

# Farming and flooding

## Exam question



### How do farmers play a vital role in building resilience and minimising the flood risk in vulnerable places?

The Environment Agency plays an important role in flood management, but the government directs them to prioritise flood management in residential areas. For every £1 of flood damage avoided, the Environment Agency can use £0.05 to protect farms, businesses and infrastructure. However, they can use up to £0.48 to protect homes.

People, such as farmers, who own land next to rivers are known as riparian owners and are responsible for maintaining the river's bed and banks and for managing the flood risk. In reality, farmers and the Environment Agency often work together with other stakeholders in the countryside to build resilience and minimise flood risk.

So what might a question on flooding look like in your future exams? Here is one example.

*For an extreme weather event you have studied, discuss the response of two or more groups of people to the event.*

**[6 marks]**

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Top tips: To answer this question you need to think of at least two groups of people and how they responded to an extreme weather event. You could use the extreme weather event which led to the Somerset Levels flooding in 2014, looking at the response of farmers such as James Winslade, and also the Environment Agency. You will need to make a well developed point about the response of each group, including place-specific detail.