

▶ A flood warning has been issued in your area – YOU NEED TO ACT NOW.

**Flood water can rise quickly, stay calm and reassure those around you.
Follow these simple steps to stay safe**

1. Check in with other people in your household – if they are not at home, make sure they are somewhere safe.
2. Gather essential items together either upstairs or in a high place.
3. Fill jugs and saucepans with clean water.
4. Move your family and pets upstairs, or to a high place with a means of escape.
5. Turn off gas, electricity and water supplies when flood water is about to enter your home if it is safe to do so. **DO NOT** touch sources of electricity when standing in flood water.
6. Keep listening to local radio for updates or call Floodline on 0345 988 1188.
7. Check in with vulnerable neighbours or relatives.
8. Do not approach any fast flowing or deep standing water, you risk drowning, regardless of your ability to swim. Shallow standing water can be dangerous for small children.
9. Call 999 if you are in danger.



Protect what you can

Take items upstairs or to a safe place in your property

- Safely store important documents such as insurance papers.
- Move items of personal value such as photographs and treasures mementos.
- Move lightweight household belongings that you can pick up easily and quickly.

If possible, move your outside belongings to higher ground

- If the flood water has not reached you, move your vehicle to higher ground and move outdoor pets to safety.

Help stop water entering your home

- Put plugs in sinks and baths. Weigh them down with a sandbag, or a pillow-case or plastic bag filled with garden soil or a heavy object.

If you do not have non-return valves fitted

- Plug water inlet pipes with towels or cloths.
- Disconnect any equipment that uses water, such as washing machines and dishwashers.

Stay safe, always listen to the advice of the emergency services and evacuate when told to do so

- Leave your home if the emergency services say so. Refusing to leave on their advice will put you, your family and those trying to help at risk.
- When you are evacuated, you will be taken to an evacuation centre run by Wigan Council. Bring with you spare clothing, essential medication and baby items if you have an infant.
- Most of Wigan Council's evacuation centres will let you bring your pets. Take their food with you. Put cats and small animals in a pet carrier or secure box. Ensure dogs are on a lead.
- Staff and volunteers running the centre are trained to operate an evacuation centre. Trained staff will be in attendance to give you support and advice. They will help you through the stress of a flood and prepare you for what to do afterwards.