# **FLOOD**RE

A BROKER'S GUIDE







### **Guide to Flood Re for Brokers**

Flood Re is one of the most significant innovations ever to be introduced into the home insurance market. It has been designed to make affordable insurance cover widely available to householders in the UK who live in private residential homes at risk of flooding.

Flood Re is managed and owned by the insurance industry and is directly accountable to Parliament. It is funded by an annual levy on insurance companies and by individual reinsurance premiums paid to Flood Re by insurers, on ceded risks. Customers can continue to buy their home insurance in the same way as they currently do whether that is through a broker, direct or through a price comparison website.

#### What property is eligible?

Flood Re's scope is to accept private residential household insurance policies only as this is where it was accepted by the insurance industry and government, that there was an emerging market failure to deliver affordable flood insurance.

Flood Re cannot cover businesses, which are excluded from scope. It also cannot cover properties built on or after 1st January 2009 so that the scheme does not incentivise further house building in areas of high flood risk.



floodre.co.uk







#### Opportunity for brokers

Customers buy their home insurance in the same way as before including through brokers. If you partner with an insurer or software provider who works with Flood Re then you should be able to offer customers home insurance quotes where previously you would have had to decline the business. Customers should see their premiums and excesses being offered at more affordable prices. This benefit, matched with the advice and service that brokers can offer customers represents a significant opportunity for brokers to develop and grow their book of business.

#### Flood Re - fast facts

- 1 Flood Re is a not-for-profit reinsurance company, owned and managed by the insurance industry, with public accountability
- 2 Flood Re is authorised and regulated by the PRA and FCA
- 3 Its purpose is to ensure UK householders living in homes at the highest risk of flooding can obtain affordable flood cover
- 4 Flood Re is funded through an industry-wide levy which raises £180m on home insurers every year. It also receives capped reinsurance premiums per policy ceded by each insurer
- 5 The powers that established Flood Re are part of the Water Bill, which became legislation in May 2014
- 6 Insurers continue to sell home insurance policies to householders in the same way they do now, but the flood risk element is passed on to Flood Re

- 7 Insurers pay Flood Re a premium for the flood risk element which is based on the Council Tax bands
- 8 Insurers are solely responsible for setting the price householders pay for their cover and will take into account the premium paid to Flood Re when doing this
- 9 Let and commercial properties are excluded as are properties built since 2009

### How insurers work with Flood Re

- 1 Insurers and Lloyd's managing agents using the scheme, collect the Property Tax Data (council tax band and other risk data required to determine Flood Re eligibility) from the Flood Re Property Data Hub in order to determine the Flood Re premium
- 2 The decision is made whether to cede the risk to Flood Re and a quote is then provided to the customer based on the decision
- 3 If the quote is taken up by the customer, then the insurer submits the risk to Flood Re on a bordereau
- 4 Any resulting claims are dealt with by the insurer in the same way they do now and the cost of the flood element is recovered from Flood Re via bordereaux

## How brokers will work with Flood Re

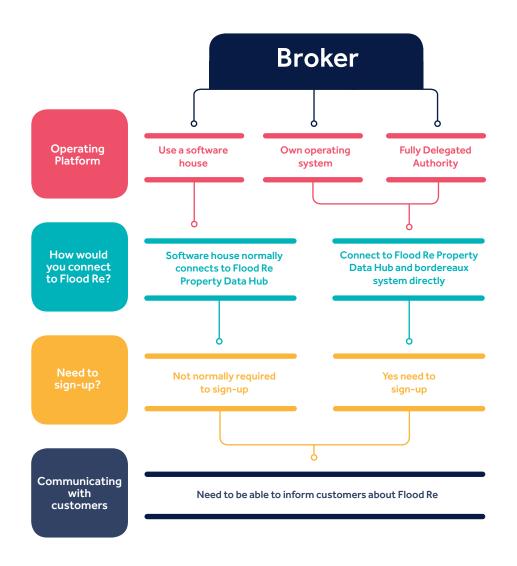
The most important thing is to talk to your insurer partner(s) and understand their strategy for pricing high flood risk properties, whether they are using Flood Re and what opportunities this will offer you.

Depending on how you operate as a broker will affect how you interact with Flood Re and your insurer partners and whether you need to sign-up and connect to Flood Re.

