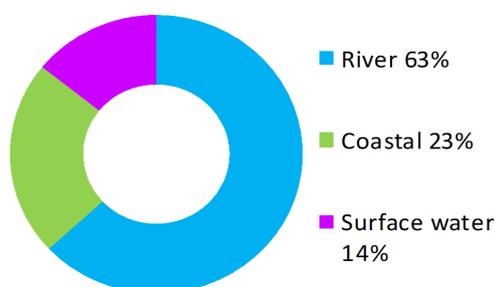


# Nairn West and Ardersier (Potentially Vulnerable Area 01/17)

Local Plan District	Local authority	Main catchment
Highland and Argyll	The Highland Council	Inverness coastal

## Summary of flooding impacts



### At risk of flooding

- 30 residential properties
- 30 non-residential properties
- £73,000 Annual Average Damages

(damages by flood source shown left)

Summary of flooding impacts

## Summary of objectives to manage flooding

Objectives have been set by SEPA and agreed with flood risk management authorities. These are the aims for managing local flood risk. The objectives have been grouped in three main ways: by reducing risk, avoiding increasing risk or accepting risk by maintaining current levels of management.

Many organisations, such as Scottish Water and energy companies, actively maintain and manage their own assets including their risk from flooding. Where known, these actions are described here. Scottish Natural Heritage and Historic Environment Scotland work with site owners to manage flooding where appropriate at designated environmental and/or cultural heritage sites. These actions are not detailed further in the Flood Risk Management Strategies.

Objectives

## Summary of actions to manage flooding

The actions below have been selected to manage flood risk.

Flood protection scheme/works	<i>Natural flood management works</i>	<i>New flood warning</i>	<i>Community flood action groups</i>	<i>Property level protection scheme</i>	<i>Site protection plans</i>
Flood protection study	<i>Natural flood management study</i>	Maintain flood warning	Awareness raising	<i>Surface water plan/study</i>	Emergency plans/response
<i>Maintain flood protection scheme</i>	Strategic mapping and modelling	Flood forecasting	Self help	Maintenance	Planning policies

Actions

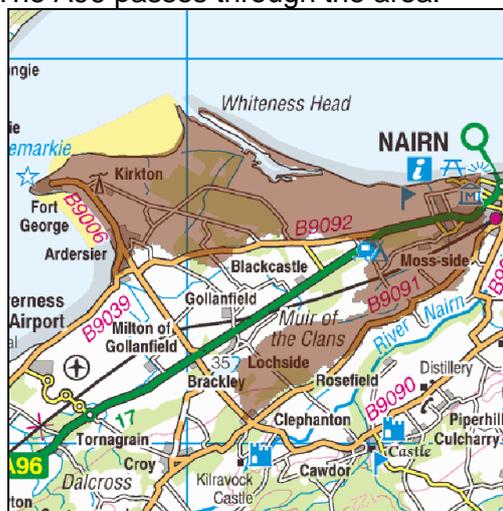
# Nairn West and Ardersier (Potentially Vulnerable Area 01/17)

Local Plan District	Local authority	Main catchment
Highland and Argyll	The Highland Council	Inverness coastal

## Background

This Potentially Vulnerable Area is approximately 32km<sup>2</sup>. It is located on the Moray Firth and includes the western part of Nairn as well as Kirkton and Ardersier (shown below).

The A96 passes through the area.

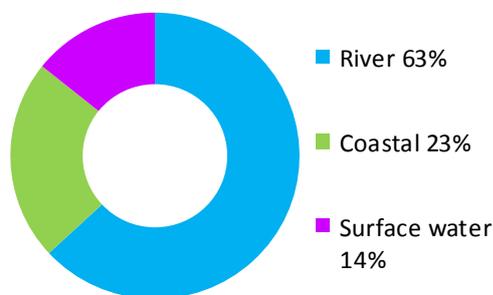


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The River Nairn lies to the east and the main river in the area is the Alton Burn.

