# Flood Outlook

04 November 2026 to 29 November 2026

Issued 30/10/2026

Next Issue 13/11/2026

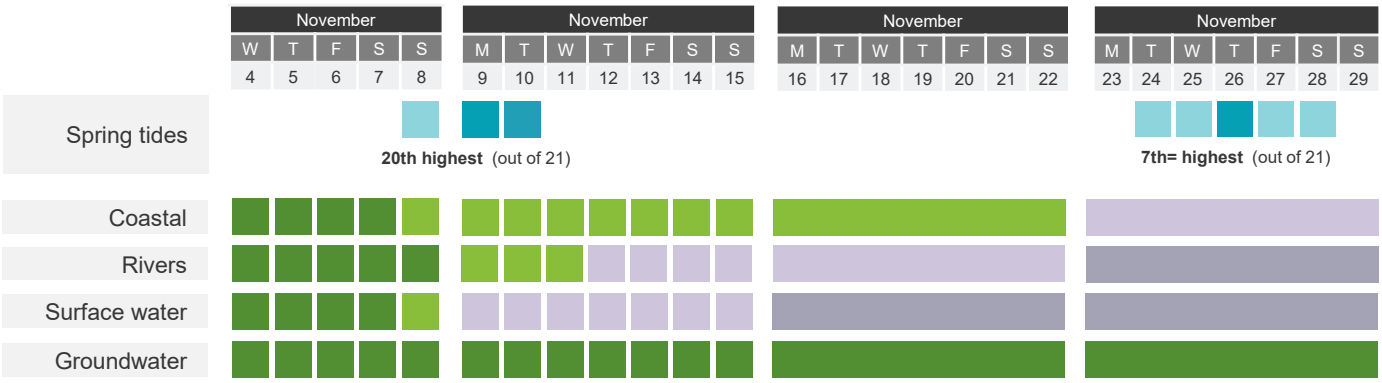
FLOOD FORECASTING CENTRE

A working partnership between Environment Agency and Met Office

Flood Forecast | Weather Assessment | Hydrological Assessment | Q and A

## Flood Forecast for England and Wales

Localised inland flooding is possible at times, this most likely in the North West of England and South Wales. Localised coastal flooding is possible, this most likely at the end of November.




The forecast is made at a national scale to provide an overview for England and Wales.

### Key

Reduced likelihood of flooding ← Neutral → Increased likelihood of flooding

The key shows likelihood of flooding compared to a neutral situation, (which is when there is no indication of increased or reduced likelihood of flooding in the forecast)

Spring tide dates

Spring tide peak

Number shows the rank of the spring tide out of the number of notable spring tides in the calendar year

### Headlines

- Localised inland flooding is most likely in the North West of England and South Wales. Elsewhere, there is a reduced likelihood of flooding until later in the period
- Localised coastal flooding is possible in late November

### Weather and Hydrological Assessment

- Settled weather is expected through to the first weekend in November, before a potential transition to changeable weather
- With the exception of North West England and parts of Wales, catchments are widely dry or very dry and it will take time for rivers to become sensitive to rainfall

### Coastal

- Spring tides at the end of November may coincide with unsettled conditions, increasing the likelihood of coastal flooding
- Spring tides early in November are modest. There is low confidence on whether meteorological conditions will be settled or unsettled, but given the astronomical values, coastal flooding would only be expected in very unsettled conditions, which is overall unlikely

### Rivers and Surface Water

- Surface water and river flooding is most likely across the North West of England and parts of Wales, where catchments are currently moderately wet, though are expected to dry slightly next week
- Elsewhere, given the longer term drier than average weather experienced recently, most catchments have good capacity, which is likely to limit flooding to later in the forecast period

### Groundwater

- Groundwater levels are expected to continue to be normal or below normal
- There is a reduced likelihood of groundwater flooding

The Flood Outlook provides a 4 week flood assessment for England and Wales. It is designed for planners in government and business who need to make decisions at a timescale of 6 to 30 days. For further information **ffcenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk** or **0330 135 4400** (Duty Hydrometeorologist).

