Scrutiny - Flood Response 2025

Category 1 responder, Civil Contingencies Act 2004

- assess risk of emergencies occurring
- put in place emergency plans
- put in place business continuity arrangements
- warn, inform and advise the public in the event of an emergency
- share information and co-operate with other local responders to enhance co-ordination and efficiency
- provide advice and assistance to businesses and voluntary organisations about business continuity management



Emergency Planning

- Community Safety Service Manager, Emergency Planning Officer and 0.5 OxCounty Resilience Officer
- Community Risk Assessment annual review
- Local plans for high/medium risks (County or City level)
- Thames Valley Local Resilience Forum

Emergency response

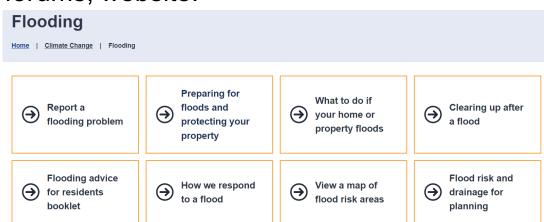
- TVLRF Emergency Response Arrangements Everbridge, PAT, TCG, SCG, GOLD Group
- OxCity Incident Management Framework (Gold, Silver, Bronze)
- OxCity Silver core group Duty Director, EP Team, ODS managers, Housing Needs, Landlord Services, Comms, Contact Centre, Green Spaces, Property Services





Flooding

- River rising-tide scenario, surface water flash flooding, ground water flooding – differing responses
- PAT information gathering
- County/TV-wide incident TCG and local response (Silver)
- City only local response (Silver)
- Flooding Protocol used to prepare, respond and recover
- from a flood event
- Warn and inform:
 - Social media, press release, leaflets, Cllrs, community forums, website:







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Silver Action Card

Plan Initiation On notification of a Flood Protocol trigger event:

Contact ODS for on the ground situation

Contact CMT lead

•Arrange daily SILVER meetings at 08:30 for the duration of the event and

recovery period.

Information: Keep appraised of:

Met Office Hazard Manager

•Gov.uk river levels

•EA river boards

Canal and River Trust navigation

•Resilience Direct for TVLRF incident information

SILVER meeting Agenda:

Situation report

Urgent Actions

Forecast and river conditions in Oxford and upstream

Risk management actions

•Trees, pathways and infrastructure mitigations

•Consideration for isolated communities (boaters, Binsey etc)

Communications

External

•Internal – councillor, MP and CMT updates





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Summary Actions

Preparation

- Set-up OCC SILVER
- •Attend PAT and/or TCG. Complete out of hours duty list and circulate to OoH officers.
- Contact centre staff briefed
- Circulate SILVER minutes and actions
- External comms strategy
- •Obtain comms rolling-chain from TCG
- •Preparation Warn and inform using flood toolkit and partner website posts.
- •Response incident locality specific posts
- •Recovery opening localities, sandbag disposal
- Update OCC website
- Internal comms strategy

Response

- Attend OCC SILVER
- Attend OxCounty SILVER meetings for countywide coordination
- •Regular contact with ODS Duty Officer and County ROCO for on-going sitrep and tactical decision-making.
- •Logging of affected properties internally and externally flooded including domestic and commercial premises. Report to TCG and OxCounty Flood Team.
- •Email to all Cllrs and MPs





Actions

Summary Tactical coordination:

•EA - barrier deployments

- •EA and ODS pump-outs of drains, culverts and gullies
- •ODS sandbag and barrier deployments at Bulstake Close
- •FRS -high-volume pump deployments.
- •Green Spaces Team towpath closures
- •Green Spaces Team boating community contact
- •Green Spaces Team rough sleepers contact
- •ODS towpath closures and signage deployment
- SSE for local power outages

- •Thames Water reports for sewage issues
- •Consider OCC officer deployment:
- •EHOs -sewage contamination advice to residents and food businesses
- •CRT for assistance with reassurance, messaging and decants
- Locality Managers for community messaging

Recovery

- •ODS check risk sites for infrastructure deterioration
- Thames Water reporting for sewage clear-up
- Assess trees damage
- •Explore Bellwin scheme from central government.
- •Street cleansing of subways, cycle paths and footpaths.
- •Communicate opening of towpaths and footpaths.
- Communicate sandbag removal advice.



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OXFORD CITY COUNCIL

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Scrutiny - Flood Response 2025

Sandbag policy

- Like all other local authorities in Oxfordshire, Oxford City Council
 does not provide sandbags to the public except in very
 exceptional circumstances. We may decide to use sandbags:
 - to protect the properties we own as a landlord
 - to protect isolated communities
 - on a case-by-case assessment, where a member of the public is vulnerable and are unable to protect their own property
- All other citizens and businesses should prepare for possibility of flooding by:
 - buying sandbags but check the GOV.UK flood preparation guidelines for the best ways to protect your property
 - purchasing sandbags at most builders' merchants, including Buildbase, Wickes, and B&Q
 - helping neighbours with sandbag filling or collection
 - exploring alternatives to sandbags, such as 'hydrosnake' expanding water barriers from Screwfix
 - following the sandbag disposal guidelines on our Clearing up after a flood page

 Community Safety Service - 2024



Questions?

