

Jargon	Plain English
Annual Exceedence Probability (AEP)	The chance of a rainfall event occurring or exceeding in any year as a percentage
Attenuation	Is any system that will store or hold back rainwater to slow it down
Catchment areas	It is all the area of land that sends rainwater to the same place (e.g. a floodplain, river, stream)
Culvert	A pipe that carry's flowing water (e.g. stream) under an obstruction (e.g road or building)
Debris screen	A grille that traps debris (e.g branches) from going into a pipe and getting stuck
Department for Work, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	Part of central government responsible for improving and protecting the environment includign flood management
Dike	Like a ditch, a feature that moves rainwater along
Flood & Water Management Act (FWMA)	Act of Parliament relating to the management of risks concerning flooding and coastal erosion
Flood alleviation schemes	Work that is undertaken to reduce the risk of flooding
Fluvial water	Water from main rivers and ordinary watercourses
Groundwater	All water which is below the surface of the ground
Infiltration	The process by which water on the surface enters the ground below
Integrated catchment management	it is achieving water mangement and land mangement benefits at the same time
Land Drainage Consents	Permission required for certain types of works in a watercourse
Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA)	Is Kirklees for our district and is responsible for the management of local flood risk
Natural Flood Management (NFM)	When natural processes are used to reduce the risk of flooding and erosion (e.g planting trees)
Ordinary watercourses	Any waterway that is not a main river. Ordinary watercourses can vary in size considerably and can include rivers, streams and all ditches, drains, cuts, culverts, dikes, sluices, sewers (other than public sewers within the meaning of the Water Industry Act 1991)
Riparian zone	is the area a landlowner is responsible for a watercourse in their land (e.g. an open stream on the surface or a cvlvert below ground)
Risk Management Authority (RMA)	Are responsible for flood risk management, so an RMA includes Environment Agency, Yorkshire Water, LLFA and Highway Authority which is Kirklees for the district)
Sluice	A moveable gate controlling the flow of water
Soakaway	A pit, can be filled with stone, into which clean waster water is piped so that it drains slowly out into the surrounding soil
SuDS hierarchy	There is a hierarchy of preferred drainage options, starting with better infiltration and ending with using existing or new sewers
Surcharge	When the amount of water flowing exceeds the capacity of the watercourse or drainge system and starts pouring out
Surface runoff	Rainwater (including snow and other precipitation) which is moving on the surface of the ground and has not entered a watercourse, drainage system or public sewer
Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)	Manage surface water and runoff as close to the source as possible, mimicking natural drainage where possible
Swale	Shallow, broad and vegetated channels designed to store and/or convey rainwater runoff

ps. These are not legal definitions but an attempt has been made to simplify them for the purposes of plain english.