

Role of the Lead Local Flood Authority

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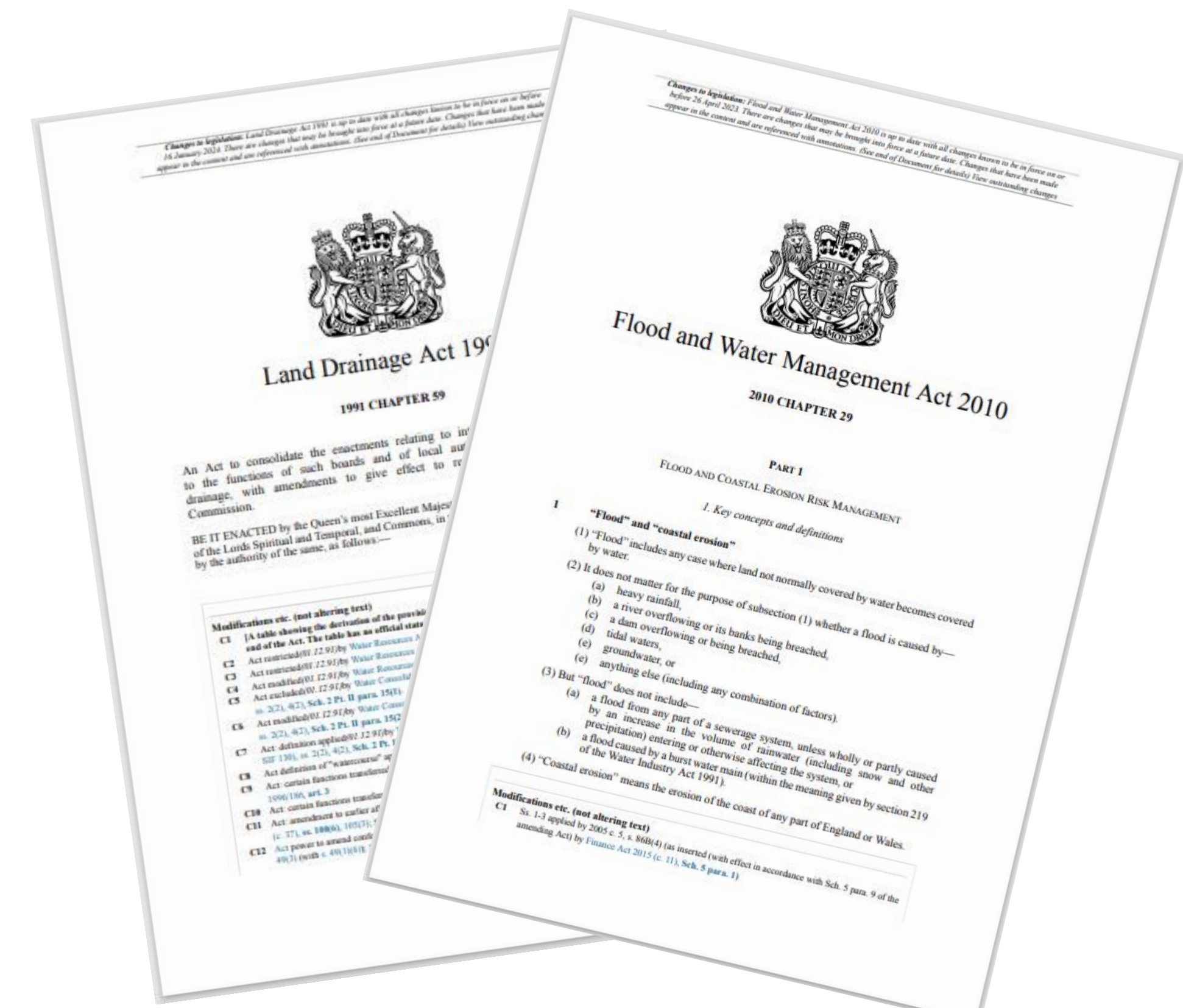
Lead Local Flood Authority

Responsible for:

Managing the risk of flooding from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses

Key responsibilities:

- Local Flood and Water Management Strategy
- Surface Water Statutory Consultee for major planning applications
- Ordinary Watercourse Consenting and Enforcement
- Significant Flood Investigations



Email: FWM@hants.gov.uk

[Flood and water management | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/flood-and-water-management)

Ordinary Watercourses

Consenting

- All works affecting capacity of an ordinary watercourse requires consent
- Presumption against culverting
- Maintenance work is exempt
- 2-month determination period



[Making changes to a watercourse | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://hants.gov.uk/making-changes-to-a-watercourse)

Enforcement

Enforcement – Maintenance and Unconsented Works

- If lack of maintenance is causing flooding or considered to be a significant risk, enforcement letters can be sent
- Lengthy and time-consuming legal process
- Action prioritised on risk basis
- Evidence required, particularly to demonstrate unconsented works



