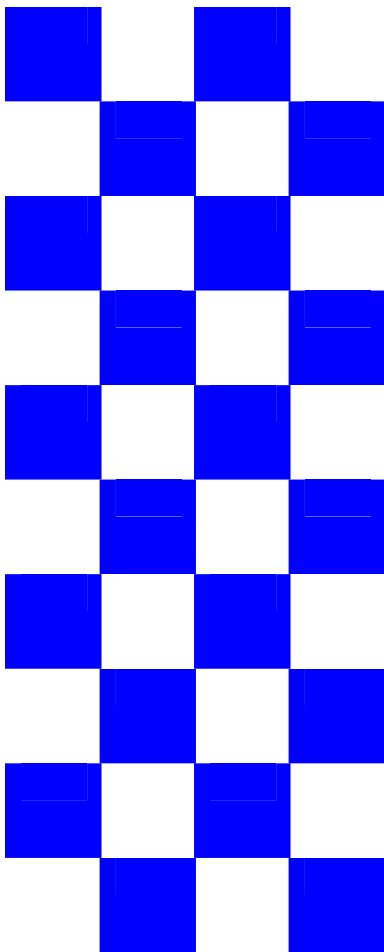


CONTINGENCY PLAN D10 FLOODING



FORCE CONTINGENCY PLAN D10

This plan is owned by the ACC (Operations Support)

This plan is administered on behalf of the Humberside Police by the Operations and Emergency Planning Unit.

This plan has been drafted in consideration of the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998. Action taken by the implementation of these procedures has the potential to impact on an individual's private and family life and property.

Therefore action will only be taken in the interest of National Security, Public Safety or the economic well being of the country, for the prevention of disorder and crime, for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.

Any action taken will be the least intrusive, necessary, proportionate and justifiable with regards to the issue that is being addressed.

This plan is not suitable for general publication, and is subject to review annually or sooner in the case of changes in policy and legislation.

Race Equality Scheme

The content of this plan has been considered under the provisions of the Race Equality Scheme, as dictated by the Race Relations Act 1976 (as amended) and deemed to be non-relevant.

This plan should be read in conjunction with:

- The Humber Major Incident procedures manual.
- Force Contingency Plan A1, Major Incidents.
- Home Office Publication 'Dealing with Disaster'

Date of publication:
20 November 2007

FLOODING**1. INFORMATION**

- 1.1 This plan deals with surface water, coastal and fluvial flooding and includes the Humber Estuary.
- 1.2 The agencies with responsibility for the dissemination of warnings for an event of flooding are The Environment Agency and the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.
- 1.3 The main organisations responsible for responding to events of surface water flooding are the Local Authorities and the Environment Agency.
- 1.4 The Emergency Services, as well as other partner agencies, will be required to respond, to varying degrees, to all events of flooding when a Major Incident is declared.

Coastal and Fluvial Flooding**1.5 The Environment Agency**

- 1.5.1 The Environment Agency is the regulatory body for matters connected with tidal and inland waterways within the United Kingdom. They have divided the country into regions and have given those regions a delegated responsibility for their own area. The Humberside Police area is covered by three regions, North East, Midlands and Anglian.
- 1.5.2 The Environment Agency receive basic tidal warning information from Bracknell (Storm Tide Forecasting Service) and then provide the Police with a more detailed warning.
- 1.5.3 The Environment Agency are also responsible for the dissemination of the flood warnings to the statutory authorities and all other parties likely to be affected. They will achieve this primarily using the Floodline Warnings Direct System and utilising all aspects of the media, PA systems and a national helpline – Flood line 0845 988 1188.

1.6 Police

- 1.6.1 The Police now have no responsibility relative to the dissemination of flood warnings. However, by virtue of our role in relation to the protection of life and property and the reassurance of the public, the Police should be prepared to assist the Environment Agency when requested and at times of serious flooding.

1.6.2 It is difficult to predict exactly what kind of assistance will be requested. It may take the form of assistance with urgent flood warnings when serious flooding is expected or through failure of existing Flood Warning Systems (e.g. Officers calling personally). The Police response will be determined by the Senior Divisional Officer who should act on advice of the Force Duty Officer.

