GM Flooding Factsheet: Information for businesses

Business and commercial premises

- If the premises have been flooded or water damaged the electrical/gas installation should be checked by a competent person prior to reconnection;
- Any electrical plant machinery equipment which has been affected should not be used unless checked and verified safe by a competent person;
- If the heating system for the premises is affected it should be checked by a competent person before being brought back into use;
- If you have portable heaters, space heaters etc to dry out your premises, ensure that they are positioned in well ventilated areas away from combustible materials;
- If the premises are provided with a fire safety system such as fire alarms or emergency lighting systems, it is recommended that they are checked and tested by a competent engineer prior to the reoccupation of the premises;
- If you have hazardous materials or substances on your premises which have been affected by water, you should seek specialist advice prior to disposal;
- To avoid the threat of arson, you should ensure that your premises are secure if unoccupied. Where damaged goods, equipment etc are removed, it is recommended that they are stored away from any building in a secure place or in a secured skip;
- Prior to re-occupation of your premises it is advised that risk assessments are reviewed or undertaken to ensure the safety of all employees in your workplace. You should also check your fire exits and escape routes to ensure that they can be used prior to occupation;
- If your premises have structural damage which may be a danger as a result of flooding or storm damage, you should contact your local authority prior to occupation;
- If you have any fire safety concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service on 0800 555 815
- Businesses are advised to speak to insurers before disposing of any flood damaged material
- Businesses are advised to speak to their respective Local Authority regarding waste disposal
- Public Health England (PHE) provide useful information regarding recovering from flooding: https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/flooding-health-guidance-and-advice

Manchester Business Continuity Forum (MBCF)

The Manchester Business Continuity Forum is a partnership in Greater Manchester which is a source of free business continuity training and advice and information to help improve your organisations resilience.

A Business Continuity Toolkit, top-tips, and plan templates can be found on: http://www.manchester.gov.uk/mbcf

Water supply

United Utilities have advised that water bills may be suspended for businesses who have been forced from their premises due to flooding.

Customers who have been forced to move out can make contact with United Utilities on 0345 072 6072
Helpful Contacts

BBC Radio Manchester  
www.bbc.co.uk/manchester  Tune in to 95.1FM

Electricity North West  
Why is my power off?(emergency contact number):  
0800 195 414  
www.enwl.co.uk

Environment Agency  
www.environment-agency.gov.uk

Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service  
www.manchesterfire.gov.uk  
Contact centre: 0800 555 815

Floodline  
0845 988 1188

Gas (24 hour emergency service and gas escapes)  
0800 111 999

Public Health England (PHE)  

Government website  
www.direct.gov.uk

Greater Manchester Prepared website  
www.gmemergencyplanning.org.uk

Manchester Evening News  
www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk

Met Office  
www.metoffice.gov.uk

NHS Direct  
(24 hour confidential health advice and information)  
111

Police (non emergency)  
www.gmp.police.uk  
For non emergencies call 101 or 0161 8725050

British Transport Police  
www.btp.police.uk  
Contact: 0800 405040

United Utilities (24 hour emergency service)  
0845 746 2200