



Getting involved: recruiting volunteers and engaging the community

1. Who we are and what we do
2. Recruiting, training and retaining Flood Wardens
3. Engaging the community
4. Legacy and succession

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1.1 Who we are and what we do

- **Lympstone Flood Resilience Group** (LFRG) formed in 2017. A working group of Lympstone Parish Council. Coordinating team of four, and twenty one flood wardens, Estuary and Inland.
- **Objectives:** Develop and implement a coordinated and strategic approach to flood risk management in the village.
- **Key stage in the resilience journey:** Having the benefit of the Integrated Catchment Modelling from the Environment Agency. Using that work to better understand our risk and to develop appropriate responses to major events.
- **Funding and support:** From multiple sources

1.2 Meet the flood warden team, our most valuable asset



1.3 Hands on!



KEY	
#	Description
1	Leaf/light debris basket (folding)
2	Small buckets and gully sump scoops
3	Large buckets (x 3 each 40 litres)
4	Gully cover lifters
5	Two sets of drain rods + attachments
6	Sledge hammer
7	Small and large crowbars
8	X 2 steel shovels
9	X 2 spades
10	X 2 'Men at Work' signs
11	X 2 Five gallon water carriers
12	X 6 small traffic cones
13	1 pair leaf grabbers
14	Spring tine rake
15	Long handled brooms
16	Adze
17	Post digger/spade
18	5' long wrecking bar
19	Brush and dustpan
20	Toolbox containing assorted hand tools; hammer, screwdrivers, pliers, lump hammer, bolster

2.1 Recruiting and Training Flood Wardens

Recruiting Flood wardens

- Have a plan. Know how many flood wardens are needed, where, and for what
- Publicise the need for help
- Use personal contacts
- Be clear, be professional, be approachable
- Explain the flood warden role
- Tell the flood risk story