Surface Water Flooding

1.7 General

- 1.8 Recent flooding incidents indicate that these events are occurring more frequently and with greater intensity. These increased occurrences have been attributed to climatic change.
- 1.9 Flooding can disrupt many aspects of our daily lives, from the inconvenience of the disruption of transport, to the distress and suffering caused by its invasion of houses and businesses. It can disrupt fuel and power supplies, support services, telephone landlines and may also result in the contamination of food and water supplies.
- 1.10 In the event of a Major Flooding Incident the Police will be the co-ordinating authority and will be responsible for calling together a Multi Agency Silver Command to ensure that there is a coordinated response to any flooding incident.
- 1.11 The decision to activate a Multi Agency Silver Command will be determined by the criteria as set out in the Major Incident Procedures Manual. A Multi Agency Silver Command can be called by any of the responding organisations.
- 1.12 A Multi Agency Command can physically be set up at any location. In reality, as the coordinating agency, Humberside Police should consider locating the Multi Agency Silver Command at the Command Suite, Queens Gardens Police Station.
- 1.13 Consideration should be given to calling out staff from the Operations Branch to set up and provide logistical support to a Multi Agency Silver Command.
- 1.14 Once appointed, the Police Silver Commander should ensure that the Duty ACPO Officer is contacted for strategic guidance and to consider the need to appoint a Police Gold Commander and the requirement for a Multi Agency Gold Command to sit.
- 1.15 The Duty ACPO Officer/ Police Gold Commander should be requested to consider that a Multi Agency Gold Command should sit (at least once during the incident).

- 1.16 There is often no requirement for a Multi Agency Gold Command to sit full time during the incident. Consideration should be given, however, to providing a meeting room and administrative support to the Gold Command for when the meetings are called. It may be desirable for the Gold Command meetings to be held at premises owned/ used by the incident lead agency. (ie Local Authority or Environment Agency for example). In the event that the incident involves more than one Local Authority, it may be prudent, as the coordinating agency, for the Gold Command to meet on Police premises.

2. INTENTION

Coastal and Fluvial Flooding

To provide a Police plan which ensures:-

- (a) That warning messages issued by the Environment Agency are interpreted correctly. (Wherever possible messages should be dictated by E.A. Senior person at scene.)
- (b) Those Divisions likely to be affected are notified promptly.
- (c) That appropriate personnel and services are notified.

Surface Water Flooding

To provide a Police response that:-

- (a) Ensures the protection of life and property.
- (b) Ensures that there is a coordinated multi agency response to the incident.
- (c) Ensures sufficient police resources are available to ensure a cohesive response to Force Critical Business Activities as well as responding to the incident.

3. METHOD

3.1 Action by the Environment Agency

3.1.1 Tidal Flooding

The Environment Agency is responsible for interpreting the warning messages received from Bracknell and to assess the type of warning to be issued to the Police by categorising the emergency situations and defining the predicted sea states with a warning code as follows:

Type of Warning	Meaning of Warning
Flood Watch	Flooding is expected. Be aware. Be prepared. Watch out.
Flood Warning	Flooding of homes, businesses and main roads expected. Act now.
Severe Flood warning	Severe Flooding is expected. Imminent danger to life and property. Act now.
All Clear	No flood watches currently in Force.

Such warnings are normally communicated to the Force by way of fax to the NCC, and should be retained by the FDO in an A4 ring binder.

Upon receipt of an alert message from Bracknell the Environment Agency will make an immediate assessment and notify the Command Centres approximately 10 hours before high tide if a flood / severe warning is anticipated. This will allow for Divisions to take the necessary steps to assemble staff and resources if necessary.

> In the North East Region such notification would not be possible. On detection of a surge at Aberdeen, this takes approximately 4 hours to reach Hull. This timescale may be possible in other EA Regions.

3.1.2 Fluvial Flooding

With reference to fluvial flooding not related to storm tide warnings, the Environment Agency is the primary warning service and will issue warning to the Police at the earliest possible time.

