What is the role of central/local government and wider society in reducing flood risk, improving resilience and preparedness?
We need to stop building in flood plains
(Summer 2007 floods - Yorkshire)
Local authority engagement programme for businesses

@FloodCarly  MDACarly@gmail.com
Local authority engagement programme for householders
Local authority engagement programme for schools
The people in communities at risk need to be involved in developing these plans.
What can communities and individuals do for themselves to build resilience ... ?
Ban the sand bag …

They don’t work - and then afterwards …

@FloodCarly  MDACarly@gmail.com
Ban the sand bag …

… used, rotting, stinking sandbags
(Somerset 2014)
Compare with modern barriers

Re-usable, washable AND effective

@FloodCarly  MDACarly@gmail.com
A sandbag wall costs £231 per metre and is single use … some temporary defences can cost as little as £205 per metre and they are re-usable.
Latest edition has 15 Case Studies of homes/small businesses and communities taking action – Peer-to-Peer method
Homeowner has implemented both resistance and resilience
Sue Cashmore uses both Resilience and Resistance – keeps shallow surface water out, but uses resilient materials to cope with deeper flood events.
Resilience can also be very stylish … #kitchen-envy
Alternative resilience – reuse and recycle!
Tanking - water outside, but warm and dry inside
Using technology, resilient materials and plain old-fashioned common sense
Resilience works even for groundwater flooding
Combined strategies – keep water/sewage out as far as possible, but be properly equipped for the residual risks.
Some novel solutions – for people and poultry too
Resilience doesn’t have to look ‘different’… you can’t tell these floors are ceramic, not real wood.
And keeping items above flood level can mean less bending down – an added bonus, as we’re all getting older!
Flood Re

- what improvements can be made to this to enhance individuals’ own preparedness?
- how can policy makers encourage individuals to take responsibility for their own risk?
- removing ‘perverse incentives’
We need to act differently now when repairing properties – because in less than 23 years time risk based pricing will return
Thank you for listening!