

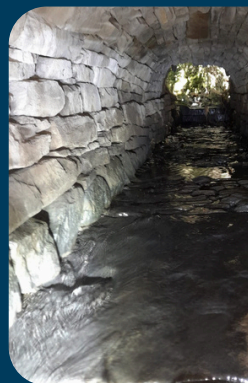
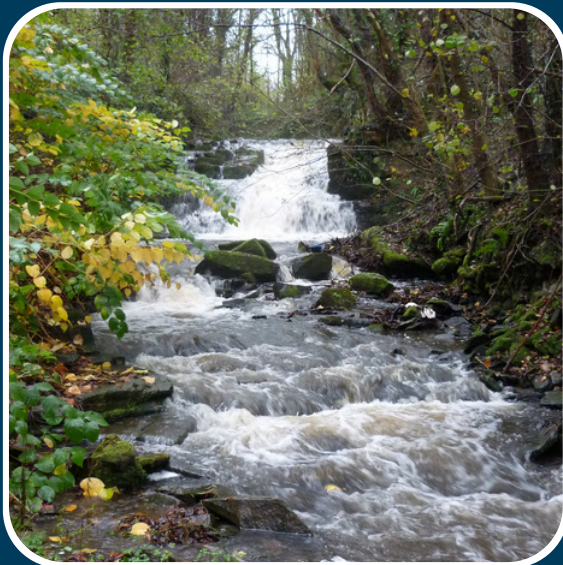


Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL

MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council

MERTHYR TYDFIL COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL **LOCAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY SUMMARY**

April 2024



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INTRODUCTION

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 requires all 22 Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs) in Wales to produce a Local Flood Risk Management Strategies (Local Strategy).

We published our first Local Strategy in 2013, and alongside our Local Strategy, we published a Flood Risk Management Plan (FRMP).

Whilst we previously published our Local Strategy and FRMP separately, this new Local Strategy integrates the two documents into one. This reduces complexity and enables us to communicate and manage local flood risk more effectively.

In this document we explain how flooding will be managed across our Local Authority area, consistent with the objectives, measures and related policies and legislation set out in the National Strategy.

The strategy places greater emphasis on improving our understanding of flood risk in order to inform prevention and preparedness. In addition to more traditional flood resistance approaches and robust maintenance regimes, we will champion a greater use of natural flood risk management techniques. These techniques will allow us to adapt more effectively to climate change whilst providing healthy and attractive environments, helping our communities to thrive.

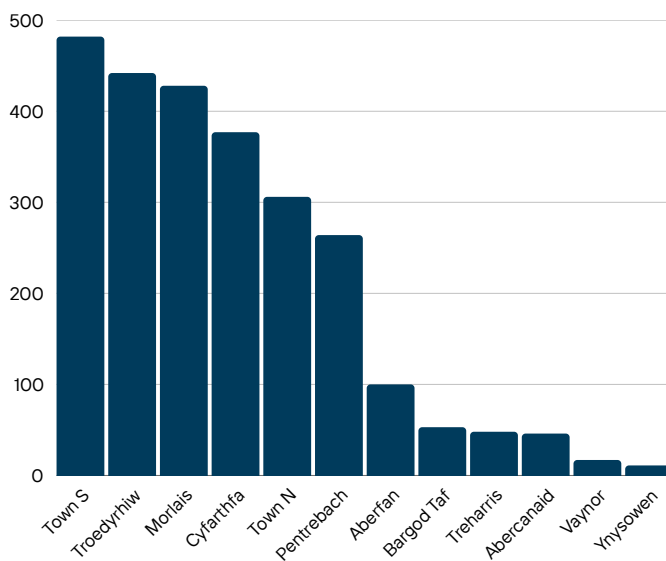


CURRENT FLOOD RISK

Flooding is a natural phenomenon which has can have devastating consequences and the risk of flooding and flash flooding is increasing across the UK.

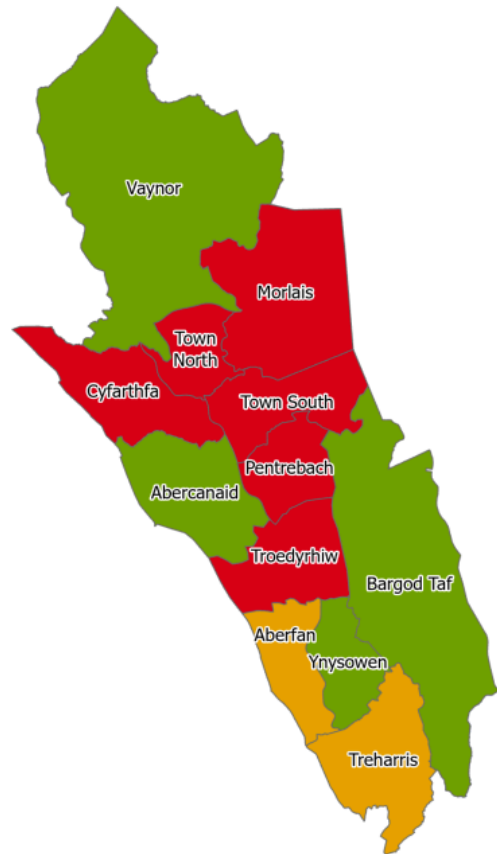
Flood risk is the likelihood of flood event happening and the impact that it may have. Not only does flooding impact property but also to infrastructure, sites of nature conservation, ecology. This flood risk can come from multiple sources and can be generally categorised as: Main River, ordinary watercourses, surface water, groundwater, sewers, highway drainage.

