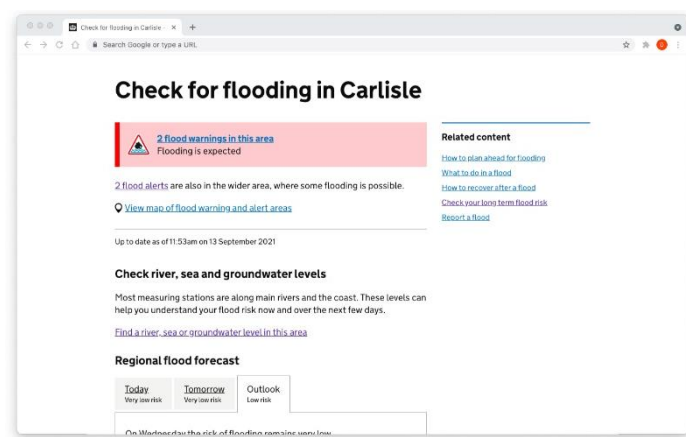


GOV.UK Check for flooding Go Live

[Check for flooding](#) will replace the Flood Information Service on 13 October 2021, weather permitting. The new service was initially available by invite only in July 2020 and opened up to everyone in February 2021 while running in parallel with the current live service. During that time, continuous improvements have been made based on user needs and feedback.

The goal of Check for flooding

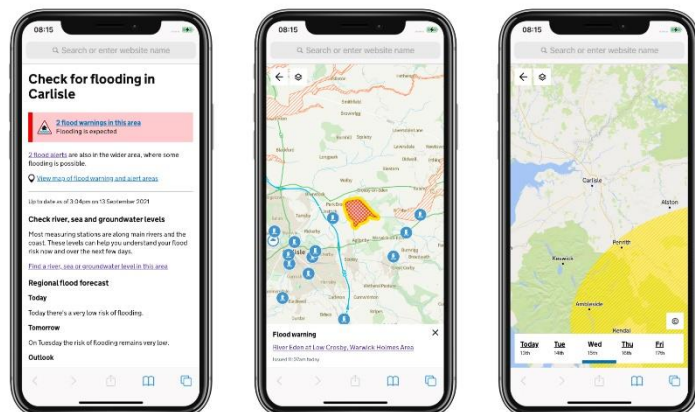
“To provide timely, up-to-date flood information in one online location, including local knowledge from communities and information from partners, enabling people to understand their flood risk easily, take action and recover from flooding.”



What will Check for flooding improve?

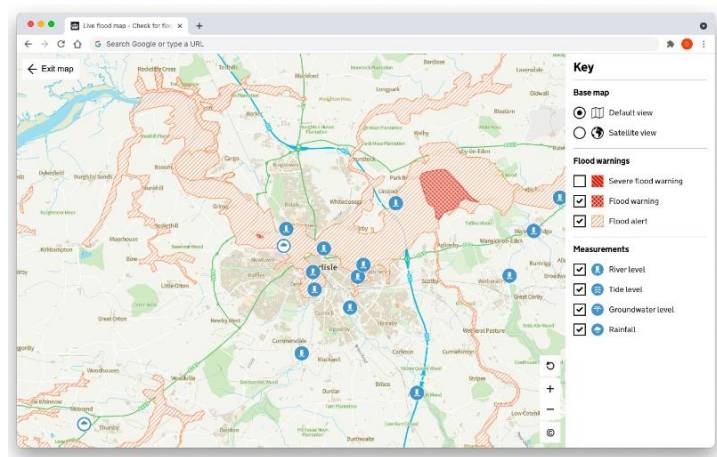
Since the Flood Information Service was launched in 2015 to provide flood warnings, river levels and the 5 day flood forecast, user research and feedback have highlighted significant pain points. The new service addresses these issues.

The design challenge has been to meet the needs of a diverse range of users. The majority simply want to know if they are going to flood, to check for flooding in their area and what to do about it. A smaller group, but no less important, want greater levels of information and detail. These include community groups or wardens who have a reach well beyond our service. The better the service can deliver on their needs, the more effectively it can influence individuals and communities to respond to and recover from flooding.



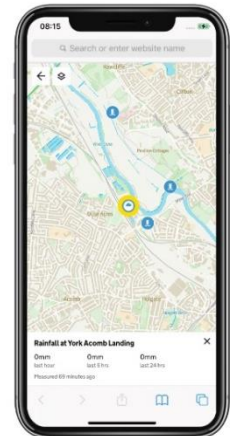
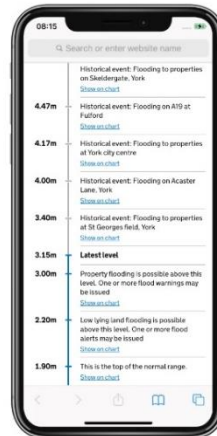
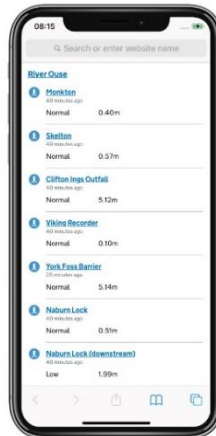
As well as the new service name and URL, the service has a new platform, design and navigation that makes it simpler and quicker to find information. In addition, it's accessible, and new features can be developed sustainably.

Check for flooding can be used on any device but has been built using mobile-first principles to reflect that over 70% of users access the service on a mobile device. A simplified user journey ensures that users from all backgrounds can quickly navigate the service to find the required information. And how information is displayed has been optimised for smaller screens.



New features

- A redesign of the location page to include any local flood warnings and alerts and an improved and more localised version of the 5 day flood forecast
- Improved map functionality that's more accessible and optimised for mobile users
- Improvements to how river level data is displayed
- Historical impact information on the river level pages
- River overview with the ability to navigate up and downstream easily
- Observed rainfall levels are available from the map and station list pages



The service has a new infrastructure and has been optimised to improve performance to ensure it can handle a larger number of concurrent users. Redirects will be in place to ensure that anyone using the old URL will be redirected to the new service. A cookie banner has also been added to ensure the service is GDPR compliant.

Future improvements

- Individual station pages for rainfall gauges
- Access to historical gauge data
- Tide times

For further information, get in touch with faye.burrows@environment-agency.gov.uk.