



# Glossary

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| Aquifer   | A geological stratum (or rock layer) that bears water.   |
| Attenuation                                     | Reduction of peak flow and increased duration of a flow event.   |
| Breach Analysis                                 | Computational analysis of a breach in the defences that assesses flood depths and velocity to inform an assessment of flood risk to people.  |
| Brownfield Development                          | A new development on land that has been developed previously, and may have become derelict or disused.   |
| Catchment                                       | A surface water catchment is the total area that drains into a river. A groundwater catchment is the total area that contributes to the groundwater component of the river flow.   |
| Catchment Flood Management Plans (CFMP)         | A strategic planning tool through which the Environment Agency will seek to work with other key decision-makers within a river catchment to identify and agree policies for sustainable flood risk management.   |
| DG5 Register                                    | Register held by water companies on the location of properties at risk of / have suffered from reportable sewage flooding problems   |
| Environment Agency                              | Non-departmental public body responsible for the delivery of government policy relating to the environment and flood risk management in England and Wales.   |
| Flood Alleviation Scheme (FAS)                  | A scheme designed to reduce the risk of flooding in a specific location.   |
| Flood and Coastal Defence Operating Authorities | The Environment Agency, LPAs and Internal Drainage Boards with legislative powers to undertake flood and coastal defence works.  |
| Flood avoidance (at site level)                 | Constructing a building and its surrounds in such a way to avoid it being flooded (e.g. by raising it above flood level, re-siting outside flood risk area etc.)   |
| Flood defence                                   | Flood defence infrastructure, such as flood walls and embankments, intended to protect an area against flooding to a specified standard of protection.   |
| Floodlocking                                    | Where a receiving stream or river is in flood, especially where that watercourse is contained within raised floodwalls or banks, the flow in the local drainage system can no longer drain to the river and is impounded behind the defence line for the duration of the flood.                |
| Flood Risk                                      | The level of flood risk is the product of the frequency or likelihood of the flood events and their consequences (such as loss, damage, harm, distress and disruption).  |
| Flood Risk Management                           | The activity of modifying the frequency or consequences of flooding to an appropriate level (commensurate with land use), and monitoring to ensure that flood risks remain at the proposed level. This should take account of other water level management requirements, and opportunities and |

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|   | constraints. It is not just the application of physical flood defence measures.  |
| Flood risk management strategy                          | A long-term approach setting out the objectives and options for managing flood risk taking into account a broad range of technical, social, environmental and economic issues.   |
| Flood Envelope  | Extent of an area that can be flooded.   |
| Floodplain  | Area of land that borders a watercourse, an estuary or the sea, over which water flows in time of flood, or would flow but for the presence of flood defences where they exist.  |
| Flood risk assessment (covers all scales of assessment) | A study to assess the risk to an area or site from flooding, now and in the future, and to assess the impact that any changes or development on the site or area will have on flood risk to the site and elsewhere. It may also identify, particularly at more local levels, how to manage those changes to ensure that flood risk is not increased. PPS25 differentiates between regional, sub-regional/strategic and FRAs.   |
| Flood risk management Measure                           | Any measure which reduces flood risk such as flood defences.   |
| Flood risk profile                                      | The level of flood risk used for the SFRA. This is based on flow velocities, depths and distance for flood defences, if present.   |
| Flood Warning Areas                                     | Within Flood Warning Areas, warnings of impending flooding are issued by the Environment Agency to business and the public to enable people to take preventative action to protect themselves and their property. Formal procedures are followed to guide when and how warnings are issued.  |
| Flood Zone  | A geographic area within which the flood risk is in a particular range as defined within PPS25.  |
| Flood Map   | A map produced by the Environment Agency providing an indication of the likelihood of flooding within all areas of England and Wales, assuming there are no flood defences.  |
| Fluvial   | Pertaining to a watercourse (river or stream).   |
| Freeboard   | The difference between the flood defence level and the design flood level.   |
| Functional floodplain                                   | PPS25 defines a Functional Floodplain as land where water has to flow or be stored in times of flood. Specifically, this land: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ would flood with an annual probability of 1 in 20 (5 per cent) or greater in any year, or at another probability to be agreed between the LPA and the Environment Agency (EA), or:</li> <li>■ is designed to flood in an extreme (0.1 per cent) flood, or at another probability to be agreed between the LPA and the EA.</li> </ul> |
| Geographical Information System (GIS)                   | A GIS is a computer-based system for capturing, storing, checking, integrating, manipulating, analysing and displaying data that are spatially referenced.   |
| Greenfield land   | Land that has not been previously developed.   |
| Hydraulic Model   | A computational model that simulates how water flows through the physical characteristics of a river channel and floodplain. The model can be used to determine peak water levels, peak flows, discharge volumes and flood event durations along a river system for a specific modelled event.   |

