



# **Understanding Flood Risk**

**23 May 2022  
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**There are currently 5.2m homes and businesses at risk of flooding in England**



**Guess Where?**

**Sea levels are predicted to rise by approximately 1.4m in the next 100 years**



# Probability of flooding

Imagine a bag full of 100 balls

One ball has 'flood' written on it

Every day you are blindfolded and must pick one ball per day

You have a 1% chance of picking the 'flood' ball

But...



# Probability of flooding

- But...
- You may never pick it...
- You may pick it twice in a year...
- You may pick it every two weeks...
- You may pick it every single day of the year
- Whenever you pick the 'flood' ball you must put it back in the bag for the next day!...



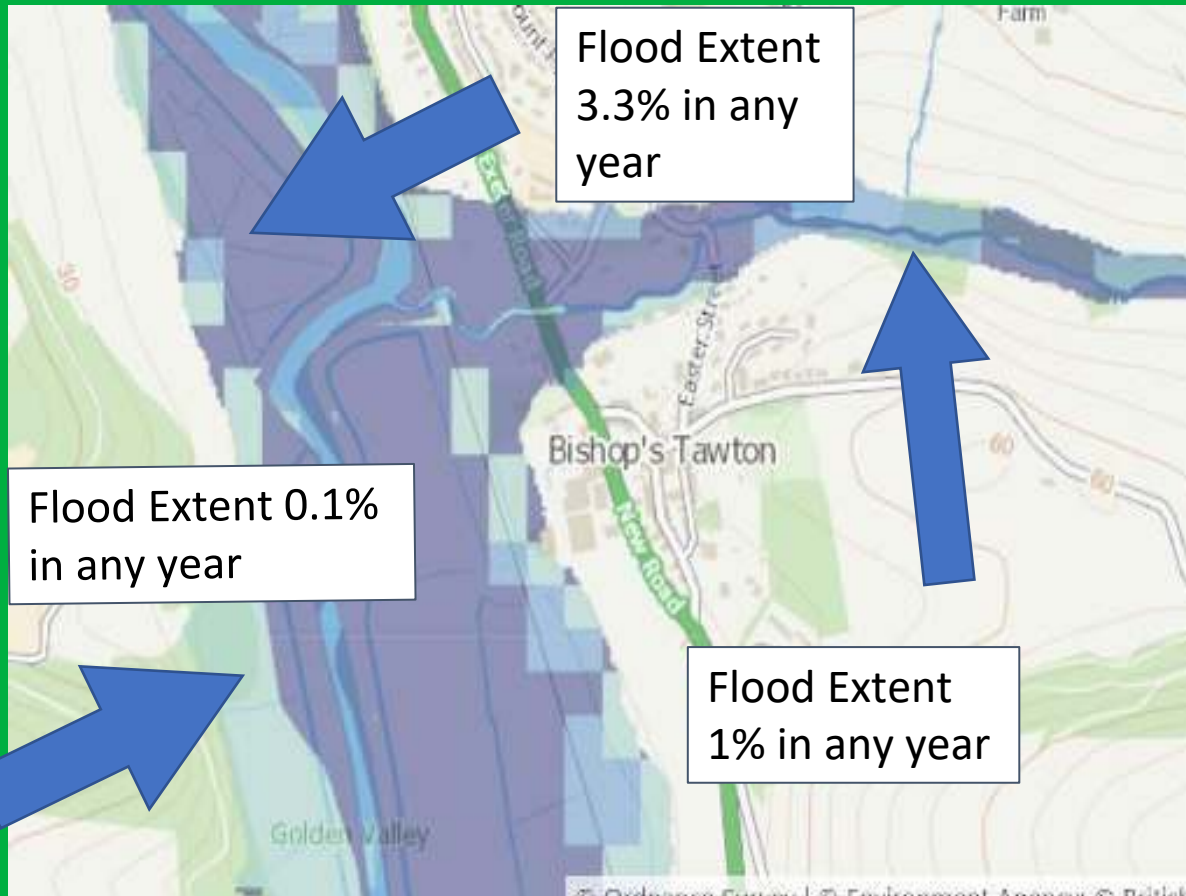
# Risk of Flooding from Rivers & Sea



Defended Risk

Not Property Specific

Takes into account condition of defences



# Flood defences may overtop





# “Yes, but it won’t happen in my lifetime...”



## Lynmouth

15 August 1952

229mm rain

(most fell in 7 hour period)

## Boscastle

16 August 2004

185-200m

(most fell in 5 hour period)

## Barnstaple

17-18 August 2020

61.6mm

(24 hour rainfall total)



IN MEMORY OF  
DEREK BREDDY  
HAROLD SHAW  
GEOFFREY ROBINSON

MANCHESTER SCOUTS WHO DIED  
AT SHALLOWFORD, ETTLEIGH  
DURING THE  
LYNMOUTH FLOOD DISASTER  
AUG. 13, 1932

# Colyton July 1968



# Boscastle August 2004



# Riparian Responsibility



# Managing flood risk – who is responsible



# Managing flood risk – who is responsible (continued)





# Reduce the impact of flooding

Check  
your flood  
risk

Get free  
flood  
warnings

Prepare a  
plan

# Thank You

## Any Questions?