

**Guidance to support engagement with flood risk communities.  
Principles for Partnership Working with flood risk communities:**

Below are a draft set of principles for discussion and amendment to assist engagement with flood risk communities. They propose two-way principles that can inform and develop effective partnership working.

Please add to and amend with your team as you build your partnership.

1. Effective participation requires a culture of mutual trust, respect and partnership between flood risk communities and responsible authorities working towards common goals.
2. Effective partnership working should be seen as a continuous process where information, ideas and power are shared with flood risk communities.
3. Good partnership working allows all parties to contribute to the agenda.
4. Decision making should be open, clear and accountable.
5. Adequate time should be given to flood risk community representatives to consider issues properly. Flood risk community representatives should have the opportunity to work out a common view in advance of meeting responsible authorities.
6. Good partnership working requires responsible authorities to recognise the independence of flood risk community organisations.
7. Good partnership relationships evolve gradually and are flexible to adapt to local circumstances.
8. Flood risk community organisations require adequate resources for development, training and support.
9. Good partnerships must meet the requirements of the legislation surrounding equal opportunities.
10. Good practice in partnership working should help to remove barriers to effective participation in flood risk communities.

Responsible authorities can use or adapt these principles to inform agreements with flood risk communities, develop relationships and partnership working frameworks.

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<sup>i</sup> Adapted from registered social landlord participation strategies. These could be applied to engagement plans with agreement from flood risk communities.

Learning The Lessons. Engaging Flood Risk Communities To Reduce Flood Risks  
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