The categories of warning are the same as for Tidal Flooding. Each warning will give the area at risk.

4. ACTION BY POLICE – GENERAL

Coastal and Fluvial Flooding

- 4.1 Command Centre and Divisional Actions are listed below.
- 4.2 Divisions will update the Command Centre of local assessments, which will be considered by the Force Duty Officer relative to the advice given by the Environment Agency.
- 4.3 If anomalies occur between the advice given by the Environment Agency and Divisional information then the Force Duty Officer should liaise with the appropriate region of the Environment Agency. If contact with the Environment Agency is necessary the contact number on the warning message should be used.

Surface Water Flooding

- 4.4 When a situation has developed to the extent that the Force Duty Officer considers that a Major Incident has developed, he/ she should declare a Major Incident and consider asking representatives of partner agencies to come together as a Multi Agency Silver Command.
- 4.5 When a Major Incident has been declared by a partner agency, or when it is declared by the police, the Force Duty Officer should contact the Operations and Emergency Planning Unit to facilitate the move to the designated Silver Command.
- 4.6 The Multi Agency Silver Command will normally sit at the Command Suite, Queens Gardens Police Station.
- 4.7 The Operations and Emergency Planning Unit and/ or the Force Duty Officer will ensure that ALL partner agencies involved in the incident are requested to send a suitable representative to the Multi Agency Silver Command.

5 SPECIFIC ROLES OF HM COASTGUARD AND THE R.N.L.I.

Coastal and Fluvial Flooding

- 5.1 In the event of Coastal flooding, local HM Coastguard Rescue teams and the RNLI may be requested via the Maritime and Coastguard Agency Marine Response Centre in Bridlington in the normal way.

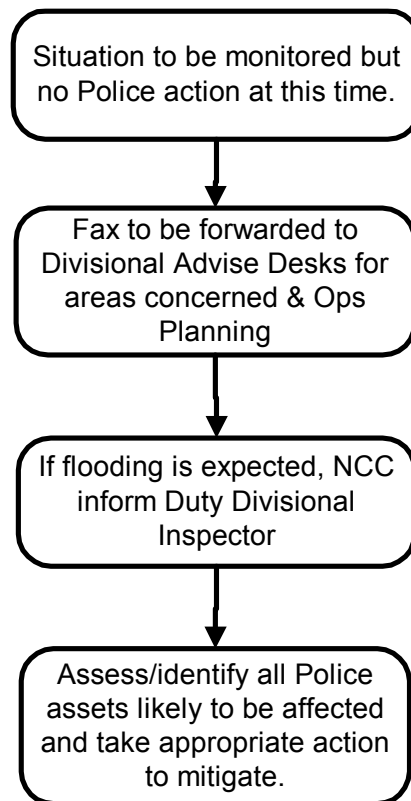
Surface Water Flooding

- 5.2 The R.N.L.I. have issued guidance to their staff (January 2003) with regards to their deployment in response to Inland flooding. These requests are subject to the following:-
 - There is immediate risk to life of victims,
 - The availability of their resources,
 - The availability of their staff and volunteers to respond,
 - A formal request is made by the Command Centre to their HQ Central Operations room on 08451 668222.

NOTE: For flooding purposes the RNLI should be treated like any other voluntary service and be called out by the appropriate sitting command. The arrangements for recharging/feeding etc are under review at this time.