There are approximately 30 residential and 30 non-residential properties at risk of flooding.

The Annual Average Damages are approximately £73,000 with the majority caused by river flooding.



**Figure 1: Annual Average Damages by flood source**

## Summary of flooding impacts

The seafront of Ardersier is at risk of coastal flooding. Flooding from wave action is not fully represented in the assessment of flood risk in this area and it is likely that the number of properties at risk and the damages from coastal flooding are underestimated. River flood risk is from the Alton Burn which affects properties and agricultural land to the west of Nairn.

The risk of flooding to people and property, as well as to community facilities, utilities, the transport network, designated sites and agricultural land is summarised in Table 1.

The risk of flooding to utilities in Table 1 does not include Scottish Water data. Scottish Water undertook a national assessment of above ground assets at medium likelihood of flooding (including water treatment works, wastewater treatment works, and pumping stations). Within this Potentially Vulnerable Area there is one asset identified as being at risk of flooding.

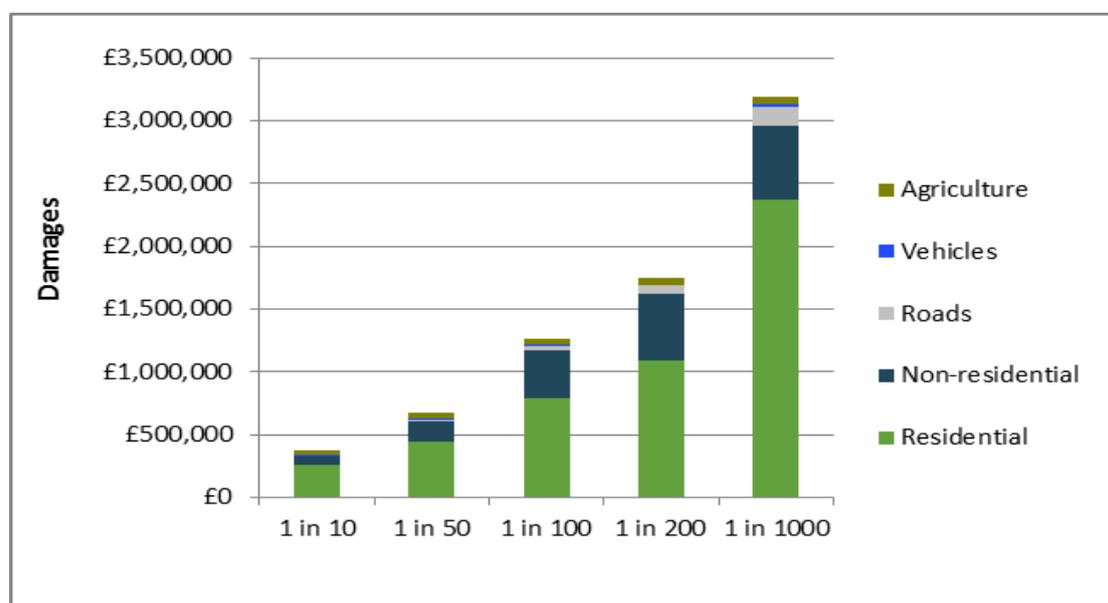
Minor roads on the western side of Nairn and the Nairn to Inverness railway line are at risk of flooding. Seven designated cultural heritage sites and areas of environmental importance are at risk. These include the Inner Moray Firth Special

Protection Area, Whiteness Head Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Kildrummie Kames SSSI.

The damages associated with floods of different likelihood are shown in Figure 2. For this Potentially Vulnerable Area the highest damages are to residential properties followed by damages to non-residential properties. The location of the impacts of flooding is shown in Figure 3.

