

Report to Cabinet 29th July 2014  
Denbighshire's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy  
Appendix 5: Flood Risk Definitions

| Term                            | Meaning / Definition  |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Catchment                       | An area that serves a river with rainwater; that is, every part of land where the rainfall drains to a single watercourse is in the same catchment.   |
| Climate Change                  | The change in average conditions of the atmosphere near the Earth's surface over a long period.   |
| Coastal Erosion                 | The wearing away of coastline, usually by wind and/or wave action.  |
| Coastal Erosion Risk            | Measures the significance of potential coastal erosion in terms of likelihood and impact.   |
| Coastal Erosion Risk Management | Anything done for the purpose of analysing, assessing and reducing a risk of the wearing away of coastline.   |
| Coastal Flooding                | Occurs when coastal defences are unable to contain the normal predicted high tides that can cause flooding, possibly when a high tide combines with a storm surge (created by high winds or very low atmospheric pressure).   |
| Flood Risk                      | Product of the probability of flooding occurring and the consequences when flooding happens.  |
| Flood Risk Management           | The activity of understanding the probability and consequences of flooding, and seeking to modify these factors to reduce flood risk to people, property and the environment. This should take account of other water level management and environmental requirements, and opportunities and constraints. |
| Fluvial Flooding                | Flooding from rivers including ordinary watercourses and main rivers.   |
| Groundwater                     | Water held underground in the soil or in pores and crevices in rock.  |
| Groundwater Flooding            | Occurs when water levels in the ground rise above the natural surface. Low lying areas underlain by permeable strata are particularly susceptible.  |
| Local Flood Risk                | Defined within the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 as including surface runoff, groundwater and ordinary watercourses.  |
| LLFA                            | Lead Local Flood Authority - the County Council or the County Borough Council for the area (Local Authority).   |
| Main River                      | A watercourse shown as such on the Main River Map, and for which Natural Resources Wales has responsibilities and powers in Wales.  |
| Ordinary Watercourse            | All watercourses that are not designated Main River, and which are the responsibility of riparian landowners.   |
| Residual risk                   | The risk that remains after risk control measures have been put in place.   |
| Resilience                      | The ability of the community, services, area or infrastructure to avoid being flooded, lost to erosion or to withstand the consequences of flooding or erosion taking place.  |
| Risk Management                 | Anything done for the purpose of analysing, assessing and reducing a risk.  |
|                                 |   |
| River flooding                  | Occurs when water levels in a channel overwhelms the capacity of the channel.   |
| Sewer                           | An artificial conduit, usually underground, for carrying off sewage (foul sewer) or rainwater (storm or surface water sewer) or both (combined sewer).  |
| SuDS                            | Sustainable Drainage Systems - Approach to surface water management which helps to deal with excesses of water by mimicking natural drainage processes and patterns.  |
| Surface Water Flooding          | In the urban context, usually means that surface water runoff rates exceed the capacity of drainage systems to remove it. In the rural context, it is where surface water runoff floods something or someone.   |
| Surface Water Runoff            | This occurs when the rate of rainfall exceeds the rate that water can infiltrate the ground or soil and flows over ground.  |