Maintenance Responsibility

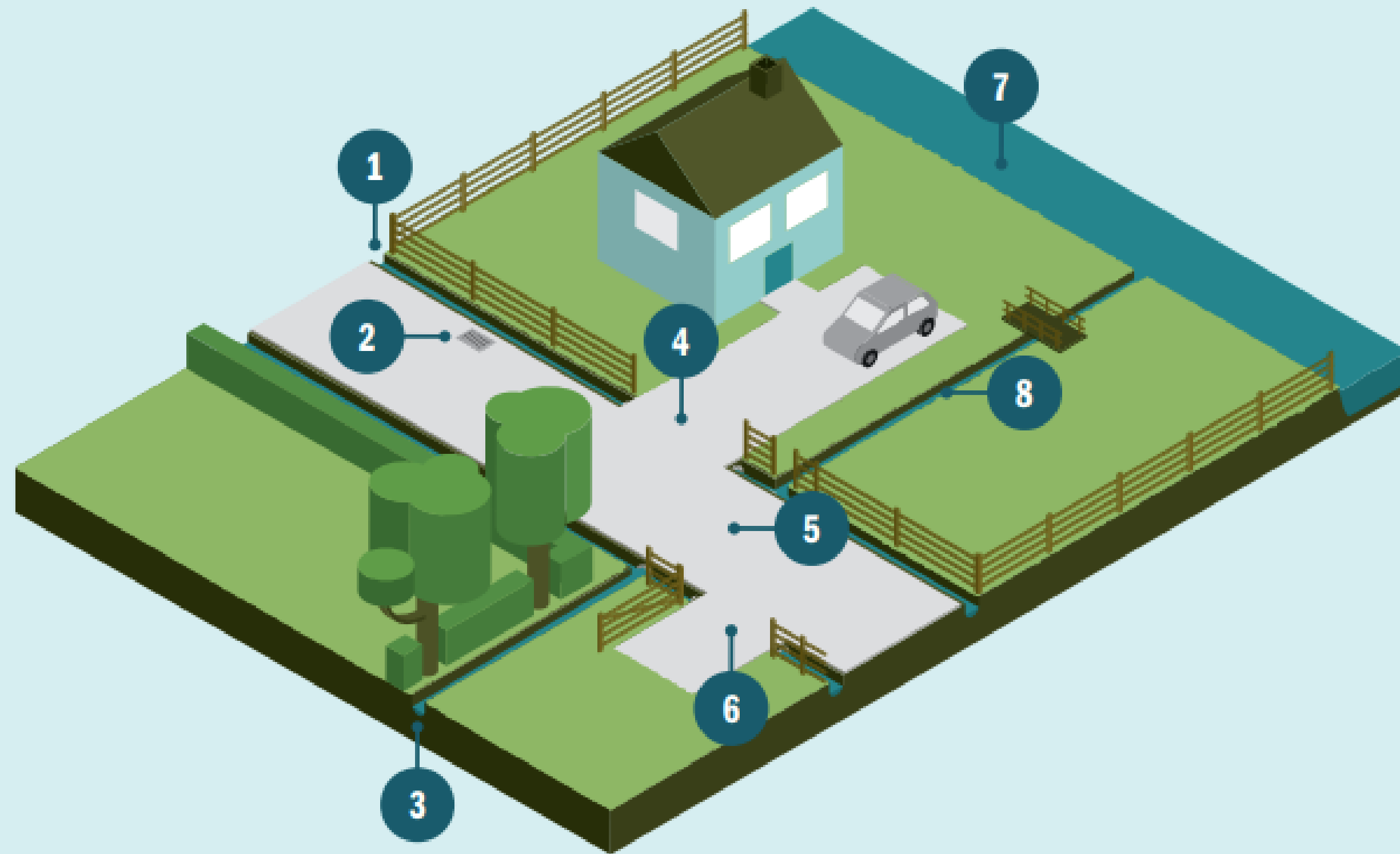
Riparian Landowner

- Responsible for ensuring suitable maintenance of drainage infrastructure including ditches, pipes and chambers
- All features within curtilage and shared ownership of boundary features (unless documentation states otherwise)
- Ditches adjacent to roads are generally responsibility of the adjacent landowner NOT the Highway Authority

If in doubt, contact FWM@hants.gov.uk



Who is responsible for maintaining watercourses?



Report flooding and maintenance incidents to Hampshire County Council at:
hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/flooding

- 1 Roadside ditch- Landowner
- 2 Road gully ditch- Highway Authority
- 3 Boundary ditch- Landowner
- 4 Pipe under driveway- Landowner
- 5 Pipe running from one side of the road to the other- Highway Authority
- 6 Pipe under field access - Landowner
- 7 Watercourse at boundary - Landowner
- 8 Watercourse within land - Landowner

Reporting

- Essential that reports are logged correctly via our web form [Report flooding | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://hants.gov.uk/report-flooding)
 - Allows for assessment, monitoring and recording
- Future funding reliant on reports

More information and guidance available on our website: [Reducing flood risk | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://hants.gov.uk/reducing-flood-risk)

Types of flooding		
Understanding the different types of flooding can help you to better understand the flood risk in your area. Reporting a flood event to the authority who are responsible for managing the risk helps the issue to be investigated promptly.		
Surface water flooding	Surface water flooding (also known as pluvial) occurs when rainfall cannot drain away through drainage systems or the land, and flows over land instead. It can occur when ground is saturated.	Report to the Lead Local Flood Authority
River flooding	River flooding (also known as fluvial) occurs when the capacity of a watercourse is exceeded, usually following intense or prolonged rainfall across the catchment area.	Report to the Environment Agency
Groundwater flooding	Groundwater flooding occurs when the water table rises to the surface following prolonged rainfall. Risk of groundwater can be dependent on the geology of the area.	Report to the Lead Local Flood Authority
Sewer flooding	Sewer flooding is the result of sewage systems being overwhelmed, either by intense rainfall, rising groundwater or blockages in the waste water system. It is also known as contaminated flooding.	Report to the local sewerage company
Coastal flooding	Coastal flooding occurs when areas are flooded by the sea. This is due to high tides over-topping the land and can be significantly exacerbated by storm surges.	Report to the Environment Agency

Flood Investigations

- Flood investigation response dependant on impact
- If maintenance failings identified, relevant asset owner notified
- Not all flooding can be prevented
- No powers to require improvement – only maintenance
- Property level resilience measures may be required



Questions?