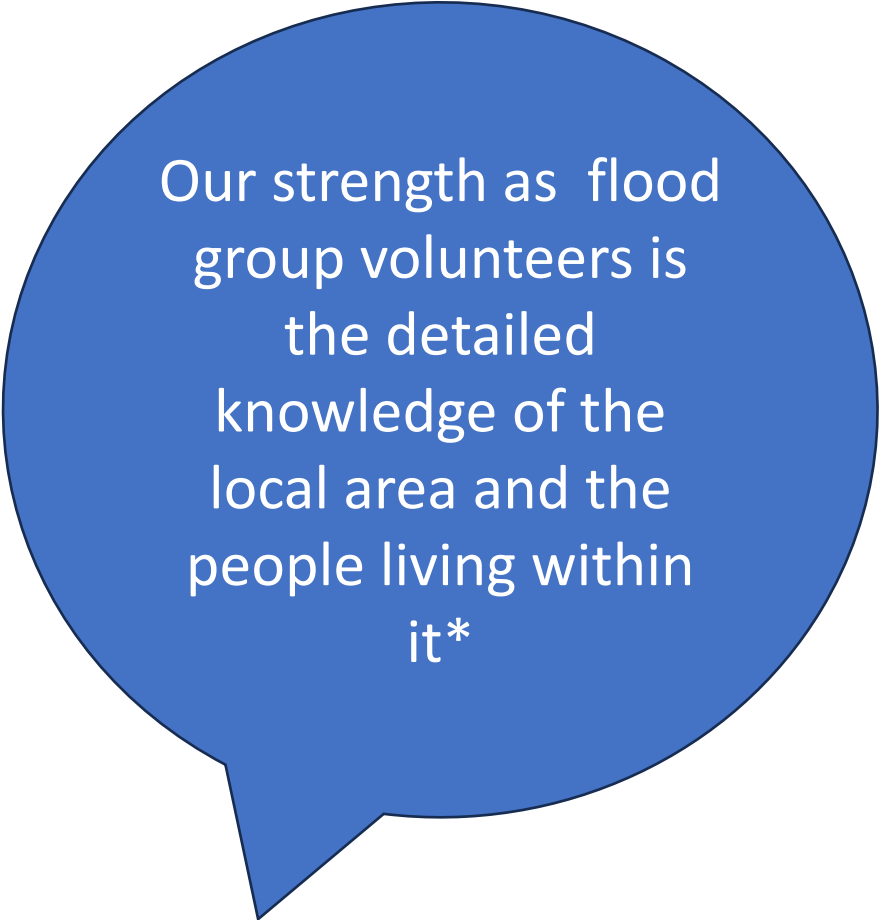


2.2 Role profiles

Estuary and Inland Team Leaders:

- Recruit and Train Flood Wardens
- Plan operations: Maintenance and Response
- Liaise with Flood Risk Agencies (Environment Agency and DCC)
- Distribute PPE, tools and equipment
- Organise Funding

Estuary Wardens	Inland Wardens
Operate village floodgates	Clear blocked gullies/covers and culverts
Monitor high tides for any follow up action	Monitor brook levels
Keep residents informed of flood risk	Keep residents informed of flood risk
Act as first responders during a flood incident	Act as first responders during a flood incident