These options are explained on the next page:



### **FLOODRE**



## Brokers using a software house

If you are a broker who uses software house technology, then you should speak to the software house to ensure they have undertaken the required systems development to enable you to offer Flood Re backed prices.

Software houses will normally connect to Flood Re to capture the Property Tax Data in order to build the Flood Re premium into insurer pricing engines for products on their platform. Insurers are also required to update their pricing engines to receive the Property Tax Data and price accordingly. For bound policies, software houses will need to change EDI messaging back to insurers to include the appropriate Flood Re ceding information.

You will not normally be required to on-board or register with Flood Re; all the interaction will be between Flood Re and the software house and your insurer partners.

#### What you need to do:

- Talk to your software house and insurers immediately to ensure they have completed the required development work or to see when this will be done
- Understand the process of how you will use the Scheme and compile an implementation plan
- You will be required to tell customers that their policy has been ceded to Flood Re and let them know where they can find out more information about the Flood Re scheme. This information will be provided by Flood Re via your insurer partner
- You will also need to explain that if they were to make a claim then the interaction would continue to be with their broker and insurance company and that Flood Re does not handle claims



# Brokers with bespoke operating platforms

If you are a broker who has a bespoke operating and administration system, then we would normally expect you to connect to the Flood Re Property Data Hub to collect the Property Tax Data or to take a local copy of the Data. Insurers are also required to update their pricing engines to receive the Property Tax Data and price accordingly. For bound policies, you will need to change EDI messaging back to insurers to include the appropriate Flood Re ceding information. Unless you have underwriting and claims delegated authority you won't be able to submit bordereaux direct to Flood Re. this will be done by your insurer.



#### What you need to do:

- 1 Speak to your insurer partners to confirm how using Flood Re will work for your business
- 2 Design the process of how you will use the Scheme including understanding any system development required and compile an implementation plan
- 3 Complete a registration form which can be downloaded from the Flood Re website after which Flood Re will issue guidance based on your circumstances
- 4 Begin the sign-up process ready to use the scheme outlined overleaf

# Brokers who have claims and underwriting delegated authority

If you are a broker with both claims and underwriting delegated authority and your insurer has agreed that you will submit claims and underwriting bordereaux to Flood Re on their behalf, then you will need to connect to the Flood Re Property Data Hub and the bordereaux submission system. In practice this means that you will operate in the same way as an insurer and will need to connect to Flood Re, complete relevant legal documents and complete the sign up process, including testing.

#### What you need to do:

- Speak to your insurer partners to confirm how using Flood Re will work for your business
- Design the process of how you will use the Scheme including understanding any system development required and compile an implementation plan
- 3 This may include access to the Flood Re Property Data Hub and also the bordereaux submission system
- 4 Complete a registration form which can be downloaded from the Flood Re website after which Flood Re will issue sign-up guidance based on your circumstances
- 5 Begin the sign-up process outlined overleaf





### Brokers with access to insurers via phone or other mode

If you are a broker who interacts with insurers via the phone or other modes to provide Flood Re backed products, you will be required to scope out how you intend to price policies and how you

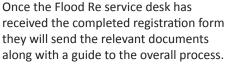
will notify insurers of any risks ceded to Flood Re. The outcome of this work will determine whether or not you will need to on-board. If in doubt please ask the Flood Re service desk.

#### How to sign-up

In order to start testing and ultimately interact with Flood Re, there are certain steps that brokers will need to complete in order to be ready.

The first of these steps is to complete the registration form which can be found on the Flood Re website.

they will send the relevant documents



#### Communicating with your customers

This is a vital step in the process to support customers who are at risk of flooding. Please speak to your insurer partners about how they are able to offer Flood Re to your customers.

You will need to train your staff so that they fully understand the scheme as well as the processes involved, and Flood Re can support you with this.

#### For further help and advice please contact the Flood Re service desk

servicedesk@floodre-operations.co.uk

+44 (0)330 024 3131

floodre.co.uk

biba.org.uk/current-issues/flood-insurance

• afloodre

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Find out more at: floodre.co.uk

A number of leaflets and a video designed for customers are available and can be found at

floodre.co.uk/homeowner

