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Introduction

Natural Resources Wales is working to find long-term flood risk management solutions for the community of Porthmadog and Tremadog, alongside delivering wider environmental, social and economic opportunities.

Throughout 2022, we have been updating our flood model to better understand the risk of flooding in the study area. Using the latest guidance, available river flow records and photographs taken during the winter 2015 event, we can predict flood risk now, and in the future, with the effects of climate change.

The model shows a greater number of homes and businesses at risk from the Afon Glaslyn, Y Cyt and from the sea. This concerns us all, and that is why NRW is focused on finding sustainable solutions to manage the risk.

In 2023, we are keen to discuss the findings from our flood model and assess a long list of options to reduce flood risk. We will be refining these options down into a Short List and then a Preferred Option, which will then form the Business Case for funding and delivery.



Flooding in Porthmadog during storm Desmond 2015
Credit: NPAS (National Police Air Service)

Porthmadog is at flood risk from both rivers and the sea as well as rain and groundwater. During high tides the rivers are unable to flow out to sea and so a combination of extreme rainfall and high tides puts many residential and commercial properties at risk of flooding. This is expected to worsen with climate change.

As our climate changes, we will face more frequent storms, heavy rainfall and rising sea levels. This will mean that severe flooding events will become more frequent. This will put increased pressure on the current flood defences in the town and will impact how they will perform.

We're here to listen to your feedback and answer any questions you have.

Come and have a chat with the team!