

STATES OF GUERNSEY

MULTI AGENCY MAJOR COASTAL FLOOD PLAN

Major coastal/tidal flooding is one of the major risks facing the island according to the Bailiwick Risk Register. The States of Guernsey emergency planning function has therefore prioritised the production of a specific plan to deal with this type of emergency. This document gives a broad outline of the contents of this plan.

The plan describes the impacts of major flooding which can be complex in nature, diverse in consequence and require a comprehensive and sustained response from a wide range of organisations. It is cognisant of the Committee *for the* Environment & Infrastructure Coastal Flood Defence Project and climate change initiatives. The aim of the plan is to provide a strategic overview of the multi agency response to a major flood. It includes details of individual organisations roles, responsibilities and outline actions. It provides information on which areas are likely to be affected by major coastal flooding, and provides guidance on recovery measures. Critical infrastructure and location of vulnerable people within existing care facilities are highlighted in the plan.

The plan assumes that tide advice will provide an 8-hour lead/warning time for the response to a Severe Flood Warning but recognises that in most cases of coastal flooding, the flood waters will subside within hours thereby accelerating a swift return to normality.

Triggers which may initiate a multi-agency response include:

- A Severe Flood Warning issued by the Guernsey Met Office
- Reports of extensive flooding from the public (more than 10 properties requiring evacuation)
- Sea wall defences significantly breached in more than one place requiring evacuation

The multi agency Tactical or Strategic Co-ordinating Group will be established at an early stage on a precautionary basis where there is a risk of serious flooding.

See Guernsey Fire and Rescue Service flooding advice for further public information and advice:

<http://www.gov.gg/flooding>