

BEING RESILIENT TO EXTREME WEATHER

Climate change increases the risk of both flooding and drought in England

This is already having an impact, and will do in the future:

High flood risk:

1 million

homes have more than 1% chance of flooding in any given year



But also a strong risk of drought:

1 in 4

chance of a severe drought between now and 2050



RESILIENCE SAVES PEOPLE FROM THE TRAUMA OF FLOODING AND THE COSTS OF DAMAGE AND INSURANCE

The Commission have proposed a national standard so that by 2050 communities will be resilient to flooding

99.5%

of the time wherever feasible



This means that someone living in a house at risk of flooding for 20 years would face only a 1 in 10 chance of flooding over that time

BUT WE ALSO NEED TO BE MORE RESILIENT TO DROUGHT

Relying on emergency measures would cost an estimated

£40 billion

Over the next 30 years – being resilient would cost only £21 billion


The UK needs an extra

4,000MI


of water a day to assure long-term supply




THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDS:



A national standard of flood resilience with a higher standard in major urban areas



A national water transfer network and new water supply, such as reservoirs



Nationwide, catchment-based plans combining green and grey infrastructure



Halving leakage by 2050 and reducing demand through efficiency and smart metering

Sources: Commission calculation using inputs from Atkins, Environment Agency, ITRC and Regulatory Economics