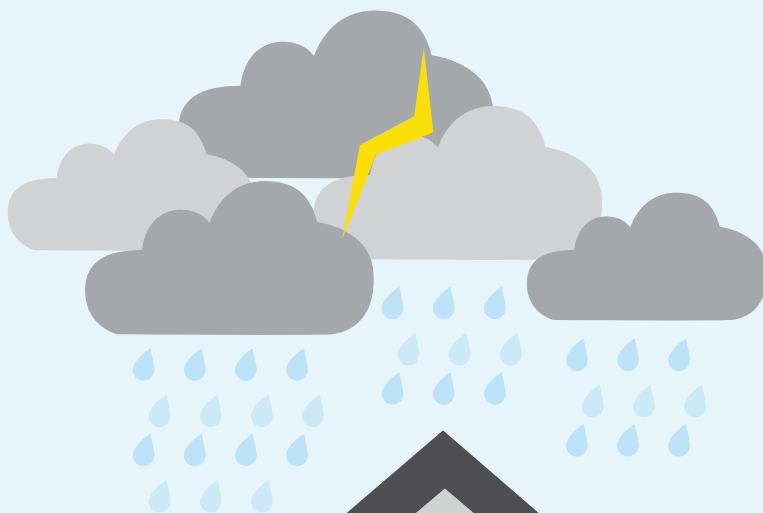


Preparing for a flood:

Some advice and guidance for an emergency



www.havant.gov.uk/weather

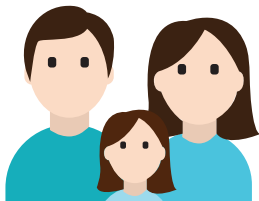
Havant
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Don't wait until it's too late!

Living in an area that can be prone to occasional flooding – whether from river or coastal sources – means being prepared is key.

Preparation in advance means you can:

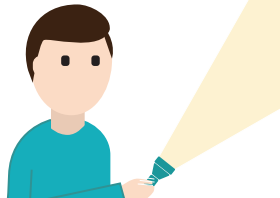
Keep yourself and others safe



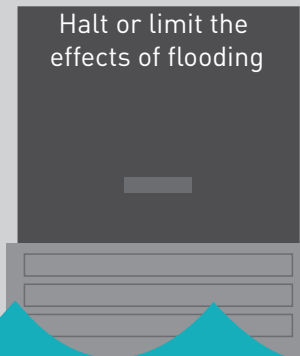
Protect pets and valuables



Ensure you are suitably equipped



Halt or limit the effects of flooding



What can I do in advance?

Dependent on your circumstances, we would recommend the following preparation as a bare minimum to prepare for flooding:

- **Sign up for free flood warnings with Floodline by calling 0345 988 1188.**

Provide Floodline with your address and you can receive free warnings by phone, email and/or text message.

- **If you own a property** including or next to a river, stream or ditch, recognise your legal responsibility as a riparian landowner (unless your Title Deeds state otherwise). Ensure the watercourse is clear and free-flowing – where the watercourse is between two (or more properties), each owner is equally responsible. For more advice, contact the Environment Agency on **03708 506 506**.

- **Recognise in advance all the entry points for water into your home.**

Doorways are obvious, but have you considered air-bricks, cable entry points and service points for utilities?

- **Prepare the relevant flood protection for your entry points** – silicon sealant for small entry points may be sufficient, but investment may be required for others. Have you considered flood boards or other flood defences? The Blue Pages directory – **www.bluepages.org.uk** – highlights flood products available in the UK.

- **Consider whether sandbags are right for you;** although they can provide limited protection for a short period of time (especially when used with plastic sheeting), they are time consuming to fill and lay, not fully water-proof and classed as contaminated waste once used in flood defences.

- **Does your home have a second storey?** If so, can you safely evacuate to this area in the event of a flood? If not, where can you go?

- **Can you readily disconnect your electricity and gas supplies if required?** Can you eat and drink safely without these supplies?

- **Prepare a Home Emergency Plan.** In the event of a flood, this handy checklist will help you to remember the right things at the right time. We have provided a simple Home Emergency Plan for you to complete on the back of this publication.

- **Have spare clothes,** wellingtons, waterproofs, torch (with spare batteries), radio, medicine, food and drink readily available in an easily accessible Emergency Pack.



Who can I turn to in a flood?

