



Herefordshire Flood Groups Meeting



Agenda

18.00 – 18.30	Arrivals – Tea/coffee
18.30 – 18.45	Welcome
	Introductions
18.45 – 19.15	Briefings <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Herefordshire Council and the Environment Agency – updates since last meeting• Herefordshire Council – preparing Herefordshire for Climate Change• BBLP and Orleton volunteers – recently launched Community Flood Signage Scheme
19.15 – 19.45	Community presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aston Ingham Flood Group• Greyfriars Flood Group
19.45 – 20.30	Networking

Welcome

- This is the second flood groups meeting
- This is your meeting – give us your feedback and tell us what you'd like to discuss
- We'll issue a summary to attendees and make information available on our webpages
- Speak with officers during the networking on queries relating to specific locations



Introductions



Cllr Philip Price Cabinet Member Transport and Infrastructure	Jenny Allen Assistant Drainage Engineer	Emily Penning Partnership & Strategic Overview Advisor
Steve Hodges Lead officer Flood Risk Management	Lauren Harrison Graduate Drainage Engineer	Jason Walker Flood Resilience Engagement Advisor
Mary Burton Sustainability & Climate Change Officer		

- And you!



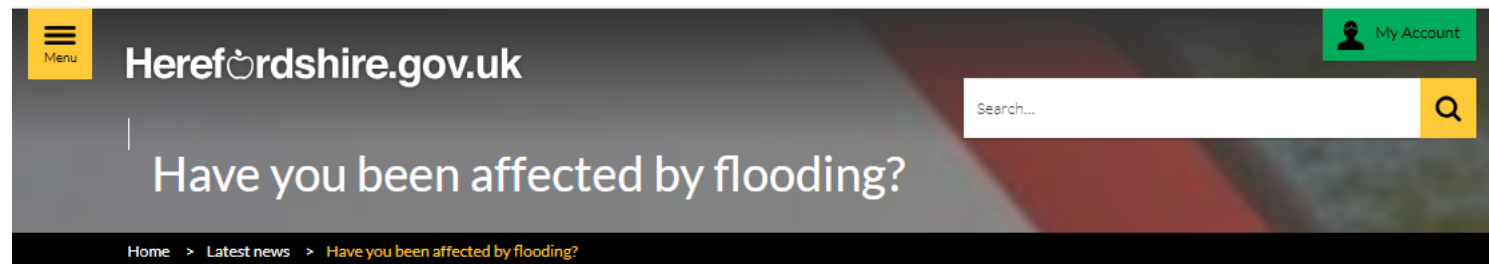
Herefordshire Flood Groups Meeting

updates



Flood reports

- Following Storm Henk, we issued a press release
 - This was also promoted on the council's home page and through social media. Messaging was shared with Flood Groups, Ward Members, Parish Councils and Talk Community networks.
- Report property flooding at www.herefordshire.gov.uk/reportaflood
- Or email floodrisk@herefordshire.gov.uk



Herefordshire Council is calling for people whose properties have been flooded recently to get in touch.

Over the past few days a number of communities have been affected by flooding across the county. The Council's [flooding emergency page](#) includes advice and support for 'After a flood', including all the latest official road closures and service updates.

While most major routes are now open, a number of smaller roads remain closed, and the Council is calling on those who have suffered property flooding from Storm Henk to let us know by [completing a form](#) on our website. This will help us to better understand which areas are affected by flooding across the county and may help us to minimise flooding problems there in the future. It will also enable us to let people know of any financial support from government that may be made available to help them recover.

“

Cllr Philip Price, Cabinet Member Transport and Infrastructure, said: “One of the key ways to help our county become more flood resilient in the future is to learn from flooding experiences. This is why it is so important that anybody affected gets in touch and helps us to develop as clear and broad a picture as possible of how flooding affects our county, and how we can best safeguard and respond to future flooding events.

“There is a wealth of support on offer, but by sharing your vital local knowledge, you can make a big difference in helping to better prevent and combat flooding in future.”

