

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**LOCAL COMMITTEE (WAVERLEY)****DATE: 18 MARCH 2016****LEAD OFFICER: DOUG HILL, STRATEGIC NETWORK RESILIENCE MANAGER****SUBJECT: COMMUNITY RESILIENCE TO FLOODING****DIVISION: ALL DIVISIONS IN WAVERLEY****SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

To update on the work being done by Surrey County Council and partners, including through the Surrey Community Resilience Partnership, around raising community awareness to flood risk, the causes of flooding, and developing community resilience including with regard to prevention where possible, especially through correct and timely reporting.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Local Committee (Waverley) is asked to:

- (i) Note and comment on the work achieved to date by Surrey County Council, Waverley Borough Council, the Environment Agency and Surrey Community Resilience Partnership in promoting flood resilience in the borough.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

To allow the Local Committee to continue to inform and support the work as relevant.

1. Resilience to Flooding in Surrey

Summary

This note sets out the types of flooding, responsible agencies and measures in place for reporting in Surrey (see also Annex 2).

Flooding

- Surface water (pluvial) flooding – caused when water does not penetrate into the ground, due to the surface being impermeable (not porous) or because the ground is already saturated or because drains are not functional or overwhelmed.
- Ground water flooding – where the natural level of the water in the ground (water table) has risen above the surface of the ground; this may be difficult to distinguish from surface water.
- River (fluvial) flooding – further divided into Main River as defined on the Environment Agency definitive map, and Ordinary Watercourses, which comprise the remainder. This occurs when rivers breach their banks into their geographically functional flood plain.
- Surcharging – occurs when a foul (sewer) or surface water drain is blocked or overwhelmed and water is discharged to the surface instead of draining away.

Responsibilities

The riparian (land) owners of watercourses, ditches, culverts and drains are generally responsible for their upkeep and management.

However, the following agencies have responsibility around risk management, and in some cases enforcement or permissive management powers:

- Surrey County Council (SCC) is the Lead Local Flood Authority for Surrey, and with the borough and district councils, has responsibility and powers around risk management, enforcement and permissive management of surface water, groundwater and ordinary water courses, as well as highway drainage (also in some cases this may involve Highways England). SCC also has a duty under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 to develop, maintain and apply a strategy for local flood risk management.
- The Environment Agency has responsibility and powers around risk management, enforcement and permissive management of main rivers, and to warn and inform on flood risk from main rivers.
- Thames Water and Southern Water, in their respective areas, have responsibility for the foul sewer network, and some surface water drains, where they have maintained control of the asset.

2. Reporting and preventing flooding

Incident type	Resources for community for prevention, preparation and reporting
All types <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Borough and all responders 	Emergency support locally
Main River Flooding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environment Agency 	Floodline service 0345 988 1188 Incident number 0800 80 70 60 - 24 hours Find out more and sign up for alerts and warnings: https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency
Ordinary watercourse, surface and groundwater flooding, surcharging from Highway drains <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surrey County Council 	Contact centre 03456 009 009 (8am-6pm weekdays) Highways emergencies 0300 2001003 Report It service and floodingenquiries@surreycc.gov.uk Find out more: http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/
Surcharging from sewer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thames Water, Southern Water 	Thames Water 0800 316 9800 Southern Water 0333 000 0365 And online

3. Community Resilience in Waverley

Surrey County Council, in conjunction with partners, has invested officer time in developing a joined-up partnership, working around community resilience including flooding.

It has been recognised that health and mental well being are key to resilient communities, so work is underway to link and embed cross messaging about health services and resilience.

This work includes:

- Web resources and email community.resilience@surreycc.gov.uk
- Training for volunteers
- Newsletter, and interactive planning templates
- Social media, including Twitter @ Surrey Prepared

The Surrey Community Resilience Partnership comprises SCC, all 11 borough and district councils, the Environment Agency, some utility infrastructure providers - Southern Electric Power Distribution, UK Power Distribution Networks, Thames Water, Affinity Water, and voluntary organisations such as the Red Cross.

In Waverley flood and community resilience groups exist in Alfold, Bramley, Cranleigh, Farnham, and Godalming.

4. Recommendation

The Local Committee is asked to note and comment on this work to date.

Annex 1 - Waverley Fluvial Flood Risk