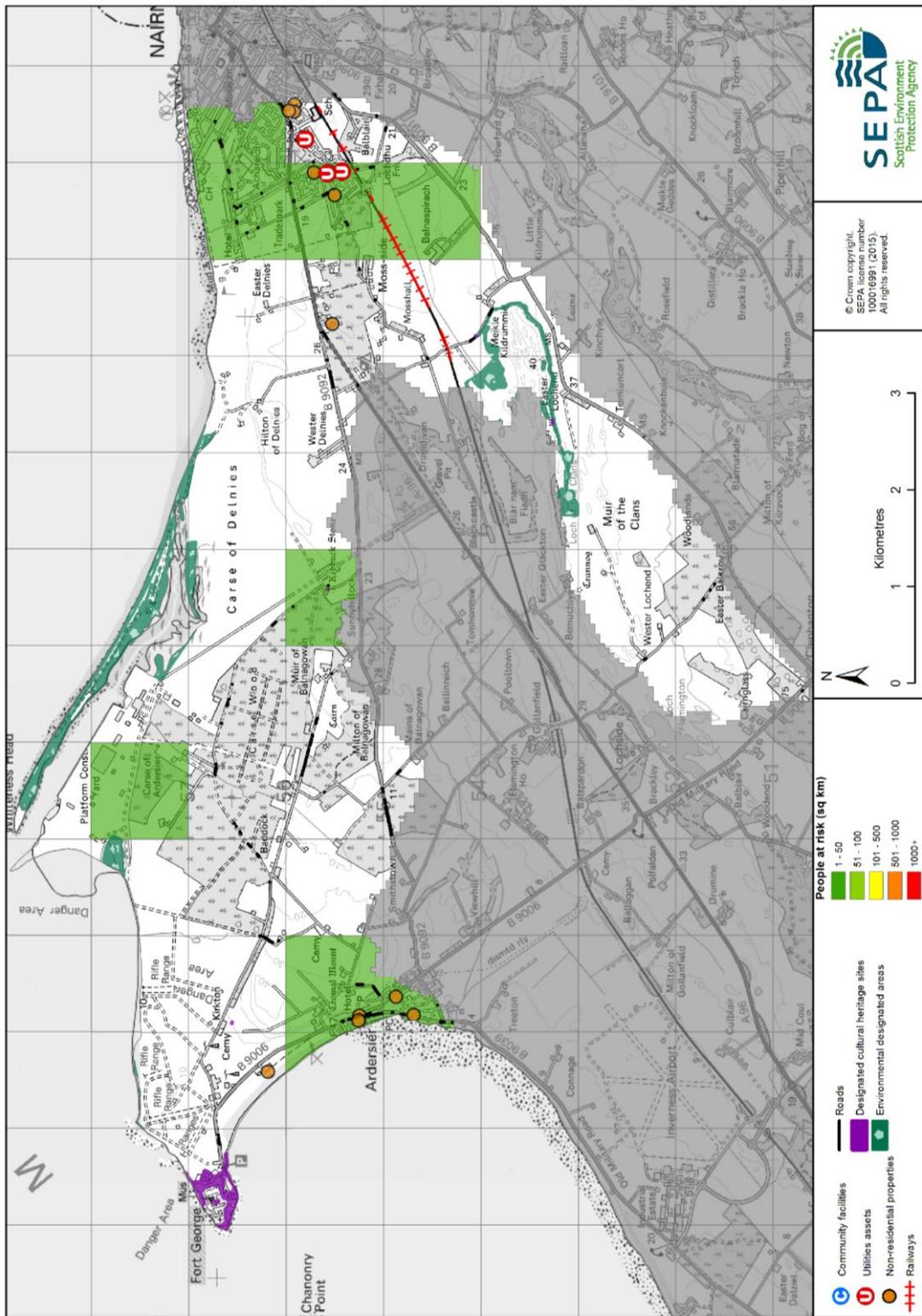
	1 in10 High likelihood	1 in 200 Medium likelihood	1 in 1000 Low likelihood
Residential properties (total 2,000)	<10	30	80
Non-residential properties (total 120)	<10	30	30
People	10	70	170
Community facilities	0	0	<10 Healthcare facilities
Utilities assets	<10	<10	<10
Transport links (excluding minor roads)	Roads at 50 locations Rail at 10 locations	Roads at 80 locations Rail at 10 locations	Roads at 90 locations Rail at 10 locations
Environmental designated areas (km <sup>2</sup> )	1	1	1
Designated cultural heritage sites	5	7	8
Agricultural land (km <sup>2</sup> )	2	3	3