For the latest updates, please keep checking the Herefordshire Council website and follow @HfdsCouncil on Facebook and Twitter.

Find out more about the [support and guidance available on our website](#).

Share this page

- Facebook
- Twitter
- LinkedIn

NFM information day

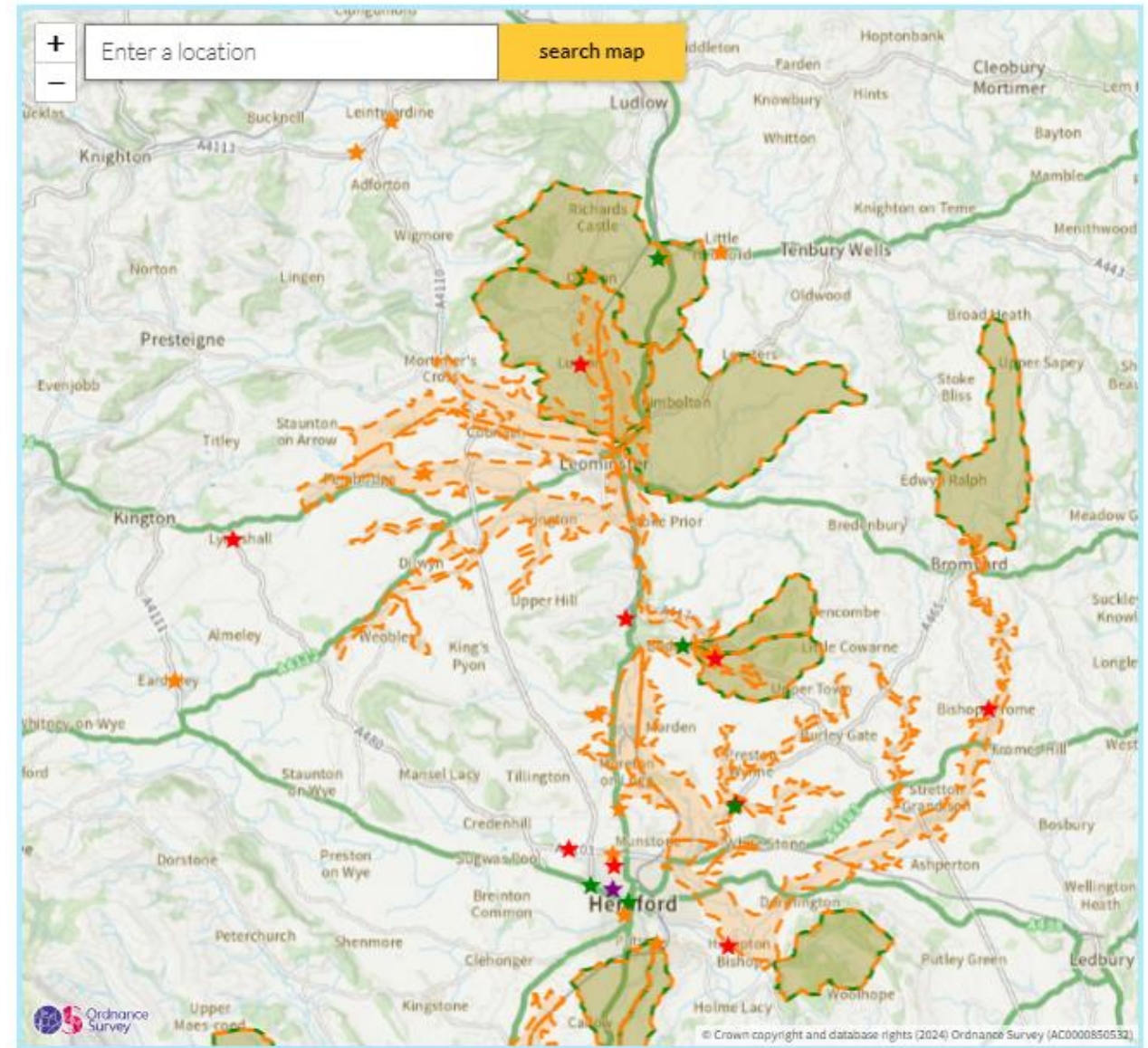
- This well attended event was held in February at Hereford Town Hall
- It was supported by staff at Herefordshire Council, Wye & Usk Foundation, Severn Rivers Trust, Herefordshire Wildlife Trust and Natural England
- For more information www.herefordshire.gov.uk/nfm
- Or email nfm@herefordshire.gov.uk



Projects database

- Our interactive map provides an overview of the county's flood management projects since 2010
- www.herefordshire.gov.uk/floods

The screenshot shows a website interface with four yellow buttons at the top: "Flooding emergency", "Sign up for flood warnings", "Financial support after a flood", and "Report a flood". Below these are two columns of links. The left column includes "What you can do", "Prepare for a flood", "After a flood", "Advice for communities", and "Protect your property from flooding". The right column includes "Flood management", "How we manage flooding", "Natural Flood Management (NFM)", "Flood management schemes" (circled in red), and "Strategic flood risk assessment". At the bottom, there are six categories: "Emergency planning", "Local flood risk management strategy", "NFM case studies", "Section 19 reports", "Ditch and drainage responsibilities", and "Make changes to a watercourse".



BeFloodReady

- BeFloodReady provides guidance and information on Property Flood Resilience (PFR), helping homes, businesses and communities to BeFloodReady.
- www.befloodready.uk/herefordshire

BeFloodReady

Home About Property Flood Resilience Flood Support Resources

Herefordshire Council

Property Flood Resilience (PFR)

Helping you to reduce flood risk

BeFloodReady: Missy's Tale by Aardman Animations

Watch on YouTube

About BeFloodReady

Property Flood Resilience
Property Flood Resilience (PFR), previously referred to as Property Level Protection, is an important element of flood risk management.
[Learn about PFR](#)

Flood Journey Advice & Guidance
Helpful information and guidance to help you protect yourself, your property or your business before, during and after a flood.
[Get Flood Guidance](#)

Local Information
There's lots more local information about flooding on Herefordshire Council's website.
[Find Local Information](#)

Contact your local team

You can reach your local BeFloodReady partner team by getting in touch in one of the following ways.

Herefordshire Council

Telephone
01432 261800

[Contact us online](#)

[Click here to Report Flooding in Herefordshire](#)

About BeFloodReady

Historically, flooding has had a significant impact on homes, businesses and communities across the UK. As climate change causes more intense storms and sea level rise, these risks are continuing to grow. Increasing the flood resilience of our homes and businesses is key to reducing the impact of flooding. BeFloodReady is your local source of information on Property Flood Resilience (PFR) and how to BeFloodReady.

[About BeFloodReady](#)

What is PFR?

Property Flood Resilience, or PFR for short, is an important element of flood risk management. PFR includes a range of measures that can be installed on a building, to reduce the risk of floodwater entering the property. PFR can also be used to make the inside of a property more resilient (also known as 'resilience'), minimizing damage even if water does still enter the building.

PFR aims to help households and businesses reduce the damage caused by flooding, helping them to speed up recovery and reoccupation.

[Learn more about PFR](#)

Preparing Herefordshire for Climate Change

Commitment to Net Zero and Nature Rich by 2030

- Declared a Climate Emergency in March 2019, with recommitment in July 2023
- Achieving Council Net Zero: [Carbon Management Plan and Action Plan](#)
- Supporting the County to Net Zero: [Zero Carbon Herefordshire](#)
- [Climate Citizens Assembly](#)



Commitment to adaptation

- It is about protecting our assets, buildings, businesses, people, environment and society from the worst projected impacts of climate change.
- Impacts will still happen regardless of our efforts with Net Zero / carbon reduction.
- Making radical changes – like we did for the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Key things to expect: More intense/prolonged heatwaves.
 - More frequent and intense flash flooding.
 - More frequent flooding of water courses.
 - More extreme events (e.g. storms).
 - Longer periods of drought.

