Local planning authority (on its own or jointly with other authorities/partners) undertakes a Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

The authority uses the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment to:
- inform the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal for consultation;
- identify where development can be located in areas with a low probability of flooding

The authority assesses alternative development options using the Sustainability Appraisal, considering flood risk (including potential impact of development on surface water run-off) and other planning objectives.

Can sustainable development be achieved through new development located entirely within areas with a low probability of flooding?

No

Use the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment to apply the Sequential Test (see Diagram 2) and identify appropriate allocation sites and development.

If the Exception Test (see Diagram 3) needs to be applied, consider the need for a Level 2 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

Yes

Assess alternative development options using Sustainability Appraisal, balancing flood risk against other planning objectives.

Use the Sustainability Appraisal to inform the allocation of land in accordance with the Sequential Test. Include a policy on flood risk considerations and guidance for each site allocation. Where appropriate, allocate land to be used for flood risk management purposes.

Include the results of the application of the Sequential Test (and Exception Test where appropriate) in the Sustainability Appraisal Report. Use flood risk indicators and Core Output Indicators to measure the Plan’s success.