**Table 1:** Summary of flooding impacts<sup>1</sup>



**Figure 2:** Damages by flood likelihood

<sup>1</sup> Some receptors are counted more than once if flooded from multiple sources



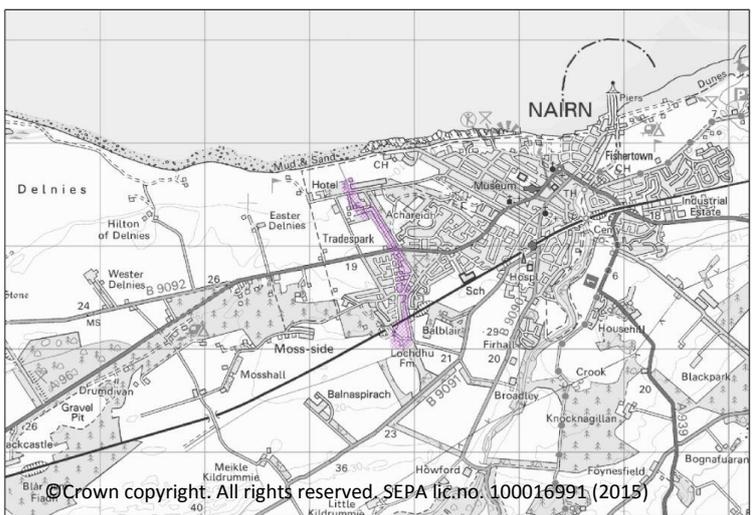
**Figure 3: Impacts of flooding**

## History of flooding

The only flood recorded in this Potentially Vulnerable Area was in January 2005, when flooding peaked at high tide, submerging drainage outfalls in Ardersier.

## Objectives to manage flooding in Potentially Vulnerable Area 01/17

Objectives provide a common goal and shared ambition for managing floods. These objectives have been set by SEPA and agreed with flood risk management authorities following consultation. They were identified through an assessment of the underlying evidence of the causes and impacts of flooding. Target areas have been set to focus actions; they do not necessarily correspond to areas at risk in SEPA’s flood map. The objectives below have been set for Nairn West and Ardersier Potentially Vulnerable Area.

Reduce flood risk in Nairn West from the Alton Burn	
Indicators:	Target area:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>£11,000 Annual Average Damages from residential properties</li> </ul>	 <p style="font-size: small; text-align: center;">© Crown copyright. All rights reserved. SEPA lic.no. 100016991 (2015)</p>
Objective ID: 101701	

Target area	Objective	ID	Indicators within PVA
Nairn West and Ardersier	Reduce the physical risk, or disruption risk, related to areas of the A96 at risk of flooding	1303	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 locations on the A96 with a total length of 30m</li> </ul>
Applies across Highland and Argyll Local Plan District	Avoid an overall increase in flood risk	100001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 residential properties</li> <li>£73,000 Annual Average Damages</li> </ul>
Applies across Highland and Argyll Local Plan District	Reduce overall flood risk	100002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 residential properties</li> <li>£73,000 Annual Average Damages</li> </ul>
Applies across Highland and Argyll Local Plan District	Organisations such as Scottish Water, energy companies and Historic Environment Scotland actively maintain and manage their own assets, including the risk of flooding. These actions are not detailed further in the Flood Risk Management Strategies.		

## Actions to manage flooding in Potentially Vulnerable Area 01/17

Actions describe where and how flood risk will be managed. These actions have been set by SEPA and agreed with flood risk management authorities following consultation. Selection of actions to deliver the agreed objectives was based on a detailed assessment and comparison of economic, social and environmental criteria. The actions shaded and then described below have been selected as the most appropriate for Nairn West and Ardersier Potentially Vulnerable Area.