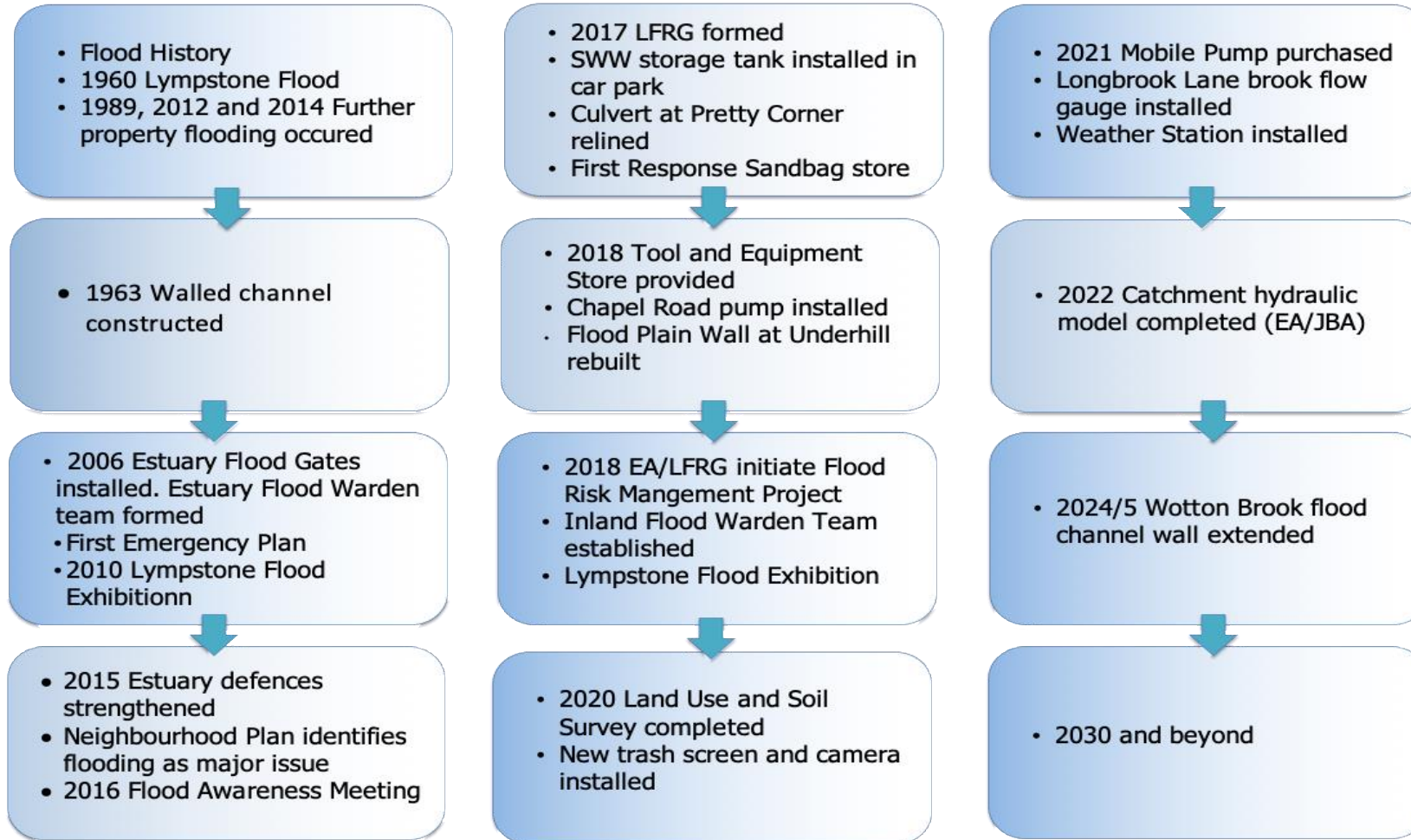


Our strength as flood group volunteers is the detailed knowledge of the local area and the people living within it*