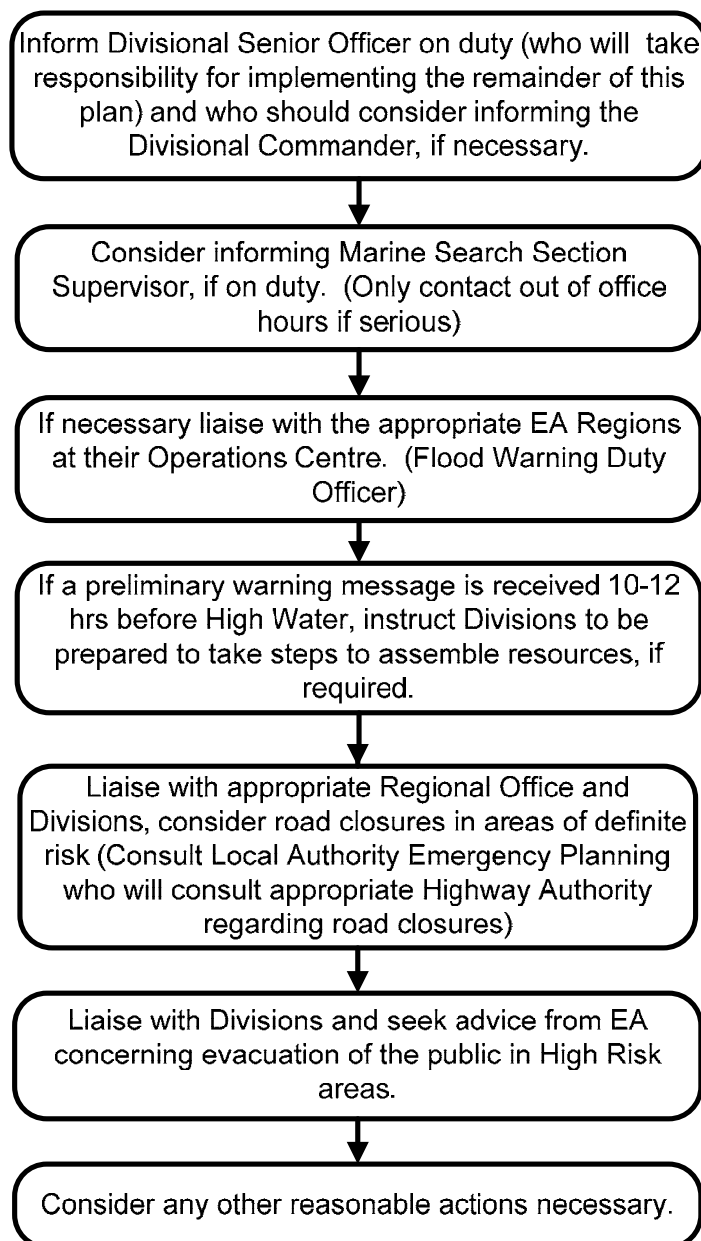
**FLOODS - COMMAND CENTRE ACTION
(FLOOD WATCH WARNING)**

The following action will be taken when a flood message is received from the Environment Agency (Normally by fax to NCC)