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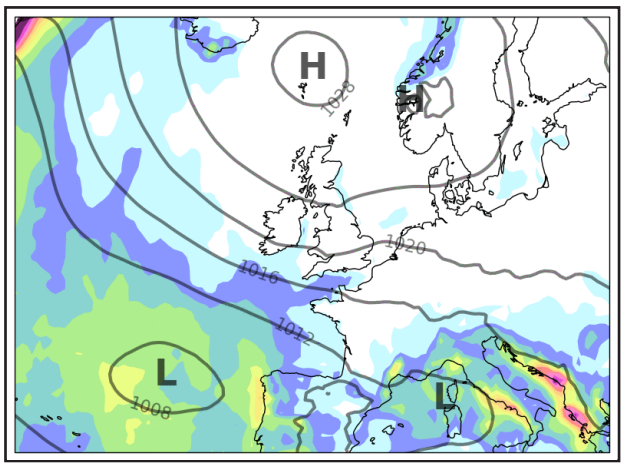
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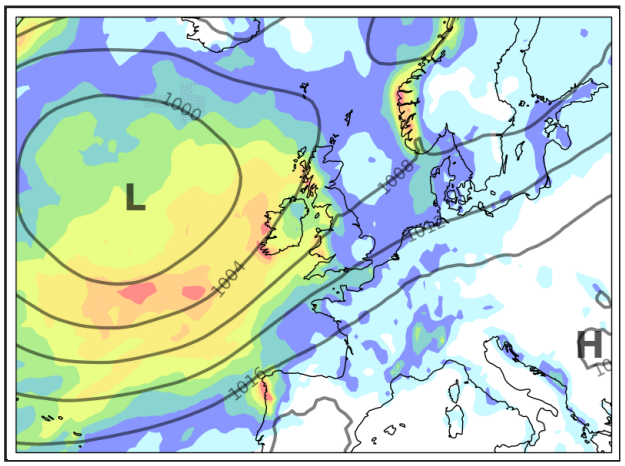
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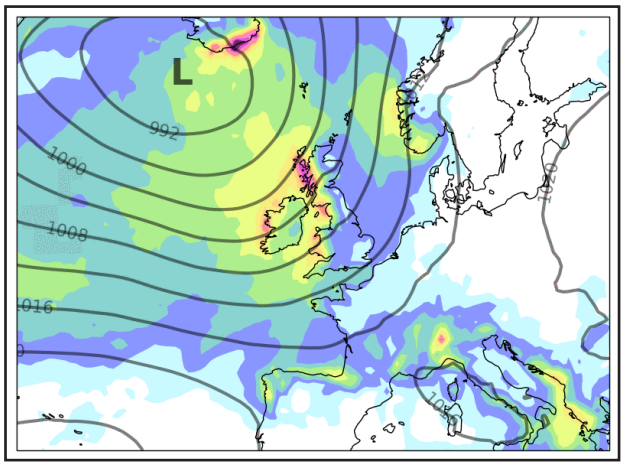

## Early November

• High pressure located across or to the north / north east of the UK, allowing an easterly or south easterly flow across the south, this perhaps being strong at times
• This will lead to broadly settled conditions, though the risk of showery outbreaks of rain in the south at times




## Mid November

• A transition to south westerly or westerly flow is possible into the second week of November, though there is low confidence in this transition
• If there is the transition to westerlies, the low pressure systems may take a more southerly track, which could bring the focus of rain and strong winds further south
• Some periods of stronger winds are possible through this period




## Late November

• Low pressure looks likely to influence through this period, with spells of rain. Some more settled interludes are still possible
• Though the focus will be across the west, many areas are likely to see rain, some of which is likely to be heavy
• Periods of stronger winds are possible

### Key




- Dominant pressure pattern shown by isolines
- Filled, coloured contours show typical daily precipitation distribution (mm/day)

## Met Office 3-month outlook

**November to January**

- There is double the likelihood of a wet 3-month period compared to normal
- 10% chance the season will be dry. This is x0.5 the normal chance
- 50% chance the season will be near average. This is x0.8 the normal chance
- 40% chance the season will be wet. This is x2 the normal chance

View and download the full Met Office 3-month Outlook

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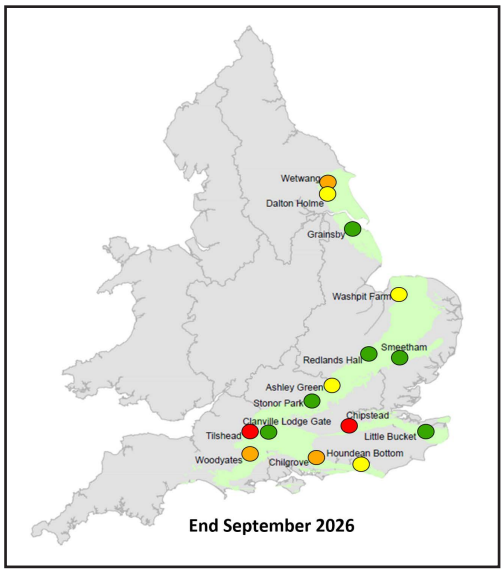
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## Observed groundwater levels

The map shows groundwater levels at indicator locations relative to historic levels for the month, where groundwater presents a flooding risk. For areas not shown, groundwater flood risk is very low.

