

# FLOODING: WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT



This document has been prepared by Maggie Throup MP as a helpful guide to '*who is responsible for what*' during major flood events as defined in the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.

The information has been collated from various sources, including The Environment Agency, The Local Government Association and The National Flood Forum.

## Derbyshire County Council

Contact: 01629 533190

Derbyshire County Council is the lead Local Flood Authority and is responsible for co-ordinating a response by local authorities and the emergency services during a major flood event.

The County Council is also responsible for managing the risk of flooding from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses and lead on community recovery.

In addition, the County Council is responsible for maintaining a register of flood risk assets and surface water risk.

## The Environment Agency

**Contact:** 0800 80 70 60 (24h service)

The Environment Agency is responsible for taking a strategic overview of the management of all sources of flooding and is responsible for managing the risk of flooding from main rivers, reservoirs, and estuaries.

Residents can also sign up for free flood warning messages from the Environment Agency's Floodline (0345 988 1188).

## Erewash Borough Council

**Contact:** 0115 907 2244 or 01629 533078 (Out of Hours Emergency Number)

Erewash Borough Council can offer advice and information on:

- Localised flooding problems
- At risk areas from flooding
- Self-help systems for flood defences
- Local contact for response plan for civil emergencies

The Borough Council will issue sandbags to residents when a flood warning has been issued in your area or when your property is at imminent risk of flooding.

A supply of 10 sandbags (empty) can be collected free of charge from Ilkeston or Long Eaton Town Hall receptions during opening hours.

## Emergency Services

For life-threatening emergencies, residents should always call 999.

During major flood events, Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service are responsible for the following:

- Fallen tree on a road, endangering life
- Fallen tree on own property, endangering life
- Unsafe structure overhanging a public highway
- Unsafe structure overhanging own property, endangering life
- Flooding with risk to life
- Flooding affecting electrics

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## Severn Trent

**Contact:** 0800 783 4444 (24h service)

Severn Trent is responsible for managing the risks of flooding from piped water and foul or combined sewer systems providing drainage from buildings and yards.

If the flood has been caused by the public sewerage network, Severn Trent will:

- Pump out the water, removing most solids
- Disinfect any hardstanding areas, like paths and driveways if the flooding was outdoors

## Members of Parliament

**Contact:** 0115 930 0521  
[maggie.throup.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:maggie.throup.mp@parliament.uk)

Although MPs have no direct role in responding to major flood events, they can help Constituents gain access to statutory support from the relevant responsible authorities.

## Personal Responsibility

Homeowners are responsible for looking after their own property, including reducing the risks of water entering it and of causing damage. Therefore, it is important that residents are aware of their flood risk and take measures to better protect themselves, where appropriate.

The drainage pipes located beneath a house, garden or driveway belong to the homeowner and is their responsibility to maintain.

Homeowners should also check that they have the right type of insurances in place to protect both their property and its contents.

## Useful Help, Support & Advice

### The National Flood Forum

- 01299 403 055 (Helpline)
- [www.nationalfloodforum.org.uk](http://www.nationalfloodforum.org.uk)

### Flood Guidance

- [www.floodguidance.co.uk](http://www.floodguidance.co.uk)

### The Association of British Insurers

- [www.abi.org.uk/products-and-issues/topics-and-issues/flooding](http://www.abi.org.uk/products-and-issues/topics-and-issues/flooding)