

Rec. No	Final Recommendations	Delivery Timetable	Lead Organisation	Supporting Organisations	Implications / Comments
7	There should be a presumption against building in high flood risk areas, in accordance with PPS25, including giving consideration to all sources of flood risk, and ensuring that developers make a full contribution to the costs both of building and maintaining any necessary defences.	Beginning immediately	Local Authorities	CLG and Environment Agency	Applications are currently assessed in accordance with PPS25 in conjunction with all other planning guidance.
12	All local authorities should extend eligibility for home improvement grants and loans to include flood resistance and resilience products for properties in high flood-risk areas.	By end 2008	Local Authorities		The Borough Council currently offers a wide range of housing improvement grants which could be extended to include flood resistance/resilience products, subject to the availability of finance.
13	Local authorities, in discharging their responsibilities under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 to promote business continuity, should encourage the take-up of property flood resistance and resilience by businesses.	By end 2008	Local Authorities		This will be taken up by the Emergency Planning Group and incorporated into the business continuity promotion work stream.

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14	Local authorities should lead on the management of local flood risk, with the support of the relevant organisations.	By end 2010	Local Authorities	Defra, Environment Agency, water companies and IDBs	The report clarifies this responsibility as upper tier and unitary authorities but how this will impact on districts is not clear and will undoubtedly have some resource implications.
15	Local authorities should positively tackle local problems of flooding by working with all relevant parties, establishing ownership and legal responsibility.	Beginning immediately	Local Authorities	Environment Agency, water companies, IDBs and other owners	The Borough Council has worked successfully in this way for some years. The most notable outcome being the East Peckham dam.
16	Local authorities should collate and map the main flood risk management and drainage assets (over and underground), including a record of their ownership and condition.	In place by end 2010	Local Authorities	Environment Agency, water companies, IDBs and other owners	This is a substantial task and a short timescale. It will require a high level of co-operation by the supporting organisations.
18	Local Surface Water Management Plans, as set out under PPS25 and coordinated by local authorities, should provide the basis for managing all local flood risk.	Surface Water Management Plans completed – end 2010	Environment Agency & Local Authorities	Water companies	The government has allocated finance for the early development of surface water management plans in order to produce and test guidance for plan production.

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19	Local authorities should assess and, if appropriate, enhance their technical capabilities to deliver a wide range of responsibilities in relation to local flood risk management.	Beginning immediately, completed to support new statutory duties by end 2010	Local Authorities	LGA, CLG, Defra, Environment Agency	Our assessment will be informed by the draft Floods and Water Bill.
38	Local authorities should establish mutual aid agreements in accordance with the guidance currently being prepared by the Local Government Association and the Cabinet Office.	Guidance issued by end 2008	Local authorities and Cabinet Office	LGA	Guidance can be assessed once received. Mutual aid already exists between authorities in Kent.
42	Where a Gold Command is established for severe weather events, the police, unless agreed otherwise locally, should convene and lead the multi-agency response.	Beginning immediately	Local Resilience Forums	Cabinet Office	This arrangement is already in place
43	Gold Commands should be established at an early stage on a precautionary basis where there is a risk of serious flooding.	Beginning immediately	Local Resilience Forums	Cabinet Office	This arrangement is already in place

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44	Category 1 and 2 responders should assess the effectiveness of their emergency response facilities, including flexible accommodation, IT and communications systems, and undertake any necessary improvement works.	Facilities reviewed by end 2008, improvements by June 2009	Local Resilience Forums	Home Office and Cabinet Office	This business continuity work is already in progress and well understood. KCC already has a diverse range of accommodation that may be utilized if an emergency affects a building. Work continues to assess ICT and accommodation resilience and will put into place any necessary improvement measures.
64	Local Resilience Forums should continue to develop plans for door-knocking, coordinated by local authorities, to enhance flood warnings before flooding and to provide information and assess welfare needs once flooding has receded.	Developed by October 2008	Local Resilience Forums	Voluntary sector, Cabinet Office	This will need to be considered by the KRF Severe Weather Group.
66	Local authority contact centres should take the lead in dealing with general enquiries from the public during and after major flooding, redirecting calls to other organisations when appropriate.	Arrangements in place by end 2008	Local Authorities	Local Resilience Forums	This is work in progress at Tonbridge & Malling obviously mindful of the target deadline.

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68	Council leaders and chief executives should play a prominent role in public reassurance and advice through the local media during a flooding emergency, as part of a coordinated effort overseen by Gold Commanders.	Beginning immediately, ongoing	Local Authorities	Local Resilience Forums	All Chief Executives and Council Leaders have a role to play in any large-scale emergency. It is normal for a strategic coordination cell to be set up by an authority to support such activities. As required, CE's and CL's will engage in this work as required.
72	Local response and recovery coordinating groups should ensure that health and wellbeing support is readily available to those affected by flooding based on the advice developed by the Department of Health.	Support available by October 2008	Local Authorities and Local Resilience Forums	CLG, Department of Health, HPA, voluntary sector	LA's will use this as part of their response and recovery actions for this type of emergency. However, at the Gold level, this advice is already available via the Scientific and Technical Advice Cell (STAC) and by other public health bodies.
74	The monitoring of the impact of flooding on the health and wellbeing of people, and actions to mitigate and manage the effects, should form a systematic part of the work of Recovery Coordinating Groups.	Monitoring arrangements by October 2008	Local Authorities	CLG, Local Resilience Forums, Department of Health, HPA, voluntary sector	At the Gold level, this advice is already available via the Scientific and Technical Advice Cell (STAC) and by other public health bodies.
76	Local authorities should coordinate a systematic programme of community engagement in their area during the recovery phase	Programme developed by end 2008	Local Authorities	CLG and voluntary sector	This should be considered for inclusion in the revised KRF guidance on recovery management and flood response, if not already included.

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77	National and local Recovery Coordinating Groups should be established from the outset of major emergencies and in due course there should be formal handover from the crisis machinery	Beginning immediately	CLG and Local Authorities	Local Resilience Forums and Cabinet Office	To be considered for inclusion in the revised Kent Resilience Forum (KRF) guidance on recovery management and flood response.
78	Aims and objectives for the recovery phase should be agreed at the outset by Recovery Coordinating Groups to provide focus and enable orderly transition into mainstream programmes when multi-agency coordination of recovery is no longer required	Beginning immediately	Local Authorities	Local Resilience Forums and voluntary sector	As above.
80	All central government guidance should be updated to reflect the new arrangements for recovery and Local Resilience Forums should plan, train and exercise on this basis	Updated guidance by end 2008, implemented by June 2009	Cabinet Office, CLG and Local Resilience Forums	Local Resilience Forums	As above
83	Local authorities should continue to make arrangements to bear the cost of recovery for all but the most exceptional emergencies and should revisit	Arrangements in place by end 2008	Local Authorities	LGA	

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	their reserves and insurance arrangements in light of last summers floods				
85	Local Recovery Coordination Groups should make early recommendations to elected local authority members about longer term regeneration and economic development opportunities	Beginning immediately	Local Authorities	BERR and CLG	To be considered for inclusion in the revised KRF guidance on recovery management and flood response.
92	Local Resilience Forums should evaluate and share lessons from both the response and recovery phases to inform their planning for future emergencies	Beginning immediately	Local Resilience Forums		Well established multi-agency debrief processes already exist with the KRF, and have been used to good effect.

Abbreviations used above:

CLG	Department for Communities & Local Government
Defra	Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs
BERR	Department for Business Enterprise and Regulatory Reform
LGA	Local Government Association
HPA	Health Protection Agency
IDB	Internal Drainage Board