

Flooding Flood Resilient Design

How to make sports facilities more resilient to flooding



Issues to consider

- While it's impossible to completely flood-proof your building or sports facilities, there are lots of things you can do to reduce the damage flooding can cause. Some are simple and temporary, while others involve more significant work.
- You can make improvements so that, even if flooding occurs on your pitches or enters your buildings, cleaning up and drying-out is faster and easier. This means you can get the facilities back into action far more quickly, therefore minimising the disruption to fixtures and the clubs income.
- If your facility is at a high risk of flooding you should consider getting professional advice to help you prioritise the work so that you can make the best use of your funds and resources.

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Actions

1. **Review the guidance 'Prepare your property for flooding' published by the Environment Agency.**

The guidance is available at:

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/floods/31644.aspx>

It provides clear guidance on the steps you can take to make your buildings more resilient and is very applicable to clubhouses and equipment stores. This includes information on specially designed covers for air bricks, non-return valves that can be fitted to drains, and water inlet and outlet pipes.

2. **Consider installing shelving and/or cupboards at high level to keep high value / vulnerable property away from the flood waters.**

Make sure that the new shelves and/or cupboards do not create a hazard for someone, particularly young children, to walk into.

3. **Fix any audio-visual equipment, for example TV and sound systems to the wall above the potential flood level.**

4. **Talk to your local architect, building surveyor or contractor about which surfaces can be installed to the floor and walls to be more resilient in times of flood.**

These surfaces will help reduce damage and make it easier to get the facilities back in action as quickly as possible.

5. **Consider moving all electrical sockets, fuse boxes, and other electrical controls to at least 1.5 m.**

If rewiring, cabling should be brought down the wall to the electrical fitting so that there is no risk of the cabling being affected in a future flood.

6. **Consider buying purpose-built flood boards that can be installed when flooding is imminent.**

Only purchase flood products that display the BSI kitemark, or equivalent accreditation, for the national quality standard PAS 1188.

7. **For information on manufacturers and designers of flood products refer to The Flood Protection Association. See: <http://thefpa.org.uk/>**

8. **Consider what actions can be taken to make your pitches and courts more resilient to flooding.**

Further help and information

Further help and advice can be found on the following flood information sheets produced by Sport England and the governing bodies of sport.

- **How to plan ahead** – What to do to minimise the impact of future flooding of your sports facilities.
- **Developing a club flood plan** – Making sure everyone knows what to do in a flood
- **Flood alert / warning received** - What to do to minimise the impact of flooding following a flood alert / flood warning
- **After the flood – buildings** – How to recover from a flood safely and quickly
- **After the flood – pitches and courts** – How to recover from a flood safely and quickly.

Seek professional advice

We strongly recommend that you seek professional advice from a building surveyor, architect or other independent professional if you are considering flood protection and or recovery solutions for your property and facilities.

There is no formal assurance scheme for flood surveyors, but the following professional institutions hold lists of members who have undergone internal vetting and adhere to a common code of conduct:

- Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)
<http://www.rics.org/uk/>
- Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA)
<http://www.architecture.com/Home.aspx>

Check with your local Environment Agency office if you plan to take measures which could affect the flow of a river or divert flood water to other properties. Call them on **03708 506 506** and ask to speak to someone in the Partnerships and Strategic Overview team in your local area.

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This guidance is one of a series of information sheets that have been developed by Sport England, the England and Wales Cricket Board, the Football Association, the Rugby Football League, the Rugby Football Union, The Lawn Tennis Association and England Hockey to provide simple advice to voluntary clubs on minimising the impact of flooding on their sports facilities and to enable them to plan and act safely and effectively.

These sheets are not intended to replace experienced expert advisors from the local authority, Environment Agency or specialist consultant.



Alternative Languages and Formats:

This document can be provided in alternative languages, or alternative formats such as large print, Braille, tape and on disk upon request. Call the Sport England switchboard on 08458 508 508 for more details.

National Governing Bodies Main Offices:

England and Wales Cricket Board	020 7432 1200	http://www.ecb.co.uk/
England Hockey Board	01628 897500	http://www.englishockey.co.uk/
Lawn Tennis Association	020 8487 7000	http://www.lta.org.uk/
Rugby Football League	0844 477 7113	http://www.rfl.co.uk/
Rugby Football Union	0871 222 2120	http://www.rfu.com/
The Football Association	0844 980 8200	http://www.thefa.com/

User Guide:

Before using this guidance for any specific projects all users should refer to the User Guide to understand when and how to use the guidance as well as understanding the limitations of use.

Click here for **'User Guide'**

Click here for current **'Design and Cost Guidance'**

Issue Tracker:

001 – Initial Publication: January 2014

Sport England

3rd Floor Victoria House
Bloomsbury Square
London
WC1B 4SE
Tel : +44 (0)8458 508 508



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Further Information:

To find out more about Sport England and to get the latest news and information about our various initiatives and programmes, please go to www.sportengland.org