For the purposes of our local strategy, we have assessed flood risk at a community level by dividing the borough into 12 analysis areas.



The use of NRW's surface water mapping has allowed us to identify High, Medium and Low risk areas based on the number of properties at risk of flooding. The map on this page shows the analysis areas and their risk ratings. The graph shows the number of residential properties per analysis area at 'high' risk of flooding.

Over the last decade there has been an increase in intensity and frequency of rainfall in the UK. The latest climate projections indicate there will be wetter winters and drier summers but when rainfall does occur in summer it will be more intense, leading to increased future flood risk.





WHAT WE'VE DONE

Since 2013 we have delivered a large number of flood risk management projects to reduce flood risk to properties and critical infrastructure. Small scale works and associated investigations and surveys are critical to protecting communities from minor flooding. Over £300,000 has been invested in culvert and watercourse maintenance between 2020-24. Project examples include: Castle Park land drain and bund, and Pandy Cottages culvert rehabilitation.



Following Storms Ciara and Dennis in 2020 substantial investment was made to aid recovery and protect communities against future flooding. More than 40 projects have been completed and in excess of £8m invested to date. Examples include Plymouth Feeder Flood Defence and Inlet improvements at Rock Gardens, Troedyrhiw.

Since 2020, over £20,000 has been invested in flood monitoring systems. We have installed 22 stations on high risk culvert intakes across the borough allowing us to provide better warnings and have an improved understanding of how these intakes respond to rainfall events.

THE STRATEGY

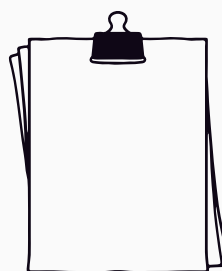
The Local Strategy is organised by overarching Objectives that align with the National FCERM Strategy, Measures that outline broad activities and ways of working to meet the Objectives, and Actions (contained in an Action Plan) which are specific tasks or activities required to achieve the measures which can be tracked.



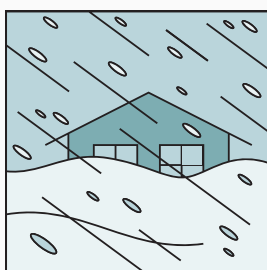
OBJECTIVES



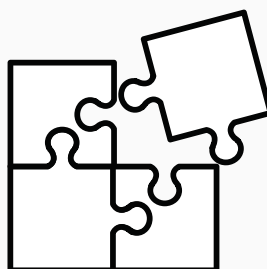
IMPROVE OUR
UNDERSTANDING
OF RISK



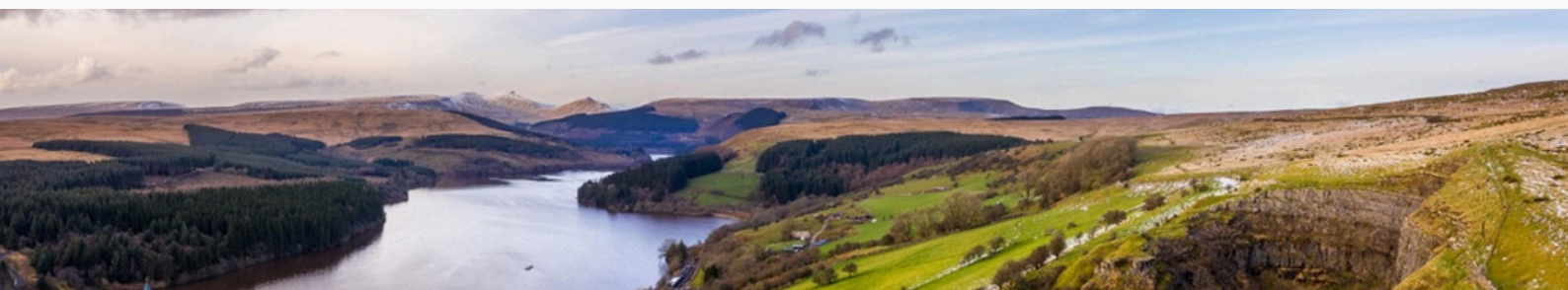
PREPAREDNESS
AND
COMMUNICATION



REDUCE SURFACE
WATER FLOODING
TO THE HIGHEST
RISK COMMUNITIES



PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE
AND COORDINATED
RESPONSE TO FLOOD
EVENTS



MEASURES

Development, planning & adaptation

- Working with Local Planning Authority (LPA) to improve processes
- Working with the SAB to improve integration with LPA