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| Land Use                           | Various designations of activities, developments, cropping types, etc for which land is used.  |
| Land Management                    | Various forms of activities relating to agricultural, forestry, etc practice.  |
| LiDAR                              | Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) is an airborne surveying / mapping technique, which uses a laser to measure the distance between the aircraft and the ground. The results of LiDAR surveys are used to develop digital elevation models.   |
| Local Authority Development Plans  | <p>A statutory land development plan produced by a District Council. This plan sets out policy for development in the district and allocations of land for housing, employment, and transport and leisure.</p> <p>These statutory land development plans generally cover a 10-15-year period from the date of their adoption. These were produced under the old planning system and are now being replaced by the Local Development Frameworks.</p>  |
| Local development framework        | A folder of documents which includes all the LPA's Local Development Documents (LDDs). The local development framework will also comprise the Statement of Community Involvement, the local development scheme and the annual monitoring report.   |
| Local Development Documents (LDDs) | All development plan documents which will form part of the statutory development plan, as well as supplementary planning documents which do not form part of the statutory development plan.   |
| Local Plan                         | See Local Authority Development Plans  |
| Local Resilience Forum             | A group required under the Civil Contingencies Act, 2004 who are responsible for the co-ordination of emergency planning within local areas.   |
| Main River                         | A watercourse designated on a statutory map of Main Rivers, maintained by Defra, on which the Environment Agency has permissive powers to construct and maintain flood defences.   |
| Major development                  | A major development is a) where the number of dwellings to be provided is ten or more, or the site area is 0.5 ha or more or b) non-residential development, where the floorspace to be provided is 1,000m <sup>2</sup> or more, or the site area is 1 ha or more. (Ref PPS25 page 9)  |
| Minor development                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Minor non-residential extensions: Industrial/Commercial/Leisure etc. extensions with a footprint less than 250 m<sup>2</sup>.</li> <li>■ Alterations: development that does not increase the size of buildings eg alterations to external appearance.</li> <li>■ 'Householder' development: eg sheds, garages, games rooms etc. within the curtilage of the existing dwelling in addition to physical extensions to the existing dwelling itself. This definition EXCLUDES any proposed development that would create a separate dwelling within the curtilage of the existing dwelling eg subdivision of houses into flats.</li> </ul> |
| NFCDD                              | National Flood and Coastal Defence Database  |
| Ordinary watercourse               | All rivers, streams, ditches, drains, cuts, dykes, sluices, sewers (other than public sewer) and passages through which water flows which do not form part of a Main River. LPAs and where relevant, Internal Drainage Boards have similar permissive powers on ordinary watercourses, as the Environment  |

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|  | Agency has on Main Rivers.  |
| Outfall  | An outfall is the discharge point of a waste stream into a body of water; alternatively it may be the outlet of a <a href="#">river</a> , <a href="#">drain</a> or a <a href="#">sewer</a> where it discharges into the <a href="#">sea</a> , a <a href="#">lake</a> or the like.   |
| Planning Policy Statement  | A statement of policy issued by central Government to replace Planning Policy Guidance notes. Advice on practical implementation is not included in Planning Policy Statements.   |
| Planning Policy Statement 25: Development and Flood Risk (PPS25) | PPS25 sets out government policy on development and flood risk. This replaces PPG Note 25 (published July 2001). Its aims are to ensure that flood risk is taken into account at all stages in the planning process to avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding, and to direct development away from areas of highest risk. Where new development is, exceptionally, necessary in such areas, policy aims to make it safe, without increasing flood risk elsewhere, and, where possible, reducing flood risk overall. For further information please refer to the communities and local government website: <a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1504640">http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1504640</a> |
| Previously-developed land (often referred to as brownfield land) | Land which is or was occupied by a permanent structure, including the curtilage of the developed land and any associated fixed surface infrastructure (PPS3 Annex B)  |
| Regional spatial strategy (RSS)                                  | A broad development strategy for a region for a 15 to 20 year period prepared by the Regional Planning Body.  |
| Resilience (Flood Resilience)                                    | Constructing the building in such a way that although flood water may enter the building, its impact is minimised (i.e. no permanent damage is caused, structural integrity is maintained and dry and cleaning are facilitated).  |
| Reservoir (large raised)   | A reservoir that holds at least 25,000 cubic metres of water above natural ground level, as defined by the Reservoirs Act, 1975.  |
| Return period  | The long-term average period between events of a given magnitude which have the same annual exceedence probability of occurring.  |
| Residual risk  | The risk which remains after all risk avoidance, reduction and mitigation measures have been implemented.   |
| Resistance (Flood Resistance)                                    | Constructing a building in such a way to prevent floodwater entering the building and damaging its fabric   |
| River basin management plan                                      | A management plan for all river basins required by the Water Framework Directive. These documents will establish a strategic plan for the long term management of the River Basin District, set out objectives for waterbodies and in broad terms what measures are planned to meet these objectives, and act as the main reporting mechanism to the European Commission  |
| Run-off  | The flow of water from an area caused by rainfall.  |
| Section 106 Agreement  | Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) allows LPAs to negotiate arrangements whereby the developer makes some undertaking if he/she obtains planning permission. These are known interchangeably as planning agreements, planning obligations or planning gain.   |

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| Standard of protection                             | The design event or standard to which a building, asset or area is protected against flooding, generally expressed as an annual exceedence probability.  |
| Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive | European Community Directive (2001/42/EC) on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment.   |
| Surface Water                                      | Water that drains across the surface of the land and into sewerage systems designed to accept surface water flows.   |
| Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS)                | A sequence of management practices and control structures, often referred to as SUDS, designed to drain water in a more sustainable manner than some conventional techniques. Typically these are used to attenuate run-off from development sites.  |
| Sustainability Appraisal                           | An integral part of the plan-making process which seeks to appraise the economic, social and environmental effects of a plan in order to inform decision-making that aligns with sustainable development principles.   |
| Washland   | An area of the floodplain that is allowed to flood or is deliberately flooded by a river or stream for flood management purposes.  |
| Water Framework Directive                          | A European Community Directive (2000/60/EC) of the European Parliament and Council designed to integrate the way we manage water bodies across Europe. It requires all inland and coastal waters to reach "good status" by 2015 through a catchment based system of River Basin Management Plans (RBMP) incorporating a programme of measures to improve the status of all natural water bodies. |
| Windfall sites                                     | Sites which become available for development unexpectedly and are therefore not included as allocated land in a planning authority's development plan or LDF.  |