamptonshire. See https://www.floodtoolkit.com/risk/.</p>

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			has established protocols for requesting and sharing information with flood risk management partners, and has also entered into confidentiality agreements with certain organisations. A protocol for the secure storage of data and routine updates has also been established. This is detailed in Appendix 9: Protocols for Data Management of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.	
	2.4 Are systems in place to assure the quality and security of data and information recorded for the purpose of assessing flood risk in the LLFA area?	Yes	Northamptonshire County Council's flood risk data and information is held in restricted areas of the Council's internal mapping system and file management systems. Users are only permitted access by authorised persons. The quality of data is thoroughly interrogated when collected or received from a third party.	
	2.5 Do you understand the condition and performance of the public, third party and private assets in your register in terms of flood risk?	Yes	The condition and performance of public, third party and private assets is recorded on the Council's Asset Register and is updated as and when information is provided. Use of a hand-held Trimble device allows for proactive recording of the condition and performance of public flood assets.	Proactive site visits of high priority geographic wards within Northamptonshire is being undertaken to capture further flood assets using a Trimble device.
3. Past floods since Dec 2011 only) Information on past floods since 2011 is required for	3.1 Have any flood events occurred since publication of the original PFRA report in December 2011 that have added to or changed your understanding of significant flood risk in the LLFA area?	Yes	Do not populate this box. Provide details of relevant floods by updating annex 1 Past floods of your original PFRA report to include relevant floods since 2011.	Annex 1 has been updated to include all past floods which have been or are due to be investigated in accordance with Section 19 of the FWMA.

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reporting to the European Commission	See the guidance document on which floods to report.		Information from your updated annex 1 will be used for reporting to the European Commission.	
	3.2 Has your current understanding of significant flood risk in the LLFA area changed as a result of the consequences of floods that have occurred since 2011? How?	No	If yes, complete this box and copy your statement to the relevant section of the PFRA addendum template at the end of this document.	The Northamptonshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy defines the threshold criteria which determine what a significant flood event in Northamptonshire is considered to be and also provides a prioritisation assessment which identifies the fifteen wards most at risk of flooding in county. This is based on a methodology which determines the overall combined risk of flooding from surface water, fluvial sources and groundwater. To view the report, see https://www.floodtoolkit.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Northamptonshire-LFRMS-GIS-and-Prioritisation-Report.pdf .
4. Future flood information Information on future floods is required for reporting to the European Commission	4.1 Have you created or received new information on potential future floods that has added to or changed your understanding of significant flood risk in the LLFA area since publication of your original PFRA report in 2011?	Yes	Do not populate this box. Provide details by updating annex 2 Future floods of your original preliminary assessment report to include relevant new information since 2011. Information from your updated annex 2 will be used for reporting to the European Commission.	
	4.2 Have you created or received new information to improve the understanding of the future impact of climate change on flood risk in the LLFA area?	Yes	Surface Water Management Plans (SWMPs) have been developed for the entire county and model future surface water flood risk with consideration for future changes in climate. A Prioritisation Report has been created as part of the recently published (updated)	

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			<p>Northamptonshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy - section 5.2 details the most at risk wards in the county as a result of climate change: https://www.floodtoolkit.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Northamptonshire-LFRMS-GIS-and-Prioritisation-Report.pdf.</p>	
	<p>4.3 Have you created or received new information on long term developments to improve your understanding of flood risk in the LLFA area?</p>	Yes	<p>Northamptonshire County Council's (NCC) is required to comment on all major planning applications in relation to surface water drainage.</p> <p>NCC has been consulted on the development of the recent borough and district Part 2 Local Plans and the wider Joint Core Strategies for North Northamptonshire and West Northamptonshire.</p> <p>NCC has supported the Borough Council of Wellingborough by updating the Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.</p> <p>NCC has also been involved in a recent brownfield land assessment project, run by the North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit, to establish flood risk restrictions to potential residential development on numerous brownfield sites.</p> <p>Activity in each of these areas has informed NCC's understanding of the local planning evidence base.</p>	<p>NCC will continue to comment on all major planning applications in relation to surface water drainage, fulfilling the Council's statutory consultee role.</p> <p>NCC is able to support district and borough councils in Northamptonshire by reviewing and updating their flood and water management related evidence base to inform the plan-making process.</p>
	<p>4.4 Has your understanding of flood risk in the LLFA area</p>	Yes	<p>Complete this box and copy your statement to the relevant section of the PFRA</p>	<p>Northamptonshire County Council has been awarded funding to undertake a groundwater</p>

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	<p>changed since 2011 as a result of new information on the potential consequences of future floods, the impact of climate change or long term developments? How?</p>		<p>addendum template at the end of this document.</p> <p>The Environment Agency's updated Flood Map for Surface Water (uFMfSW) data, published in 2013, is regularly used to assess surface water flood risk.</p> <p>The Groundwater Flood Risk Study for Northamptonshire, published in 2016, provides guidance on groundwater flood risk within Northamptonshire and is specifically targeted to support local planners when screening their planning applications for this type of risk. The study included the provision of groundwater mapping layers which are in regular use. To view the study, see https://www.floodtoolkit.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/GWFRS-Report.pdf. To view the figures emanating from the study, see https://www.floodtoolkit.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/GWFRS-Figures.pdf. To view the groundwater flood risk map emanating from the study, see https://www.floodtoolkit.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/GWFRS-Fig-3.2.pdf.</p> <p>As part of the 2016 update to the Northamptonshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy, a GIS & Prioritisation report was produced which identifies the fifteen most at-risk communities of fluvial, surface water and groundwater flooding, as well as the fifteen communities most at risk</p>	<p>borehole study, the first of its kind within the county, to better understand groundwater flood risk.</p>

