



Association of British Insurers

Protecting properties from flooding and accessing the best possible terms for insurance

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Association of British Insurers



Statement of Principles for Flood

Joint Industry/Government Review during 2008

- Improve data available to assess flood risk
- Agree approach for a long term strategy to manage flood risk from all sources, including from surface water
- Prevent inappropriate development in flood risk areas and promote increased resilience.



Statement of Principles for Flood

Until June 2013

- Insurers will continue to provide flood cover for homes and small business as a standard feature where flood risk is less than 1.3% annual probability
- Continue to insure existing policyholders where properties will be protected to this standard within 5 years

For existing customers, even after 2013

- Insurers will use best efforts, on a case-by-case basis, to provide as much insurance as possible, even where no defences are planned.

The Statement of Principles doesn't apply to new developments



Government Commitments

- Improve data on flood risk from all sources and communicate this effectively to the public and insurers
- Implement the New Flood Risk Management Bill to improve management of flood risk from all sources
- Work towards development of a long term (25+ years) strategy to reduce flood risk
- Consider how to ensure resilience of buildings in flood risk areas and encourage homeowners to protect their homes



Steps a Community has to take to ensure flood insurance is freely available.

- Establish a local flood action group
- Prepare a Flooding Emergency Response Plan
- If a community protection scheme is feasible put a plan in place to make it happen - consider the experience in Bucklebury - www.floodalleviation.co.uk/
- If it isn't, or in the meantime, consider individual flood protection for each property



Preparing a flood plan

- A new community flood planning guide and website www.FloodPlanUK.org was launched today by Norwich Union today
- Based on experience gained from 'Dry Run' an exercise carried out by the community in Boroughbridge, Yorkshire



Community Flood Protection

- Seek advice from the National Flood Forum
- Discuss feasibility of community flood protection
- Obtain feasibility report from hydrologist
- Seek approval of report from responsible authorities
- Discuss funding alternatives and seek funding
- Apply for planning permission
- Obtain full specification of work required
- Seek quotes to carry out the work
- Commission work
- Obtain completion certificate confirming level of protection
- Confirm reclassification of flood risk with SEPA
- Advise insurer of reclassification