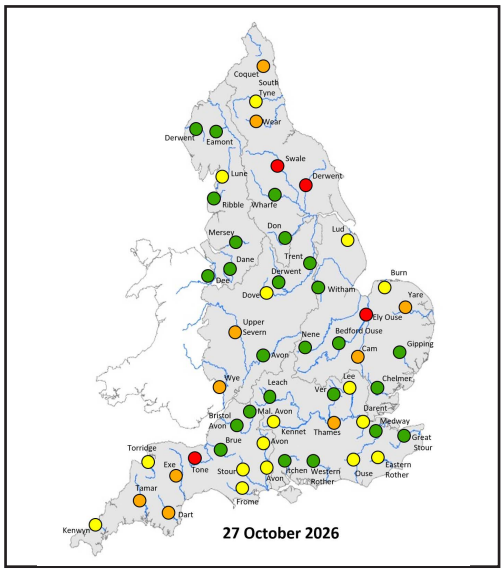
- At the end of September, groundwater levels across England were normal or below
- Conditions are expected to remain broadly steady through this period

### Key

Exceptionally high | Notably high | Above normal | Normal | Below normal | Notably low | Exceptionally low | No data

Geology of Aquifers

Chalk



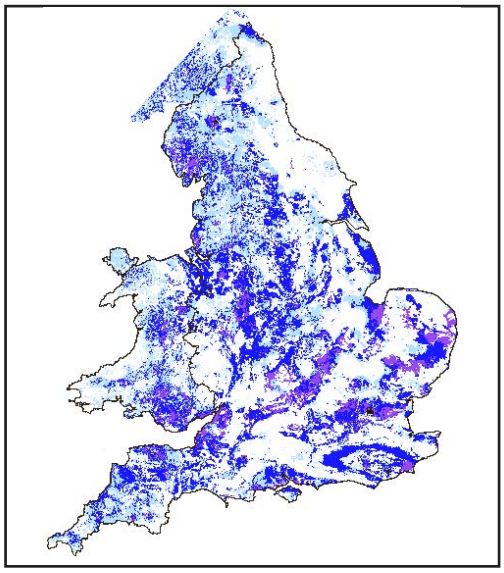

## River flows

For mid-month issues the map shows monthly mean river flows for England and Wales, relative to historic means for the month. For end of month issues the map shows daily mean river flows for England only, relative to historic daily mean flows for that time of year.

- On 27 October, river flows were broadly near-normal across much of England, but below normal to notably low across many southern and eastern areas
- Short-term increases in river flows may be observed, particularly across North West England and Wales, though flows are broadly expected to remain below normal to near-normal

### Key

Exceptionally high | Notably high | Above normal | Normal | Below normal | Notably low | Exceptionally low | No data



## Sensitivity to rainfall

The map shows sensitivity to rainfall based on the subsurface water storage relative to the historic maximum of the 2007 to 2015 monthly mean values.

- On 30 October, rainfall sensitivity was low to medium for the majority of England and Wales
- Sensitivity to rainfall is expected to remain mainly low to medium at first, with a steady increase in sensitivity expected through the second half of November

### Key

High ← Medium → Low

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**Who is the Flood Outlook for?**

The Flood Outlook is for planners who need to make decisions at a timescale of 6 to 30 days. These users are aware of the complexities of this type of outlook and will include those factors in the decision-making process.

**What does the Flood Outlook show?**

The Flood Outlook provides decision-makers with an overview of when an increased or reduced likelihood of flooding is forecast. The assessment is made at a national scale to provide an overview for England and Wales.

**What is the difference between the Flood Outlook and the Flood Guidance Statement?**

The assessments in the Flood Outlook and Flood Guidance Statement (FGS) are different. This is because at different lead times different information is available at different scales.

The Flood Outlook is a national overview product showing likelihood of flooding. It:

- gives a broad indication of coastal and inland flooding in the next 4 weeks over England and Wales, excluding the first 5 days
- uses a simpler likely/unlikely scale rather than the detailed FGS levels of likelihood
- gives an indication of possible flood impacts in the headline and summary text

The Flood Guidance Statement (FGS) is a five-day county risk-based product. It:

- shows the forecast level of flood risk for the coming 5 days for surface water, river, groundwater, and coastal flooding
- uses a detailed risk matrix approach, based on a combination of both likelihoods and impacts
- forecasts at a county and local authority scale

**When is the Flood Outlook issued?**

The Flood Outlook is issued twice a month, on a Friday.

**What information is the Flood Outlook based on?**

The Flood Outlook is based on a combination of weather and tidal forecasts, hydrological conditions and professional judgement. The confidence of the forecast is reflected in the flood likelihood given. For current river flow information please refer to the Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales

We classify notable spring tides as when the astronomical tide level is predicted to reach 2.4m OD(N) or higher at North Shields.

**Does the Flood Outlook cover the whole of the UK?**

The Flood Outlook covers England and Wales. It assesses the overall conditions over England and Wales as a whole.

**Can I access training on the Flood Outlook?**

There are short Flood Outlook training videos available online. We can also provide webinar training to organisations on request.

**Can I ask for more information on the Flood Outlook?**

Yes. Contact the Flood Forecasting Centre via **ffcenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk** or **0330 135 4400**

**How can I receive the Flood Outlook?**

You can sign up to access the latest outlook by subscribing through your Flood Forecasting Centre user profile, or by visiting the Met Office's Hazard Manager tool.

**Acknowledgements**

The images on the second and third pages have been provided courtesy of Met Office, Environment Agency, Natural Resources Wales and the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology.