

## Addendum 1, April 2015

### Definition of flooded properties

The National Flood Emergency Framework for England published by Defra in December 2014<sup>1</sup> includes a definition of a 'flooded property'. Local authorities, the Environment Agency, the Fire Service, infrastructure operators and central government departments should use this definition when providing information to Defra and the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG).

Devon County Council already define a property as flooded when flood waters have entered the main property building. The following guidance clarifies this and gives some more detail on flooded properties and affected properties, which Devon County Council and its Partners will now follow when reporting the impacts of flooding:

Properties include both homes and businesses (this is a non-statutory working definition used for the collection of data)

Properties flooded are those where it is considered that the property has been flooded internally, i.e. water has entered the property;

- Basements and below ground level floors are included;
- Garages are included if in the fabric of the building. Garages adjacent or separate from the main building are not included;
- Includes occupied caravans and park homes, but not tents.

This definition is based on homes, but includes businesses where water has entered the fabric of the buildings.

**Properties affected:** are those where water has entered gardens or surrounding areas which restricts access, or where flooding has disrupted essential services to the property such as sewerage. For businesses this includes those where the flood waters are directly preventing them trading as usual.

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<sup>1</sup> The National Flood Emergency Framework for England, December 2014, Defra:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-national-flood-emergency-framework-for-england>