

Use of Environment Agency Information for Flood Risk / Flood Consequence Assessments

Important

If you have requested this information to help inform a development proposal, then we recommend that you undertake a formal pre-application enquiry using the form available from our website:-

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/research/planning/33580.aspx>

Depending on the enquiry, we may also provide advice on other issues related to our responsibilities including flooding, waste, land contamination, water quality, biodiversity, navigation, pollution, water resources, foul drainage or Environmental Impact Assessment.

In **England**, you should refer to the Environment Agency's Flood Risk Standing Advice, the technical guidance to the National Planning Policy Framework and the existing PPS25 Practice Guide for information about what flood risk assessment is needed for new development in the different Flood Zones. These documents can be accessed via:

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/research/planning/82587.aspx>

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/nppftechnicalguidance>

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/pps25guideupdate>

You should also consult the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment produced by your local planning authority.

In **Wales**, you should refer to TAN15 for information about what flood consequence assessment is needed for new development in the different flood zones

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/splash;jsessionid=8ylGTfGZthmB0t2vhp6hS1GcB1LXvZzB3Ylczf20Xn7LK3zk0nMk!981825250?orig=/topics/planning/policy/tans/tan15/>

You should also consult the Strategic Flood Consequence Assessment if one has been produced by your local planning authority.

In both **England and Wales** you should note that:

1. Information supplied by the Environment Agency may be used to assist in producing a Flood Risk / Consequence Assessment (FRA / FCA) where one is required, but does not constitute such an assessment on its own.
2. This information covers flood risk from main rivers and the sea, and you will need to consider other potential sources of flooding, such as groundwater or overland runoff. The information produced by the local planning authority referred to above may assist here.
3. Where a planning application requires a FRA / FCA and this is not submitted or deficient, the Environment Agency may well raise an objection.
4. For more significant proposals in higher flood risk areas, we would be pleased to discuss details with you ahead of making any planning application, and you should also discuss the matter with your local planning authority.