

WHO MANAGES OUR FLOOD RISKS

This chart shows the responsibilities of everyone involved in managing flood risks in Oxfordshire.



THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY (EA)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency>



- Are responsible for flood risk management activities on main rivers.
- Work with Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs) to oversee flood risk management and reduce risk to communities, and habitat.
- Deliver the Flood Warning Service to communities and areas at flood risk from rivers.
- Produce and update publicly available flood risk maps and information for main rivers, surface water, reservoir, and groundwater flooding.
- Develop and deliver flood risk management projects to protect properties

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (OCC)

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>



- Are the Lead local Flood Authority (LLFA),
- Lead on managing flood risk from surface water, ordinary watercourses, and groundwater.
- Ensure partnership working between the risk management authorities in their area to manage flood risk.
- Maintain a register of flood risk assets.
- Are responsible for making flood investigation reports which are public statements identifying the circumstances of a flood event and which organisations have a role in managing the risks required by section 19 of the **Flood and Water Management Act 2010**.
- Coordinate the strategic emergency response to flood emergencies alongside the blue light services.

DISTRICT COUNCILS

CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL: <https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/>; **OXFORD CITY COUNCIL:** <https://www.oxford.gov.uk/>; **SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL:** <https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/>; **VALE OF WHITE HORSE DISTRICT COUNCIL:** <https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/>; **WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL:** <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/>



- Undertake partnership work with the other risk management authorities.
- Are the local planning authority in respect of planning and development decisions.
- Open rest centres and assist lead agencies during a flood emergency.

THAMES WATER (TWUL)

<https://www.thameswater.co.uk/>



- Are responsible for managing flood risk from public sewers and main water supplies.
- Maintain and manage clean and wastewater services, infrastructure, and assets within their region.
- Work in partnership with risk management authorities to coordinate water and sewer system works with flood risk management works.

HIGHWAYS AUTHORITIES

- The National Highways Agency manage highways drainage and maintenance on motorways and major A roads (A34 & A420).
- Oxfordshire County Council Highways manage drainage and maintenance on the other roads.
- Both liaise and cooperate with risk management authorities to ensure flood risk management activities are coordinated.

BLUE LIGHT SERVICES

- The Police, Fire Brigade, and Ambulance services react to flood emergencies to preserve life and limb, undertake the rescue of vulnerable or trapped people, mount diversions around flooded areas, and protect against crime during a flood event.

RIPARIAN LANDOWNERS

- Are required to maintain their section of main rivers and watercourses, including bed and banks under the **Land Drainage Act 1991**.
- Maintain any structures or flood risk assets for which they are responsible, such as culverts, weirs, and mill gates.
- Let water flow naturally and without obstructing the flow of a watercourse to the detriment of neighbours.
- Only undertake work to watercourses in accordance with regulations and obtaining licenses, consents, and permits.

LOCAL COMMUNITIES

- Form a Flood Action Group in their area.
- Support and assist vulnerable neighbours.
- Establish community communication channels (WhatsApp, FB Messenger etc).
- Work with risk management authorities to manage flood risk

PROPERTY OWNERS AND TENANTS IN HIGH FLOOD RISK AREAS

- Should sign-up for Environment Agency flood alerts, create a home flood plan, and create a Flood Emergency Grab Bag.
- Obtain good flood insurance cover.
- Maintain their property - clear drains and gutters.
- Avoid putting fats, oils, and grease down the sink.
- Only flush excreta, and toilet paper down the toilet.
- Protect property with Property Flood Resilience measures.