



# Flooding - a brief guide to roles and responsibilities



## Water companies



## Land owner

## Property owner/occupier

- Is the managing and supervising authority for main rivers
- Issue warnings via Floodline - 0845 988 1188
- Maintain Flood Maps
- Has (permissive) powers to:
  - undertake maintenance & improvements
  - serve notice on *riparian* owners to clear obstructions from watercourses



- Maintenance of public sewerage system (foul & surface water)

- Oversees ordinary watercourses
- As land drainage authority, has (permissive) powers to:
  - undertake maintenance & improvements
  - serve notice to require *riparian* owners to clear obstructions from watercourses
- Provides advice for dealing with flood situations
- Has civil emergency powers to assist during flooding situation
- Maintaining watercourses where B&D is landowner

- As highway authority responsible for maintaining drainage system and culverts within/under the highway
- Has similar land drainage authority powers as local Council
- Also has civil emergency powers to assist during flooding situation

- Has a duty to:
- receive and pass on flow without obstruction, pollution or diversion, including flood flows
  - (as riparian owner) maintain bed and banks of watercourses crossing or adjoining land
  - not cause obstructions to watercourses
  - keep bed, banks and structures clear of matter that could cause obstruction

- Responsible for:
- protecting their properties from flooding
  - maintaining drains connecting property to public sewer (foul & surface water)