

Preliminary flood risk assessment: East Sussex County Council

This addendum by East Sussex County 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 East Sussex County Council (ESCC) were reviewed during 2017, using all relevant current flood risk data and information.

Changes to the assessment of risk since the preliminary assessment report was published in 2011 are described in the statements in this addendum. As a result of new information, the understanding of flood risk within East Sussex has changed since 2011.

The annexes to the preliminary assessment report have been reviewed and updated to show relevant new information. Since 2011, ESCC has made progress in further constraining flood risk throughout the county.

Past flood risk

Since 2011, ESCC has gained a greater understanding of the risk of flooding from groundwater and ordinary watercourses. In addition, the importance of multiple sources contributing to flooding has been considered. Surface Water Management Plans (SWMPs) are in place for every area of significant risk in the county and input from partner organisations in the preparation of SWMPs. This has changed our understanding of risk.

As a result ESCC will continue to monitor and assess risk across the county. In addition, we will bid for funding to undertake local studies in higher risk areas.

Future flood risk

New datasets have been made available since 2011 by the Environment Agency e.g. the Updated Flood Map for Surface Water. British Geological Survey groundwater flooding data has been acquired to understand flood risk relating to groundwater.

In our role as a statutory consultee for Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS), developers submit surface water models as part of development proposals to justify their drainage designs. Whilst ESCC has acquired software (WaterRIDE) to interrogate these models, they are limited in extent and are only submitted when planning applications are prepared. Consequently, our understanding of detailed flood risk is not improved uniformly across the county.

We undertook an assessment of local flood risk as part of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy review in 2016. This sought to accommodate the influence of multiple flood sources on local flood risk.

Flood risk areas (FRAs)

The following FRAs have been identified for the purposes of the Flood Risk Regulations (2009) 2nd planning cycle:

- Eastbourne
- Hastings

Other changes

Since April 2015 ESCC in its capacity as a lead local flood authority (LLFA), has been designated as a statutory consultee to the planning process on SuDS for major developments.

The Pevensey and Cuckmere Water Level Management Board was established in October 2016. This replaced the Pevensey Levels and Cuckmere Internal Drainage Boards. The Ouse internal Drainage Board and District was dissolved in March 2017.

**East Sussex County Council
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