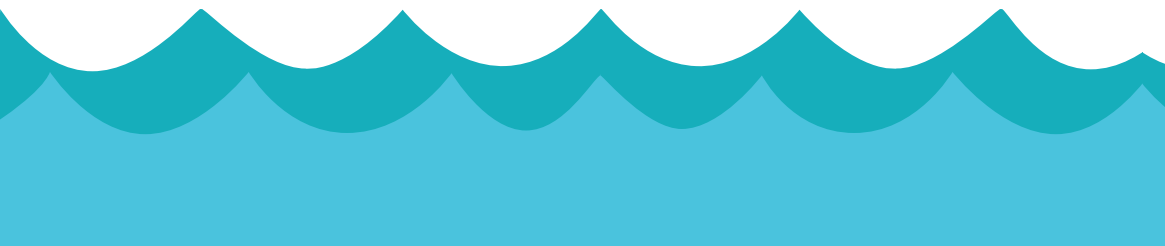
In the first instance, you should be relying on what **you** have done in advance of any flood risk. Legally, it is the responsibility of property owners to take appropriate action to protect their property from flooding.

In a flooding emergency, the Council's core priority is to protect the public at large. With the resources at its disposal, the Council will not be able to assist a large number of individual homeowners who may find their properties threatened by flooding, and it does not have a duty to provide sandbags.

Dependent on the circumstances, we recommend the following:

- If you need to be evacuated because of severe flooding or damage, contact the **Police** or dial **999**.
- If you believe the flooding is from a main river, contact the **Environment Agency** on **0345 988 1188**.
- To report general flood or drainage issues, contact **Hampshire County Council** on **0300 555 1375**.
- Notify **Southern Water** if flooding affects your mains sewage by calling **0330 303 0368**.
- Notify the **National Grid** to report a gas leak as the result of flooding on **0800 111 999**.
- Notify **SSE** of electrical issues such as power cuts by calling **105**.
- For non-emergency calls pertaining to vulnerable older people, call **Hampshire County Council Adult Services** on **0300 555 1386 (office hours)** or **0300 555 1373 (out of hours)**.

To find out quickly what is happening in the borough, access the latest Twitter feeds from all key parties at **www.havant.gov.uk/weather**



What next?

If you are not prepared already, why not make a start and complete the Home Emergency Plan on the back of this document? This will then act as a valuable tool in the event of a flood. In addition, why don't you:

- Set aside some time to get your house flood-ready?
- Work out what would be the best sort of flood defences for your home?
- Let those around you know of your plans so they understand what you will do?

Small steps now can make a big difference in the event of a flood – plan ahead, and stay safe!



Home Emergency Plan

PART ONE: CONTACTS

IMMEDIATE CONTACTS	NAME	NUMBER
EMERGENCY CONTACT		
HOUSEHOLD & FAMILY CONTACTS:	NAME	NUMBER

WHERE WILL WE MEET IF SPLIT UP?

NON-EMERGENCY CONTACTS		
DOCTOR		
EMPLOYER 1		
EMPLOYER 2		
SCHOOL/NURSERY 1		
SCHOOL/NURSERY 2		
HOME INSURANCE		
CAR INSURANCE		

KEY NON-EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Hampshire Constabulary	101
Hampshire Fire & Rescue Service	023 8064 4000
Hampshire County Council	0300 555 1375
Havant Borough Council	023 9244 6019
Environment Agency	0345 988 1188
SSE (electricity)	105
National Grid (gas)	0800 111 999
NHS Choices	111

KEY INFORMATION

Key Twitter Feeds

BBC Radio Solent

www.havant.gov.uk/weather

96.1 & 103.8 FM

PART TWO: KEY TASKS

UTILITIES	LOCATION OF ISOLATION POINT
GAS	
ELECTRIC	
WATER	
OIL	
SEPTIC TANK	

HAVE YOU MOVED:

KEY MEDICATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	WATER FOR DRINKING	<input type="checkbox"/>
KEY DOCUMENTATION (i.e. Insurance documents, passport)	<input type="checkbox"/>	GLASSES	<input type="checkbox"/>
WALLETS/PURSES	<input type="checkbox"/>	TORCHES (and spare batteries)	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOUSE/CAR KEYS (including spares)	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOBILE PHONE/S AND CHARGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>
CHANGE OF CLOTHES	<input type="checkbox"/>	RADIO (and spare batteries)	<input type="checkbox"/>
TOILETRIES	<input type="checkbox"/>	CANDLES AND MATCHES	<input type="checkbox"/>
ANTISEPTIC HAND RUB	<input type="checkbox"/>	NOTEBOOK AND PEN	<input type="checkbox"/>
BEDDING	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETS AND ACCESSORIES (i.e. Leads, cages, food)	<input type="checkbox"/>
EASILY ACCESSIBLE FOOD	<input type="checkbox"/>	CHILDREN'S TOYS	<input type="checkbox"/>

PART 3: ARE WE READY?

HAVE YOU:

ENSURED YOU ARE IN A SAFE PLACE?

CONTACTED EMERGENCY SERVICES/UTILITIES PROVIDERS (if applicable)?

LET KEY CONTACTS KNOW YOUR POSITION AND PLANS?

COLLECTED (OR SECURED) KEY EMERGENCY ITEMS?

ENSURED YOU CAN ACCESS KEY MEDICATION (if applicable)?

NOTES:

