



24 March 2015

Dear ,

Access to Information (ATI) Serial Number: 10319

Properties at risk of flooding from rivers and seas/surface water in Wales

Thank you for your request which I received on 22 March 2016 regarding the number of properties at fluvial, coastal and surface water flood risk from 2005 to the present day.

Welsh Government does not hold the full collection of data requested in your email. The information is derived from flood risk assessments which, for Wales, are managed by Natural Resources Wales (NRW).

The Welsh Government's flood team do have the latest risk figures which are provided to us upon request from NRW and found in associated reports on flood risk management but do not hold the detailed historic data you have requested.

As an example, I include the latest figures (below) which were provided in August 2015. We request such updates from NRW when required and I understand these figures have remained unchanged for a couple of years – the date on the table shows it as the December 2013 figures.

Dec-13	Probability	Residential	Non-Residential
High	GE1:30	11,105	10,543
Medium	LT1:30 - GE1:100	25,635	13,844
Low	LT1:100 - GE1:1000	110,537	35,591
Very Low	LT1:1000	948	388
Sub-total		148,225	60,366
Total in Wales		208,591	

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Further to the above, NRW's surface water risk data may not go back to 2005. This is because surface water risk was only mapped and published in its current format in 2013. The current number of properties at risk from surface water flooding is 163,000 properties. Further information on risk is provided in the Section 18 Report on Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management in Wales, published 2014:

<http://www.naturalresources.wales/our-evidence-and-reports/flooding/flood-and-coastal-erosion-risk-in-wales/>

The best source for the historic data requested remains NRW. Our contact on such matters is Paul Edmonds: Paul.Edmonds@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ
or Email: FreedomOfInformationOfficer@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

I hope the above is helpful, please contact me if you require any clarification.

Yours sincerely,