

Flood Plan

Depending on your location and the likely severity of flooding, you will need a response plan that includes possible evacuation (even if this is to higher floors or from certain rooms or areas) and ways to mitigate other threats to life and property.

Your flood plan should address the following:

- When will you leave?
- Where is your emergency kit kept?
- What will you do if all your household aren't already together (such as at work or school)?
- Where will you go and which way will you travel there?
- If you can't leave your property, where can you shelter safely?
- Who will be responsible for turning off electricity, gas and water supplies? Do they know how?
- Where can you find sandbags, tape for windows and tie-down materials?
- Where is your nearest evacuation centre, and what route will you take to get there? You can ask your local government about where your nearest evacuation centre might be.
- Check in with family, friends and neighbours to make sure they have a plan too.

If you have pets and animals, you need to plan what you'll do with them during a flood:

- Where will your pets and animals shelter during a flood? Only guide and assistance dogs are usually allowed at evacuation centres.
- When will you relocate your pets and animals?
- Are your pets' registration details and collar tag up to date?
- How will you ensure they have extra food, water and bedding?

Adopt A Risk Based Approach

Understand and respond to flood risk

- Evacuation route improvements respond to the level of risk posed to a community.
- A risk-based approach aligns with current best-practice flood risk management and recognises that a standards-based approach may not be fair and reasonable.
- The full range of flood risk is considered by assessing multiple flood events, including rare events.

Support with Evidence

Support decisions with a sufficient level of information

- The nature, scale and factors contributing to the evacuation problem are understood in detail.
- Identification of evacuation route improvements is supported by robust, fit-for-purpose data, including information sourced from flood risk assessments, ECAs and flood studies.

Optimize Existing Infrastructure

Optimise the existing evacuation route network, Consider:

- A broad range of options including non-infrastructure options and options that improve existing infrastructure
- Low cost options over high cost infrastructure options that achieve similar outcomes (Department of Infrastructure Local Government and Planning (DILGP), 2016)
- Combining options to improve effectiveness.

Realize The Flood Risks

Recognise residual risk always exists

- The development and consideration of potential options recognises that living on floodprone land has an inherent risk and that a residual risk always remains after a preferred option has been delivered.
- The development and consideration of potential options recognises that evacuation route improvements are only one measure to mitigate flood risk and need to be considered as part of a broader flood risk management process.