

COMMUNITIES, ENVIRONMENT AND HIGHWAYS SELECT COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 12 FEBRUARY 2025

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Q1	<p>Submitted by Simon Collins</p> <p><i>“What specific planning and actions have already been undertaken to achieve the objectives outlined in the 2017 FRMS to increase resilience in the event of a major flood today in the River Mole catchment?”</i></p> <p>Answer</p> <p>Surrey County Council manages flood risk in line with the Surrey Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS) 2017-2032. This is a multi-agency strategy signed up to by all the 15 flood risk management partners. Each of those partners carries out work to manage risk within its powers and area of responsibility. In 2024, SCC published a report of the flood risk management activities carried out in the county over the 2023-2024 period, linked here.</p> <p>Specific actions are recorded in the Strategy’s action plan which seeks to record areas of priority, and the completed and planned actions which go beyond business as usual. The Mole catchment is extensive and multiple activities by different partners are underway; it would take significant resource to collate these without more specific geographic or activity focus. We are happy to work with the resident to identify and provide what information most fits their areas of interest. Two examples are given below:</p> <p>The Mole catchment has had a natural flood management pilot scheme delivered on the Pipp Brook which is being monitored by the Environment Agency (EA) and a subsequent phase is being planned with SCC as partners. The EA is also progressing a flood risk management scheme on the Lower Mole between Hersham and the River Thames. As the risk management authority for managing the risk from the main river the EA will be able to provide a detailed catchment breakdown based on maintenance and capital investment.</p> <p>Surrey Local Resilience Forum (SLRF) partners work together to plan for major flood incident response and recovery, as well as increased resilience. This covers all communities at risk as well as major infrastructure. The effectiveness of the SLRF was demonstrated during Storm Henk in January 2024 where all partners worked together to record data, provide recovery and deliver grants to eligible affected properties. to record data, provide recovery and deliver grants to eligible affected properties.</p>
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