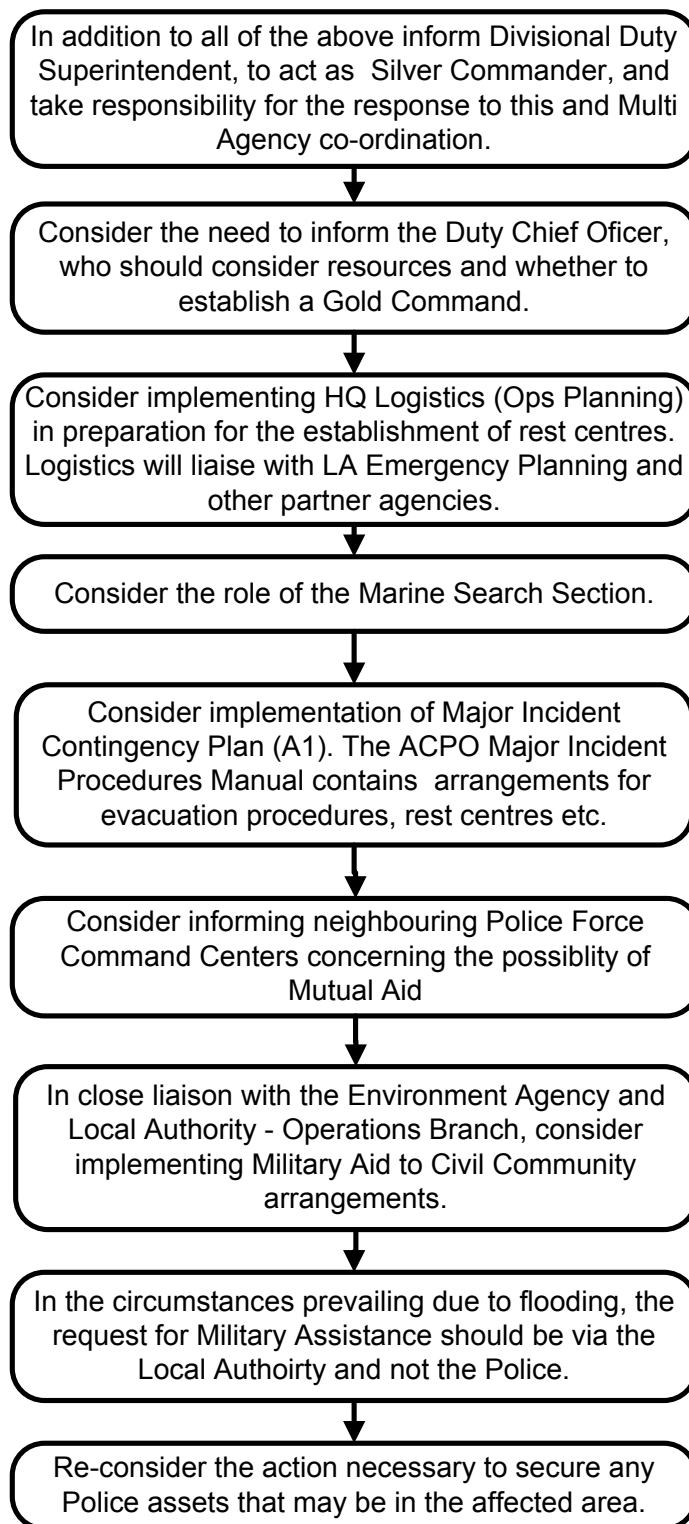
**FLOODS - COMMAND CENTRE ACTION
(FLOOD WARNING)**

In addition to the floodwatch warning action, the following action will also be taken:-



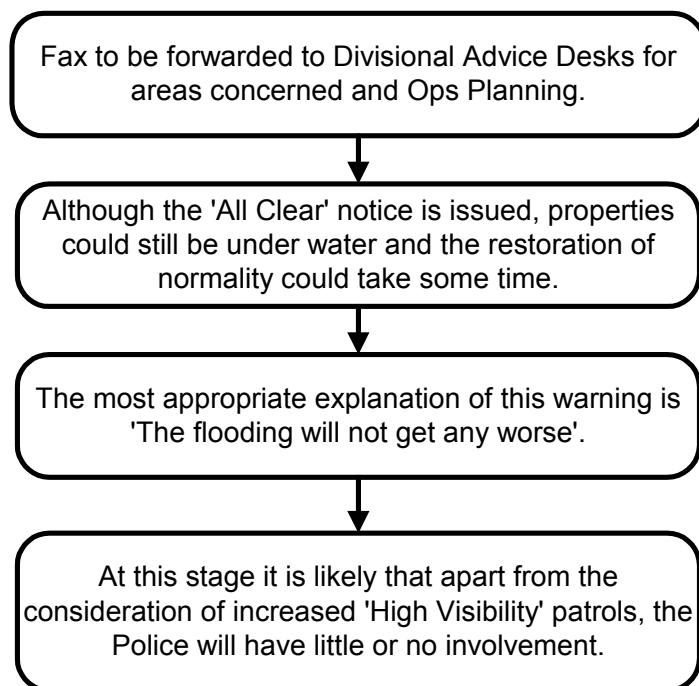
**FLOODS - COMMAND CENTRE ACTION
(SEVERE FLOOD WARNING)**

In addition to the floodwatch warning action, the following action will also be taken:-

