

# Recent storms and flooding have resulted in a number of fatalities and injuries to both drivers and pedestrians across the UK

## WHAT HAPPENED

Flooding risk is increasing due to climate change and it's increasingly likely that the UK will experience more frequent flooding.

There are growing numbers of community flood resilience groups across the UK to help communities prepare for a flood. However, it's vital that individuals are aware of how to keep themselves safe during flooding.

### What are the dangers of flood water?

- Flood water is very cold, even in the summer, and you could suffer cold water shock. Also, the water could be faster flowing than you think. So, don't enter the water for any reason.
- Fast-flowing water is powerful. At just ankle depth, it can knock you off your feet. In high-risk areas, the depth of water can increase rapidly.
- Flood water may contain moving debris that could trip you up, cut or injure you.
- Flood water is treated as contaminated by the Fire and Rescue Services. Contaminants include sewage, animal waste, E. coli, Shigella, and agricultural and industrial waste.



## LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS TAKEN

The National Water Safety Forum has produced a flooding advice document that helps individuals understand the potential hazards associated with flooding, where to obtain information about flooding and what one should avoid when in close proximity to flood water whether as a pedestrian or in a vehicle.

Please review this document and share the link to the free, downloadable [pdf of the guidance](#) with your colleagues, friends and family.



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