Co-developed with stakeholders

- Herefordshire Internal Drainage Board
- Herefordshire Wildlife Trust
- Midlands Net Zero Hub
- National Farmers Union
- National Trust

- HC, Flood Risk
- HC, Highways
- HC, Landscape/ Ecology
- HC, Planning
- HC, Property

- HC, Public Health
- HC, Talk Community
- HC, Transport
- Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service
- Herefordshire Green Network

- Avara
- Environment Agency
- HC, Economic Development
- HC, Education
- HC, Emergency Planning

- NMITE
- Welsh Water
- West Mercia Police
- Wye Valley AONB
- Wye Valley NHS Trust

- + Workshop with community representatives
- + Workshop with elected council members

Outputs

1. **Severe Weather Impacts Assessment Report** details how Herefordshire will be affected by climate change and accompanying database of historic weather events
2. **Technical report** analyses how the climate may change in Herefordshire in the next 70+ years, up to 2100
3. **Adaptation Plan** outlines how Herefordshire can prepare for climate change, with a series of recommendations for consideration by decision makers in Herefordshire

Snapshot: the risk assessment

RISK	HR9	Health and social care delivery	Greater incidence of extreme weather affecting service delivery, leading to subsequent health impacts	More action needed
RISK	HR10	Education services	Greater incidence of extreme weather affecting education services delivery and building function, leading to disruption and potential health impacts	More action needed
RISK	HR11	Building fabric	Potential damage caused by moisture, wind and driving rain, leading to unliveable conditions and damage to properties	Further investigation
RISK	HR12	Cultural heritage	Irreversible damage to heritage assets due to changes in temperature, precipitation, groundwater, landscape change	More action needed
RISK & OPPORTUNITY	HR013	Household energy demand	Summer and winter temperature changes potentially reducing heating need but increasing cooling need	More action needed
OPPORTUNITY	HO14	Health and wellbeing	Drier, warmer summers leading to more opportunities to use outdoor spaces and (e.g.) boost tourism	Further investigation
Business and industry				
RISK	BR1	Flooding of business sites	More frequent and extensive river, surface water and groundwater flooding causing disruption to business (including farming) operations and local economic impacts	More action needed
RISK	BR2	Business production processes	Water scarcity as a result of climatic changes causing disruption to business (including farming) operations and local economic impacts	More action needed
RISK	BR3	Business access to finance, investment and insurance	Greater incidence of extreme weather leading to disruption and reduction in a business's ability to access investment	Sustain current action

Risks categorised as follows:

- Natural environment and assets
- Infrastructure
- Health, built environment and communities
- Business and industry, including agriculture

