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Applications of High-Resolution NWP in Flood Forecasting for England and Wales

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Since 2009, the Flood Forecasting Centre (FFC) has been providing flood risk forecasts to aid emergency response in England and Wales. And since 2011, the FFC has delivered its 24/7 forecasting service from the Operations Centre at the Met Office in Exeter. In addition, we have instigated and led a programme of applied hydrometeorology development, coordinating activities across our parent organisations - the Met Office and the Environment Agency.

Here we present examples of how the Met Office's latest NWP capabilities are being used within the FFC to aid assessment of flood risk due to rivers and surface water, on a national scale and for lead times of several days.

We also discuss how the FFC will remain well-positioned to exploit future modelling advances, acting as a testbed for evaluation of new science and fast-tracking new techniques into operational flood forecasting.