

Flood Risk Studies

Water Resource Associates [WRA] continues to carry out flood risk assessments for a wide range of clients, developers and owners of property in southern England. Since the January 2003 floods, the provision of flood risk reports has been a growing area of our business, and the company is well-placed to provide a rapid-response to householders and developers in the process of buying and selling houses, or developing new infrastructure.

The service provided by WRA can be particularly helpful to owners facing difficulties in obtaining insurance of their house and belongings, as a result of flood risk, as well as owners and developers wishing to progress building plans.

In cases where there is doubt over the level of risk or whether a particular house is liable to flood, insurance companies have required preparation of a flood risk report by professional hydrologists, to clearly identify the risks of flooding at the site in question.

WRA can carry out a flood risk assessment for clients, which comprises topographic survey of the site and building levels [supported by Sitech Survey Services, when more extensive areas of survey are required]. For borderline cases of flood risk, the detailed studies often show that the property under investigation lies above the maximum flood level, yet lies within the floodplain envelope defined by the Environment Agency Flood Map. The WRA report provides a fully-documented basis for the insurance company to then provide cover for the property in question.

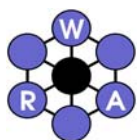
WRA is a small specialist consultancy comprising experienced and nationally-acknowledged scientists at the forefront of work involving flood hydrology and flood forecasting. Directors and associates have been involved in the development of flood prediction methods and software since the 1970s, which now form the basis for flood estimation in the United Kingdom.



Thames valley at Marlow. Photographed by Capt Mike Post [retrd]

WRA's clients include the Environment Agency, water companies, research agencies, and the tourism industry. After the 2003 floods, WRA provided expert support to The Upstream Group [TUG] during the deliberations of the Flood Risk Action Group [FRAG] for the Thames valley from Hurley to Wraybury.

Here is a selection of sites studied since 2003: Ascott-under-Wychwood, Northmoor, Woolstone Mill & Sutton Courtenay in Oxfordshire, Bisham Brook in Berkshire, Thameside properties in Bourne End, Marlow & Temple [Bucks], Chertsey [Surrey], Downham Market [Norfolk], Gt Finborough & Gt Gabbard in Suffolk, Longwick Mill in Buckinghamshire, Chertsey & Nutfield in Surrey, and Bocking & Wix in Essex.

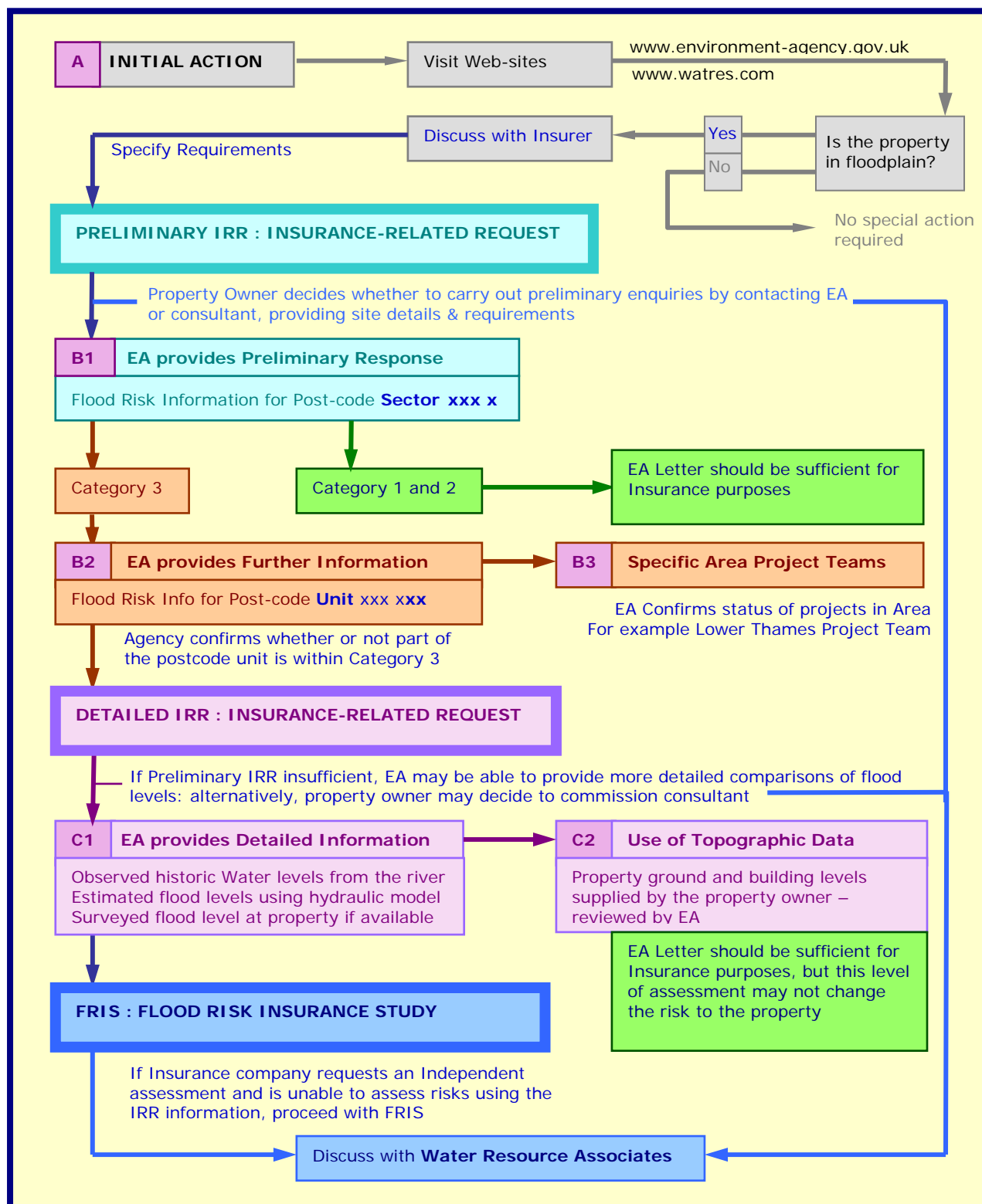


Water Resource Associates

A specialist consultancy in hydraulics, hydrology, groundwater & environmental issues

Flood Risk Studies – WRA Expertise

WRA prepared guidelines to help TUG members in acquiring property insurance, and this document was adopted in 2005 by the Environment Agency, as a roadmap which would guide property owners through the insurance maze. The following flow diagram shows the stages at which WRA expertise may be sought.



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