



PREVENTING PROTECTING RESPONDING



**NORTHUMBERLAND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

**2008 Northumberland Floods  
and the Impact on the Education Infrastructure**

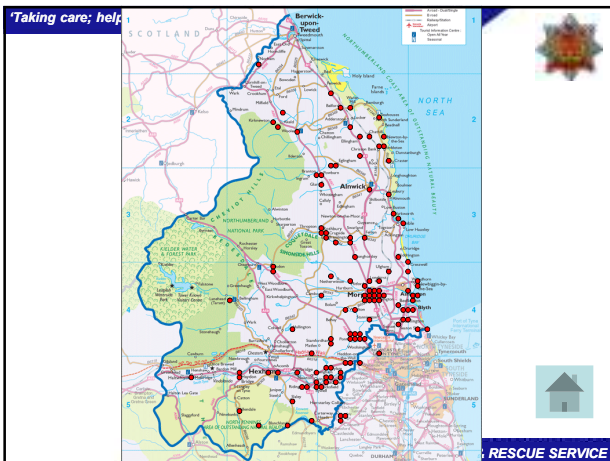
'Taking care; helping people to live in healthy and safe communities'



**Background & Overview to the Floods**

**Alex Bennett  
Deputy Chief Fire Officer**


NORTHUMBERLAND FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE



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### Fire Control Stats

- On September 6<sup>th</sup>, NFRS attended 398 separate flood related incidents from a total of almost 500 999 calls.
- 2007-08 NFRS attended 3364 actual emergency incidents (excluding AFA's) – 06.09.08 = 12% of previous years calls
- During peak periods, NFRS Fire Control was dealing with a 999 emergency call every 40 seconds.



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Environment Agency Flood Maps – (Expected & Extreme)




The map displays a town with a river flowing through it. Areas shaded in light blue represent 'Expected' flood zones, while areas shaded in dark blue represent 'Extreme' flood zones. A legend on the right side of the map provides details on the different flood risk categories and symbols used. The Environment Agency logo is visible in the top right corner of the map area.

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### Key Events

- Appeared that up to 600 homes in Ponteland would need to be evacuated as well approx 16.00hrs
- Notified that 4 electricity sub stations were about to be affected by flooding which may cut power across large parts of Morpeth.
- Staites Lane and Middle Greens areas become main focus of activity. Possible need to evacuate 40 residents from Riverside NH.
- County Infrastructure including schools, libraries, sports centres, doctors surgeries and ambulance station severely damaged.
- Evacuations and rescues conducted well into the night by NFRS and wide range of 999 partners.
- HVP used to excellent effect at Ponteland.
- Over 950 homes in Morpeth affected and approx. 400 people evacuated to Rest Centres. Large number of rescues throughout Northumberland as well as Morpeth.
- Schools utilised as Rest Centres.



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**Thank you for your attention;  
any questions?**

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