

Preliminary flood risk assessment: Wokingham Borough Council

This addendum by Wokingham borough Council (2017) updates the council's preliminary flood risk assessment report published in 2011. Read the addendum in conjunction with the [preliminary assessment report](#).

Addendum

The preliminary flood risk assessment (PFRA) and flood risk areas (FRAs) for Wokingham Borough Council were reviewed during 2017, using all relevant current flood risk data and information.

Past flood risk

Numerous properties were flooded during the winter 2013/14 winter period. Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) conducted section 19¹ Flood Investigations in order to establish the cause of the flooding and understand what can be done to mitigate the risk. Please refer to the report [Flood Investigations 2013/14](#) for further information on areas that flooded during this period.

Future flood risk

The Local Authority has not received any new information since then which indicates that new flood risk areas should be identified. Please refer to the original PRFA for more information on past flood risk.

Understanding of flood risk has improved as a result of conducting various section 19 flood investigation reports. These reports provide detailed information about the mechanisms of flooding in certain areas and has enabled the council and other risk management authorities to put in place schemes to reduce risk in future. In addition, the Sustainable Urban Drainage (SuDs) Strategy that WBC has adopted provides a set of local standards for SuDS on new developments which developers are required to adhere to. It is hoped that this will ensure that the drainage systems for all new developments are built adequately to cope with future storm events.

Flood risk areas (FRAs)

No FRAs have been identified in the Wokingham lead local flood authority (LLFA) area for the purposes of the Flood Risk Regulations second planning cycle.

Other changes

Wokingham Borough Council has recently adopted the Wokingham SuDS Strategy 2017 which sets out the vision for managing flood risk in terms of future development in the coming years. It includes a technical guide to help developers and their consultants to design the most appropriate drainage systems for each individual development site across the borough. This document can be accessed via <http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/community-and-safety/emergencies/drainage-and-flooding/>

Furthermore, WBC is in the process of completing a Surface Water Management Plan for Shinfield, from which an application has been made for flood defence grant-in-aid funding for a surface water management scheme in the parish of Shinfield. The finalised surface water management plan can be shared with the Environment Agency once completed. The report

¹ An investigation into a flooding event that a lead local flood authority (LLFA) is required to carry out under Section 19 of the [Flood and Water Management Act 2010](#), and according to [the LLFA's local flood risk management strategy](#)

highlights areas of Shinfield that are susceptible to surface water flooding and various actions to be taken by flood risk management authorities in order to mitigate the risks in future.

In addition, Defra have recently confirmed Wokingham Borough Council's local land drainage byelaws which creates criminal offences for those in contravention to the byelaws. This will help the council in ensuring that the watercourse network in the borough runs as efficiently as possible and will help to reduce the risk of flooding in the future. The byelaws can be accessed at the following link <http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/community-and-safety/emergencies/drainage-and-flooding/>

Wokingham Borough Council
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