Selected actions					
Flood protection scheme/works	<i>Natural flood management works</i>	<i>New flood warning</i>	<i>Community flood action groups</i>	<i>Property level protection scheme</i>	<i>Site protection plans</i>
Flood protection study	<i>Natural flood management study</i>	Maintain flood warning	Awareness raising	<i>Surface water plan/study</i>	Emergency plans/response
<i>Maintain flood protection scheme</i>	Strategic mapping and modelling	Flood forecasting	Self help	Maintenance	Planning policies

<b>Action (ID):</b>	<b>FLOOD PROTECTION SCHEME/WORKS (1303021)</b>		
<b>Objective (ID):</b>	Reduce the physical risk, or disruption risk, related to areas of the A96 at risk of flooding (1303)		
<b>Delivery lead:</b>	Transport Scotland		
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Not started</b>	Indicative delivery:	<b>2028-2033</b>
<b>Description:</b>	Transport Scotland will carry out civil engineering work which will reduce flood risk to identified sections of the A96.		

<b>Action (ID):</b>	<b>FLOOD PROTECTION STUDY (1017010005)</b>		
<b>Objective (ID):</b>	Reduce flood risk in Nairn West from the Alton Burn (101701)		
<b>Delivery lead:</b>	The Highland Council		
<b>Priority:</b>	National:	Within local authority:	
	<b>152 of 168</b>	<b>20 of 23</b>	
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Not started</b>	Indicative delivery:	<b>2022-2027</b>
<b>Description:</b>	A study of the Alton Burn is required to further investigate the feasibility of a flood protection scheme for Nairn West, focusing on improving road bridges to improve conveyance, and consideration of property level protection for residual risk. Other actions may also be considered to develop the most sustainable range of options. The study should look to confirm the feasibility of improving the road structures and the impact on flood risk, and the business case for		

	flood protection works. Surveys of the road structures may be required.
Potential impacts	
<b>Economic:</b>	The flood protection study should confirm the economic impacts and number of properties at risk. Potential damages avoided of up to £490,000.
<b>Social:</b>	The flood protection study should confirm the number of people at risk. Nairn has a higher than average proportion of vulnerable residents. A reduction in flood risk would have a positive benefit to the health and wellbeing of the community and socially vulnerable people. There could be benefits to an energy production/electricity utility site and the railway line. Negative impacts through disturbance to the local community during the construction phase should be considered.
<b>Environmental:</b>	Flood protection studies should consider the positive and negative impacts of proposed actions on the ecological quality of the environment. Opportunities to mitigate any environmental impacts may include design and timing of works. There is potential for impacts on habitats and changes to channel morphology. There may be opportunities to improve conditions at structures and culverts through the design of improvement works i.e. creating more natural beds.

<b>Action (ID):</b>	<b>STRATEGIC MAPPING AND MODELLING (1000020019)</b>		
<b>Objective (ID):</b>	Reduce overall flood risk (100002)		
<b>Delivery lead:</b>	Scottish Water		
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Not started</b>	Indicative delivery:	<b>2016-2021</b>
<b>Description:</b>	Scottish Water will carry out an assessment of flood risk within the highest risk sewer catchments to improve knowledge and understanding of surface water flood risk.		

<b>Action (ID):</b>	<b>MAINTAIN FLOOD WARNING (1000020030)</b>		
<b>Objective (ID):</b>	Reduce overall flood risk (100002)		
<b>Delivery lead:</b>	SEPA		
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Existing</b>	Indicative delivery:	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>Description:</b>	Continue to maintain the 'Ardersier to Nairn' flood warning area which is part of the Moray Firth coastal flood warning scheme.		