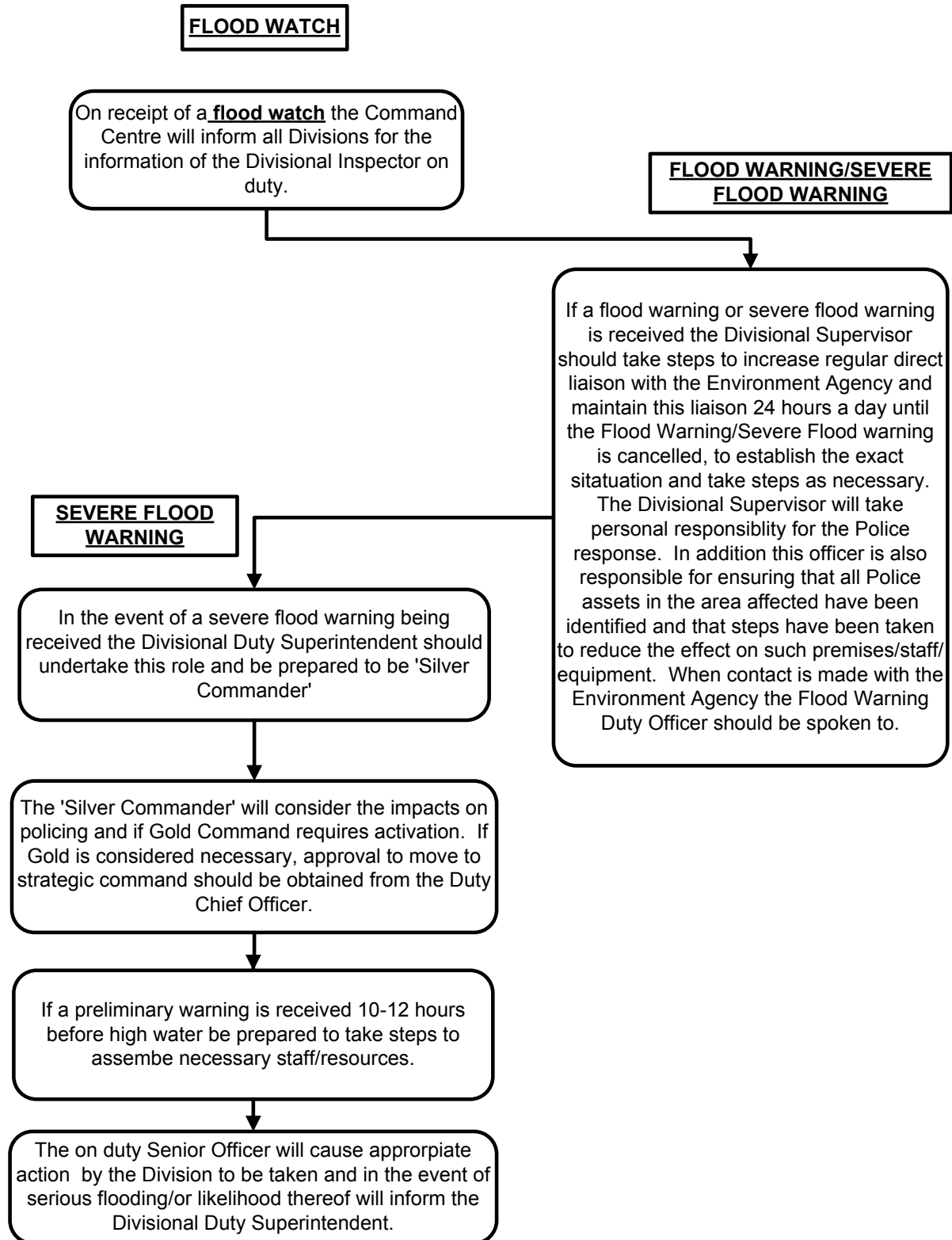


**FLOODS - COMMAND CENTRE ACTION
(ALL CLEAR)**

The following action will be taken when an 'All Clear' message is received from the Environment Agency (Normally by fax to NCC)



FLOODS - DIVISIONAL ACTION
(ALL EVENTS)



**SURFACE WATER FLOODING
COMMAND CENTRE ACTION**