Forecasting, warning and informing

- Maintain and improve warnings and flooding forecast systems
- Improve flood monitoring systems

Studies, assessments and plans

- Improve our understanding of existing flood risk
- Survey high risk assets and watercourses to improve flood modelling
- Improve our understanding of groundwater risk
- Aggregate and develop records of historical flooding

Outreach, awareness and engagement

- Flood awareness and education
- Educate on flood risk responsibilities
- Partnership working

Preparedness and response

- Maintain and improve the Council's flood response plan
- Support and educate residents on community resilience
- Develop a more holistic approach to flood response and recovery
- Section 19 and investigating flood events
- Improve recording of flood events

Land and environmental Management

- Increase the use of natural flood management (NFM)
- Managing mineral extraction related drainage issues
- Managing the interactions between climate change and flood risk

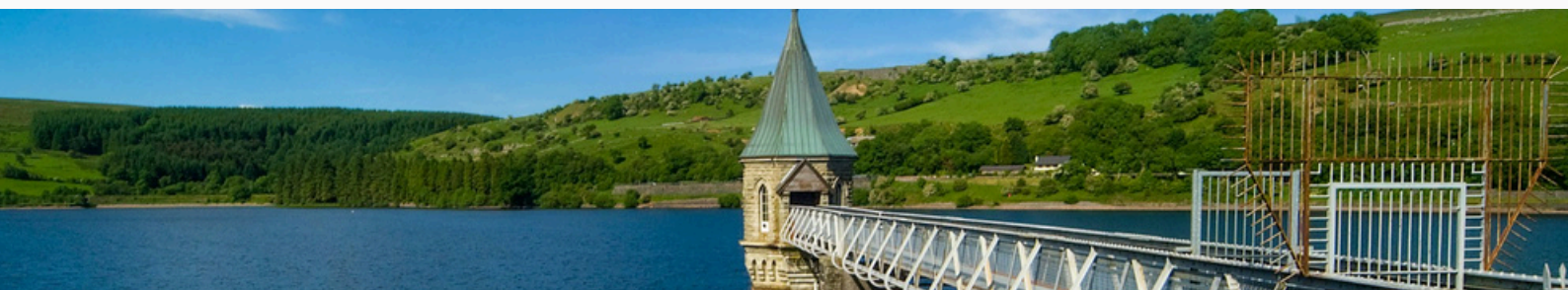
Asset management and maintenance

- Deliver flood risk management schemes
- Maintain a flood risk asset register and record
- Continue and improve maintenance of flood risk assets



ACTIONS

Our Action Plan can be found on the council website and will be updated periodically as we complete and progress actions. The main Local Strategy document is to be updated every 6 years. In order to achieve our Action Plan, we will need to invest a minimum of approximately £220,000 over the next 6 year Strategy Cycle, not including the cost of any construction projects and existing maintenance activities.



WHAT TO DO IN A FLOOD



PREPARE:

- Check your flood risk and register for flood warnings - NRW Online
- Make an action plan for what to do in a flood
- Pack an emergency flood kit
- Keep a list of phone numbers (e.g. GP and insurance)
- Check your insurance
- Make sure you know how to turn off the gas, electric and water to your home.
- Protect your property

ACT:

- Your safety is the number one priority
- Move family, pets and valuables to a safe place
- Turn off gas, electricity and water
- Put flood protection measures in place
- Do not attempt to enter deep or fast flowing flood water
- Call emergency services if required



RECOVER:

- Photograph as much as possible
- Do not turn electricity back on until it has been checked
- Contact your insurance company
- Be mindful of your mental health; call your GP if you are not able to cope

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Local Authority	Flooding from surface water, ordinary water courses, highway drainage and groundwater. Respond to flood events as Category 1 responders.
NRW	Flooding from Main rivers (e.g. River Taff) and reservoirs
DCWW	Flooding from public surface water, combined and foul sewers
Coal Authority	Flooding from disused coal tips and former mine workings
Welsh Government	Flooding associated with Trunk Roads
Riparian Owner	Flooding from ordinary watercourses on private land







CONTACT

In emergency where there is danger to life always call **999**

MTCBC

Lead Local Flood Authority

 <https://www.merthyr.gov.uk/resident/parking/roads-and-travel/flooding-and-drainage/>

 01685 725000

GLOSSARY

DCWW: Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water

FCERM: Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management

FRMP: Flood Risk Management Plan

LLFA: Lead Local Flood Authority

LPA: Local Planning Authority

NFM: Natural Flood Management

NRW: Natural Resources Wales

SAB: SuDS Approval Body

SuDS: Sustainable Drainage Systems



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