

Flood Recovery Timeline



Impact Phase

First days (1 - 4 days)

Individual

- Area and properties flood.
- Property and possessions damaged.
- Vehicles damaged.
- Water recedes.
- Insurance companies contacted and claims processes begin.
- Local B&Bs and hotel rooms begin to fill up.
- Stripping out begins after speaking with insurance companies - Wet carpets, damaged furniture and ruined possessions are photographed, removed from properties, and disposed of.
- Neighbourly support and community cohesion grows.



LLFAs & other agencies

- Disruption to infrastructure such as roads, bridges, power supplies and buildings.
- Emergency services and agencies respond.
- Evacuation centres open and begin to receive people.
- Local Authorities support with recovery.
- Skip drops take place.

Response Phase

Short-term (4 days - 12 weeks)

Individual

- Families move out of their homes to alternative accommodation, often away from friends and support networks.
- Drying and recovery of properties begins.
- Local authorities active in recovery, allocating flood recovery funds and assisting affected families.
- People often turn to and start using unhealthy coping mechanisms during the first year.



LLFAs & other agencies

- Loss Adjusters visiting properties to assess insurance claims.
- Advice and support from the Environment Agency, local authority, volunteer organisations or other agencies.
- Flood risk management authorities out in the area mapping affected areas and collecting baseline data of the impact.
- Environment Agency start to assess the damage, prioritise, and begin repairs.

Repair Phase

Medium-term (3 - 18 months)

Individual

- Ideal time to consider making your property resilient to flood water, building in water resilient materials, fixtures, and fittings where possible.
- Repairs may be ongoing for several months, meaning extended time away from home and possibly loved ones.
- Increased stress and pro-longed use of unhealthy coping mechanisms starts to result in greater reliance on NHS support services for some people.
- Most properties repaired towards the end of Year 1.



LLFAs & other agencies

- Local Authorities may announce Property Flood Resilience (PFR) Grants Flood for affected properties.
- Local Authorities may hold reviews to measure the extent of the damage and create a plan of action.
- Lead Local Flood Authorities may start to produce a Section 19 flood investigation report if the flood event is deemed to be significant.

Continuation Phase

Long-term (1 year+)

Individual

- Anniversaries of flood events can act as a trigger for anxiety.
- Communities may become active in setting up community flood action groups to increase preparedness and resilience to future flooding.
- More flood events can occur in subsequent years.
- Impacts on mental health still prevalent for years to come.



LLFAs & other agencies

- Flood risk management authorities planning or beginning construction of improved flood defences, where possible.
- Major infrastructure repaired.
- Ongoing NHS and support services required from agencies and organisations.
- Administration of PFR grants can continue for 2 / 3 years.