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			<p>now and with consideration for the impacts of climate change. To view the report, see https://www.floodtoolkit.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Northamptonshire-LFRMS-GIS-and-Prioritisation-Report.pdf.</p> <p>The report found that generally the same wards are at risk from fluvial and surface water flooding; however the wards most at risk of groundwater flooding are quite different.</p>	
<p>5. Identification of Flood Risk Areas for 2nd planning cycle</p> <p>Identified FRAs are required for reporting to the European Commission</p>	<p>5.1 Are the indicative FRAs an appropriate representation of significant surface water flood risk in your LLFA area?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>As part of the Government's response to the Pitt Review, £15 million of investment has been committed to help local authorities' co-ordinate and lead local flood management work. Of this total investment, £9.7 million was awarded as grants to 77 local authorities in areas where the evidence shows that the risk and potential impact of surface water flooding could be highest. Northamptonshire County Council was one such local authority that was allocated £100,000 for the development of a Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP) for Northampton. This boundary exactly replicates that of the Indicative Flood Risk Area.</p> <p>The GIS & Prioritisation report, produced as part of the recent (November 2016) refresh of the Northamptonshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy, identifies five Northampton wards as amongst the fifteen most at risk wards in Northamptonshire based on surface water flooding. The five</p>	

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			wards are Delapre and Briar Hill Ward, St. James Ward, Nene Valley Ward, Brookside Ward and Semilong Ward. Pages 39 and 43 of the report demonstrate the FRA's current surface water flood risk and surface water flood risk accounting for climate change; both of which demonstrate that the FRA is subject to significant surface water flood risk, both now and in the future. To view the report, see https://www.floodtoolkit.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Northamptonshire-LFRMS-GIS-and-Prioritisation-Report.pdf .	
	5.2 Do the consequences of flooding from other local sources , ie groundwater or ordinary watercourses, or from combined multiple sources , indicate any other areas of significant risk?	No	Identification of Northampton as the only FRA in Northamptonshire is deemed appropriate.	
	5.3 Has your PFRA review identified any other information which indicates other areas of significant risk?	No		
	5.4 On the basis of the national evidence provided and your review, do you agree with the indicative FRAs for your area?	Yes	Do not populate this box. List your FRAs in annex 3 of your original preliminary assessment report. If you do not agree with an indicative FRA, we advise that you engage early with the relevant Environment Agency PSO team to raise questions or concerns ahead of	A small, rural section of the Market Harborough FRA falls within the administrative boundary of Northamptonshire, with the large majority falling within Leicestershire. It has been agreed with the local Environment Agency PSO team that this boundary will be amended to remove the element from Northamptonshire and that Leicestershire County Council are to administer this FRA in whole. Thus, the Leicestershire County Council PFRA review will consider

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
0345 988 1188

www.gov.uk/environment-agency

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			submitting this form (see guidance document).	flood risk implications for the entire Market Harborough FRA.
	5.5 On the basis of local evidence and your review, are you amending or identifying any additional FRAs for your area?	No	Do not populate this box. List additional FRAs in annex 3 of your original preliminary assessment report. If you are amending, or proposing additional, FRAs, this should first be discussed with the relevant Environment Agency PSO team ahead of submitting this form.	
6. Updating the original preliminary assessment report using the template addendum (see also Part D) Updates are required for reporting to the European Commission	6.1 Have you completed an addendum to update your preliminary assessment report?	Yes	Do not populate this box. Complete the addendum template provided below	

Part D Template for addendum to update the original Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment report

ADDENDUM

Update to the preliminary flood risk assessment report for Northamptonshire County Council

The preliminary flood risk assessment (PFRA) and flood risk areas (FRAs) for Northamptonshire County Council were reviewed during 2017, using all relevant current flood risk data and information, and agreed with the Environment Agency on 9th March 2018.

Changes to the assessment of risk since the preliminary assessment report was published in 2011 are described in the statements in this addendum.

The annexes to the preliminary assessment report have been reviewed and updated to show relevant new information since 2011.

Past flood risk

Northamptonshire County Council's understanding of significant flood risk in the Lead Local Flood Authority area has not changed as a result of the consequences of floods that have occurred since 2011.

Future flood risk

The Environment Agency's updated Flood Map for Surface Water (uFMfSW) data, published in 2013, is the locally agreed surface water data and is regularly used to assess surface water flood risk.

The Groundwater Flood Risk Study for Northamptonshire, published in 2016, provides guidance on groundwater flood risk within Northamptonshire and is specifically targeted to support local planners when screening their planning applications for this type of risk. The study included the provision of groundwater mapping layers which are in regular use. To view the study, see <https://www.floodtoolkit.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/GWFRS-Report.pdf>. To view the figures emanating from the study, see <https://www.floodtoolkit.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/GWFRS-Figures.pdf>. To view the groundwater flood risk map emanating from the study, see <https://www.floodtoolkit.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/GWFRS-Fig-3.2.pdf>.

As part of the 2016 update to the Northamptonshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy, a GIS & Prioritisation report was produced which identifies the fifteen most at-risk communities of fluvial, surface water and groundwater flooding, as well as the fifteen communities most at risk now and with consideration for the impacts of climate change. To view the report, see <https://www.floodtoolkit.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Northamptonshire-LFRMS-GIS-and-Prioritisation-Report.pdf>. The report found that generally the same wards are at risk from fluvial and surface water flooding; however the wards most at risk of groundwater flooding are quite different.

Flood risk areas (FRAs)

The following FRA has been identified for the purposes of the Flood Risk Regulations (2009) 2nd planning cycle: Northampton.

Other changes

No other changes have been identified.