<b>Action (ID):</b>	<b>FLOOD FORECASTING (1000020009)</b>		
<b>Objective (ID):</b>	Reduce overall flood risk (100002)		
<b>Delivery lead:</b>	SEPA		
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Existing</b>	Indicative delivery:	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>Description:</b>	<p>The Scottish Flood Forecasting Service is a joint initiative between SEPA and the Met Office that produces daily, national flood guidance statements which are issued to Category 1 and 2 Responders. The service also provides information which allows SEPA to issue flood warnings, giving people a better chance of reducing the impact of flooding on their home or business. For more information please visit SEPA's website.</p> <p>The Potentially Vulnerable Area is within the 'Findhorn, Nairn, Moray and Speyside' flood alert area.</p>		

<b>Action (ID):</b>	<b>SELF HELP (1000020011)</b>		
<b>Objective (ID):</b>	Reduce overall flood risk (100002)		
<b>Delivery lead:</b>	—		
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Existing</b>	Indicative delivery:	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Everyone is responsible for protecting themselves and their property from flooding. Property and business owners can take simple steps to reduce damage and disruption to their homes and businesses should flooding happen. This includes preparing a flood plan and flood kit, installing property level protection, signing up to Floodline and Resilient Communities initiatives, and ensuring that properties and businesses are insured against flood damage.</p>		

<b>Action (ID):</b>	<b>AWARENESS RAISING (1000020013)</b>		
<b>Objective (ID):</b>	Reduce overall flood risk (100002)		
<b>Delivery lead:</b>	Responsible authorities		
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Existing</b>	Indicative delivery:	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>Description:</b>	<p>SEPA and the responsible authorities have a duty to raise public awareness of flood risk. Improved awareness of flood risk and actions that prepare individuals, homes and businesses for flooding can reduce the overall impact.</p> <p>From 2016 SEPA will engage with the community through local participation in national initiatives, including partnership working with Neighbourhood Watch Scotland. In addition, SEPA will engage with local authorities and community resilience groups where possible. Local authorities will be undertaking additional awareness raising activities. Further details will be set out in the Local FRM Plan.</p>		

<b>Action (ID):</b>	<b>MAINTENANCE (1000020007)</b>		
<b>Objective (ID):</b>	Reduce overall flood risk (100002)		
<b>Delivery lead:</b>	The Highland Council, asset / land managers		
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Existing</b>	Indicative delivery:	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>Description:</b>	Local authorities have a duty to assess watercourses and carry out clearance and repair works where such works would substantially reduce flood risk. They produce schedules of clearance and repair works and make these available for public inspection. Scottish Water undertake inspection and repair on the public sewer network. Asset owners and riparian landowners are responsible for the maintenance and management of their own assets including those which help to reduce flood risk.		

<b>Action (ID):</b>	<b>EMERGENCY PLANS/RESPONSE (1000020014)</b>		
<b>Objective (ID):</b>	Reduce overall flood risk (100002)		
<b>Delivery lead:</b>	Category 1 and 2 Responders		
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Existing</b>	Indicative delivery:	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>Description:</b>	Providing an emergency response to flooding is the responsibility of many organisations, including local authorities, the emergency services and SEPA. Effective management of an emergency response relies on emergency plans that are prepared under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 by Category 1 and 2 Responders. The emergency response by these organisations is co-ordinated through regional and local resilience partnerships. This response may be supported by the work of voluntary organisations.		

<b>Action (ID):</b>	<b>PLANNING POLICIES (1000010001)</b>		
<b>Objective (ID):</b>	Avoid an overall increase in flood risk (100001) Reduce overall flood risk (100002)		
<b>Delivery lead:</b>	Planning authority		
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Existing</b>	Indicative delivery:	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>Description:</b>	Scottish Planning Policy and accompanying Planning Advice Notes set out Scottish Ministers' priorities for the operation of the planning system and for the development and use of land. In terms of flood risk management, the policy supports a catchment-scale approach to sustainable flood risk management and aims to build the resilience of our cities and towns, encourage sustainable land management in our rural areas, and to address the long-term vulnerability of parts of our coasts and islands. Under this approach, new development in areas with medium to high likelihood of flooding should be avoided. For further information on the application of national planning policies see Annex 2.		