

# News Release

Issued on: Monday 06 January 2025

## **Major Incident Declared Due to Flooding Across Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland**

At 07:35 on Monday 06 January 2025, Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service (LFRS) declared a major incident in response to widespread flooding across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

Since this morning, LFRS Control has received over 200 calls, with crews attending incidents involving cars stuck in flood water, evacuating residents from flooded homes, and rising water. So far, 17 members of the public have been rescued by LFRS crews. Appliances from all Stations across the Service are actively responding to calls.

Judi Beresford, Assistant Chief Fire and Rescue Officer said, "Flooding poses a serious risk to lives and property, and we urge everyone to take these warnings seriously. Our Control room and crews are working tirelessly to assist those in need and to keep people safe.

"We are working with our partners to reduce the impact of this major incident and ask the public to avoid flooded routes when travelling and never to enter floodwater"

If you are experiencing flooding at your property, take the following steps:

- Implement your flood action plan
- Keep every person and animal safe
- Move any important documents upstairs to a first-floor
- Sandbags may be provided by your local council; in the event this is not the case, a local builder's yard can normally help
- Turn off electricity, gas, and water
- Take photos of any flood damage
- Sign up for free flood alerts in your local area, if you haven't already
- Contact your insurance provider who can help you further

- Check on vulnerable neighbours and see if they require further assistance

Plan your journey before travelling:

- Maps indicating slower travel time could be due to flood water blocking the road
- Local Facebook groups, Nextdoor, and your local radio can also update you on road closures and flooding
- If you see a flood blocking your route, turn around and find an alternative way. Flood water is often deeper than you think
- If you do get stuck and it's an emergency, call 999 and contact your car insurance provider and recovery service if required

For the latest updates and to check for flood risks in your area, visit the [GOV.UK Flood Warning Service](#).

Find out more about staying safe during adverse weather conditions on our website: <https://leics-fire.gov.uk/adverse-weather-conditions>

**ENDS**

#### **Notes to Editors:**

Interviews can be arranged through prior arrangement with Corporate Communications on the details below.

#### **About the Service**

Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service provides emergency response, prevention and protection services from 20 stations across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. Its headquarters is based in Birstall, Leicester.

During 2022/23, we attended a total of 9,440 emergency incidents, including 2,650 fires and 710 road traffic collisions. A total of 13,660 Home Safety Checks were completed and we fitted 4,767 smoke alarms. 238 schools were visited as part of the Service's schools programme, delivering fire and road safety education to 21,033 pupils.

The Service's prevention, education, enforcement and inspection programmes have resulted in significant reductions in the number of incidents attended.

#### **Contact:**

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