

# Flood Risk and Drainage Planning Checklist

A starter resource for projects where flood, drainage or SuDS issues may affect planning.

## Quick use

Use this checklist to gather the practical information typically needed before a flood risk or drainage assessment is commissioned for planning support.

## What to clarify early

Confirm the site location, topography, development proposal and whether the site sits in an area where flood risk, drainage constraints or SuDS design are likely to be scrutinised during planning.

The planning context matters. Some projects need a focused flood risk assessment, others need drainage strategy input, and some need both brought together clearly.

## Inputs that strengthen the assessment

Helpful starting information often includes boundary plans, site levels if available, development layouts, known drainage points and any prior site constraints material already prepared.

If there are local watercourse, surface water or discharge considerations already known, include them so the assessment is not starting blind.

## Why this resource matters

Flood and drainage issues can delay planning if they are addressed too late or with generic commentary that does not fit the actual site constraints.

A better-prepared brief normally produces a more useful assessment and clearer next steps for design and planning.

## Practical checklist

Tick	Item	Notes
■	Boundary plan ready	
■	Development layout available	
■	Known levels or topography shared	
■	Drainage constraints noted	
■	Planning context reviewed	
■	Need for FRA, drainage strategy or both considered	

## **Next step**

Flood and drainage work is most effective when it is briefed around the real site and scheme constraints, not added at the last minute as a generic planning extra.

This guide is designed as a practical resource to help clients prepare for common environmental, planning and investigation requirements. Use it as a working document alongside your project information.