

Preliminary flood risk assessment: Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council

This addendum by Stockport Metropolitan 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 Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council (Stockport Council) were reviewed during 2017, using all relevant current flood risk data and information.

Past flood risk

Widespread flooding hit Stockport on four separate occasions on the 8 June, 10 June, 11 June and the 16 June 2016, causing significant borough wide impacts. Rainfall data collected suggest that May was a particularly wet month, resulting in heavily saturated ground conditions leading up to June. Once the intense rainfall events occurred, this resulted in large quantities of surface water runoff entering urban areas and local watercourses. This then caused the overwhelming of surface water sewers, direct surface water flooding and fluvial flooding. In total, Stockport received equal to or above 200% of the long-term average rainfall in June 2016. 295 properties reported flooding across the month, with many properties flooding on more than one occasion. Flooding also caused disruption to road users as highways were closed, along with disruption to the rail services as the Stockport to Disley line was also closed for two weeks following a landslip at Middlewood Station. The Council have also estimated over £950,000 worth of flood damages, investigation and repair work to highway, parks, greenspaces and public rights of way as a result. The worse impacted communities included Hazel Grove and Offerton Green on the 11 June, with 186 properties flooded. On the 8 June and the 16 June, 75 and 77 properties reported flooding respectively. The worst affected communities across all events included Bramhall, Cheadle, Edgeley, Hazel Grove, Offerton Green and Reddish.

Whilst data collected suggest that September was a typical month for rainfall in Stockport, with the district receiving approximately 100% of the long-term average rainfall, it received the majority of the monthly total on the 13th September 2016 after two periods of heavy and intense rainfall. One local rain gauge recorded a peak rainfall intensity of 45mm/hour, which is well above the 32mm/hour indicative of torrential downpours. As a result, the exceptional weather (in both rainfall intensity and volume) received in Stockport exceeded the capacity of the urban drainage network and caused public sewer and private drain flooding to occur, which included the backing up of public combined sewers causing foul flooding. Stockport Council, the Environment Agency and United Utilities recorded 660 properties to have been affected by flooding on the 13th September 2016; with the communities of Heatons and Reddish, worst affected recording 25% of the reported property flooding. The worst hit Ward areas included Davenport and Cale Green, Stepping Hill and Heatons North. 365 more properties were affected by flooding in September, when compared to the flood event that hit Stockport in June 2016. However, during this event 82% of the total properties flooded by public combined sewers. Unlike the June 2016 event, no significant infrastructure damage was recorded.

Future flood risk

Continuing and future development of infrastructure across the borough conventionally tends to increase flood risk. Stockport Council are taking many steps to ensure that development is carried out sustainably and to reduce flood risk.

Flood risk areas (FRAs)

No FRAs have been identified within the Stockport Council lead local flood authority (LLFA) area for the purposes of the Flood Risk Regulations (2009) second planning cycle.

Other changes

Although there are continuing changes in the structure of flood risk management in the Council the focus, principles and strategy remain the same.

**Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council
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