# Why a community approach to flood risk management is important -**An Environment Agency** Perspective

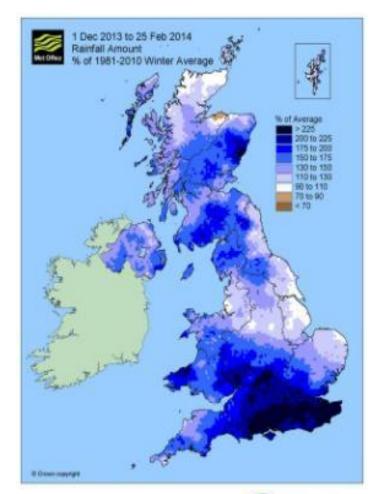
Pete Fox Head of Strategy and Investment 13 March 2014



## Wet and stormy winter









### Our response

#### Warning, informing, preparing

December to February flooding

Over Christmas and into the new year our staff have been working around the clock to protect communities from the effects of flooding. Here is some of the work we have been doing.





Clearing trash screens so culverts don't get blocked



Running incident rooms so we can warn and inform people



Removing debris from rivers to keep them flowing



Deploying temporary defences to protect homes and businesses



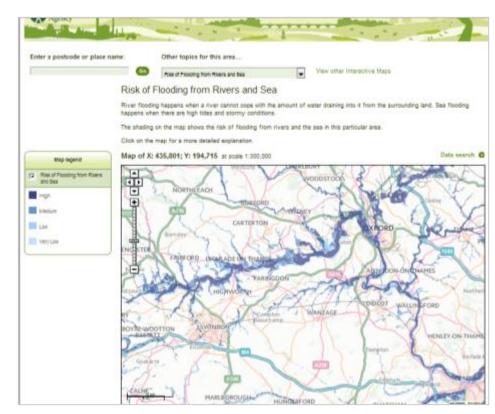
Closing flood barriers to protect communities



Repairing nature's natural defences after storm damage

#### Our role: Understand the risk

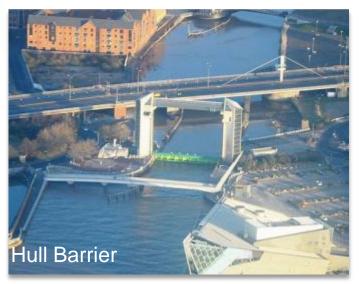
- Around 5 million properties are at risk of flooding in England,
  - 2.4 million from rivers and sea and
  - 3 million properties from surface water flooding.





#### Our role: Reduce the risk

- Build, maintain and operate defences
- Advise on development in the flood plain









- In total, Since the beginning of December the EA has protected:
- Over 1.3 million properties
- 2,500 square kilometres of farmland



# Improve community engagement



## Thank you