*Adapted from EA's 'Guides for Community Emergency volunteers

2.3 Telling the flood risk story

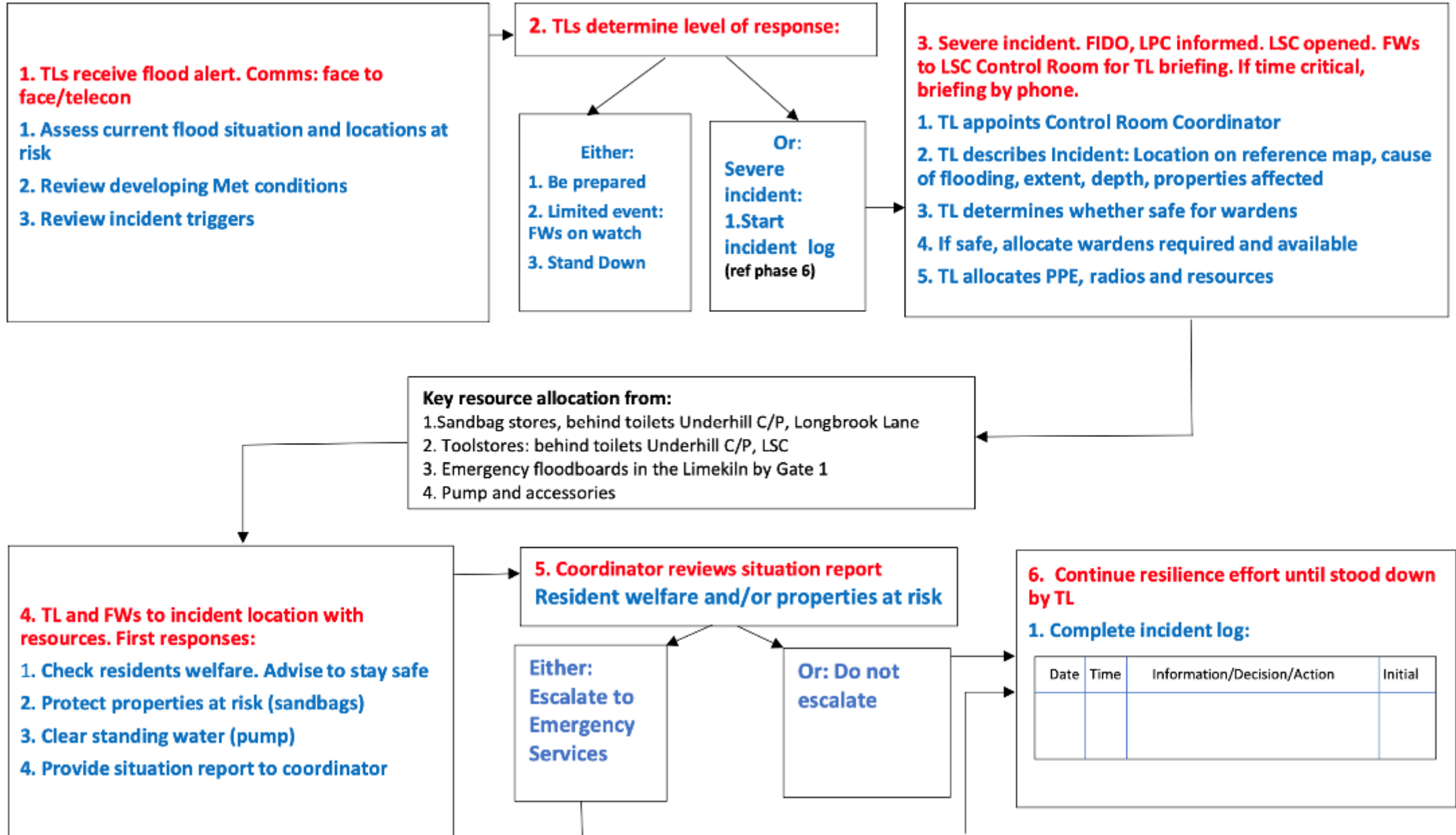
Lympstone Flood Resilience Timeline



2.4 Training and Retaining Flood Wardens

- Basic Knowledge and Skills Workshop; Support from the Environment Agency. Involve FWs in key issues, eg Flood Response Plan.





1. TLs receive flood alert. Comms: face to face/telecon

1. Assess current flood situation and locations at risk
2. Review developing Met conditions
3. Review incident triggers

2. TLs determine level of response:

Either:

1. Be prepared
2. Limited event: FWs on watch
3. Stand Down

Or:
Severe incident:

1. Start incident log (ref phase 6)

3. Severe incident. FIDO, LPC informed. LSC opened. FWs to LSC Control Room for TL briefing. If time critical, briefing by phone.

1. TL appoints Control Room Coordinator
2. TL describes Incident: Location on reference map, cause of flooding, extent, depth, properties affected
3. TL determines whether safe for wardens
4. If safe, allocate wardens required and available
5. TL allocates PPE, radios and resources

Key resource allocation from:

1. Sandbag stores, behind toilets Underhill C/P, Longbrook Lane
2. Toolstores: behind toilets Underhill C/P, LSC
3. Emergency floodboards in the Limekiln by Gate 1
4. Pump and accessories

4. TL and FWs to incident location with resources. First responses:

1. Check residents welfare. Advise to stay safe
2. Protect properties at risk (sandbags)
3. Clear standing water (pump)
4. Provide situation report to coordinator

**5. Coordinator reviews situation report
Resident welfare and/or properties at risk**

Either:
Escalate to Emergency Services

Or: Do not escalate

6. Continue resilience effort until stood down by TL

1. Complete incident log:

Date	Time	Information/Decision/Action	Initial

3. Engaging the Community

- Keep residents informed
 - Lympstone Herald Articles
 - lympstone.org website
 - Drop-in events
 - 1:1 Support of residents (eg PFR)
 - Visibility at work!



3.1 Our wider community, a team effort



4. Legacy and succession

- Eight years on...still going strong!
- What is our legacy?
 - A good understanding of the flood risks for our catchment
 - Trained and experienced teams of flood wardens
 - A good working relationship with flood risk agencies
 - Gaining the trust of Lympstone residents; we can make a difference in a flood incident
 - A willingness to share our experiences with other communities
 - Tool stores and equipment to help the resilience effort
 - A significant data bank of local resilience information



Succession planning?

We need to:

- Start now
- Accept that it won't be easy
- Look to the (slightly 😊) younger generation
- Work with our key volunteers, use their experience
- Explore all options
- Learn to let go

