

Bath and North East Somerset Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA)

Explanation of Levels

Level 1 SFRA scope

A Level 1 SFRA should be sufficiently detailed to allow application of the Sequential Test on the basis of Table D1 of PPS25 and to identify whether application of the Exception Test is likely to be necessary.

Level 1 SFRA outputs include:

- plans showing the LPA area, Main Rivers, ordinary watercourses and flood zones, including the functional floodplain where appropriate, across the local authority area as defined in Table D1 of PPS25.
- areas at risk of flooding from sources other than rivers and the sea
- the location of any flood risk management measures, including both infrastructure and the coverage of flood warning systems
- guidance on the likely applicability of different sustainable drainage systems (SUDS) techniques for managing surface water run-off at key development sites.

Level 2 SFRA scope

The level 2 SFRA corresponds to the 'increased scope' SFRA referred to in paragraph E6 of PPS25. The principal purpose of a Level 2 SFRA is to facilitate application of the Exception Test. This more detailed study should consider the detailed nature of the flood hazard taking account of the presence of flood risk management measures such as flood defences. This will allow a sequential approach to site allocation to be adopted within a flood zone (paragraphs 17 and D4 of PPS25). It will also allow the policies and practices required to ensure that development in such areas satisfies the requirements of the Exception Test, to be identified for insertion into the LDD. Consideration of the detailed nature of the flood hazard within a flood zone includes a number of factors, including flood probability, flood depth and flood velocity.

Level 2 SFRA outputs include:

- an appraisal of the current condition of flood defence infrastructure and of likely future policy with regard to its maintenance and upgrade
- an appraisal of the probability and consequences of overtopping or failure of flood risk management infrastructure, including an appropriate allowance for climate change
- maps showing the distribution of flood risk across flood zones