Snapshot: the plan

Action No.	Action	Justification	Possible delivery organisation(s)	Possible example partner(s)	Possible example funder(s)	Timescales for implement	Resource Intensity	Priority
			Other health and care providers					
53	Take advantage of longer, drier summers by encouraging flexible lifestyle choices to enhance physical and mental health and wellbeing. This could include changes to working patterns, promotion of use of outdoor spaces or encouraging uptake of outdoor past-times to boost local tourism and economic opportunities.	One potential benefit of climate change is that we will see more favourable summer conditions for outdoor recreation. There is the potential to improve health and wellbeing of communities by undertaking and encouraging more outdoor activities and adopting of an outdoor lifestyle synonymous with warmer countries overseas. This, alongside subtle changes to existing lifestyles, could allow for more opportunities to improve health outcomes.	Visit Herefordshire HC Economic Development Community groups	GWWM HWT RSPB NE	LEP Defra NE	Medium-term	L	M
Communities and engagement								
54	Support and strengthen early warning systems and communications of weather thresholds which trigger identified climate impacts and responses. Learn from existing local flood warning systems that some Herefordshire communities already use and determine whether they are fit for purpose in other areas.	The Met Office already provide an early warning system when severe weather events are due to take place. However, as a result of climate change, a review should be undertaken around the communication of warnings to the most vulnerable communities, households, businesses, and other organisations and identify areas for strengthening or additional communication channels, as technology and media rapidly develop.	HC EP LRF	HC Sustainability & Climate Change Met Office	-	Short-term	L	H
55	Establish community resilience programmes in areas where climate risks and demographic vulnerabilities intersect (see Annex 1), to ensure these areas are better prepared for more frequent and intense extreme weather events (flooding, heatwaves and storms), and can respond and recover more effectively. This could also include an analysis of the impacts on homeless people, and interventions to help protect	Through existing mapping and tools such as Climate Just, there is good evidence that shows the Herefordshire communities that would struggle to cope in the event of an extreme weather incident; this could be due to the demographic of the residents, their rural isolation or being in (e.g.) a flood risk area (and also see Annex 1). Such communities will need better protection and support to prevent issues such as displacement or health implications.	HC EP, Flood risk, Talk Community EA LRF	NFF Local community organisations Parish councils	EA Defra MHCLG LEP NLCF	Short-term, on-going	M	VH-I



85 actions in total:

- **11 very high/ immediate priority**
- **20 very high**
- **46 high**
- **8 medium**

Progress and projects

- Establish Working group with remit to drive forward action on adaptation in the County – it will act as an influencer, engager and accelerator of action
- Map existing organisations, networks, groups and levels of support
- Partnership development, opening up communications, community engagement
- Improve and develop data processes and systems
- Develop online resources www.herefordshire.gov.uk/climate-2/climate-change/4
- Develop training programmes/webinars for staff, communities and partners
- Identify resources to support delivery of work

Balfour Beatty



**Herefordshire
Council**

Working for Herefordshire

**Community Flood
Signage Scheme**



What is the Community Flood Signage Scheme?

The scheme allows trained volunteers of the community to close roads during times of flooding. It promotes road safety and aims to stop vehicles creating bow waves which can cause further damage to property. The scheme is led by Balfour Beatty Living Places on behalf of Herefordshire Council and has taken a lead from Nottinghamshire County Council, who already run a successful scheme with over 180 Flood Signage Wardens active in 15 areas.

How can I help my community by volunteering as a Community Flood Signage Volunteer?

- Stop vehicles driving through flood water.
- Safely close roads susceptible to flooding, preventing potentially devastating accidents.
- Mitigate damage to property.
- Help the community be more flood resilient.
- Work with likeminded people to protect the most vulnerable members of the community.

Do I need any special skills?

- Becoming a Community Flood Signage Volunteer doesn't require any previous experience or a huge amount of commitment.
- You only need to attend an in-person training session and then a refresher course every three years (covering water safety, risk control, road safety, conflict management and sign set up).
- When flooding occurs, there may be some unsociable hours of working and you will be required to move road closure signs.

How do I get involved?

To express your interest in becoming a Community Flood Signage Volunteer, please email floodrisk@herefordshire.gov.uk.

Whilst not all locations may be appropriate for the scheme, we will assess all expressions of interest and discuss options with you.

As a Community Flood Signage Volunteer, you will receive appropriate training and be signed up as a Herefordshire Council Volunteer.

Orleton Community Flood Signage Scheme



How the Community Flood Signage Scheme will help Orleton

- Allows for time critical deployment of barriers during flash flooding.
- Provides clear indication of hazard.
- Prevents obstruction of the highway by flooded vehicles.
- Counters flood tourism and bow wave damage to property.
- Provides more up-to-date intelligence to BBLP on road accessibility – before and after flooding.
- Improves local communication during flooding via flood wardens – social media – advice.
- Enables prompt post-flooding clean-up thorough real time reporting and photographic evidence.
- Provides much more accurate record of the need for road closure (important for highway drainage investment and risk assessment).