

Flooding Update

NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2017



Introduction

Following the flooding incident in 2014 in parts of Tandridge and Croydon, a multi-agency Project Team which consisted of Croydon Council, Surrey County Council, Tandridge District Council, Thames Water, Sutton & East Surrey Water and Environment Agency, was set up to deal with the immediate actions that were required to safeguard the areas impacted. The Project Team have carried out essential works in the area and are continuing to explore how to minimise the risk of flooding in the longer term. This newsletter has been issued as a follow-up to:

- Flooding Update – September 2014 (Edition 1) issued by London Borough of Croydon
- Woldingham & Whyteleafe Flood Relief Work (Update 3) issued by Surrey County Council

Caterham Bourne Flood Alleviation Study Update

Flooding cannot be completely prevented. However, the first step to manage the risks is to understand its causes and impacts. The study to achieve this and identify viable long term solutions to alleviate any future flooding commenced in October 2014. The first phase which was a data gathering exercise to inform the study has been completed and the project is currently in the catchment investigation phase. This is where a computer model is being constructed to develop the flood alleviation options. Because of the complex nature of the Bourne, this involves innovative ideas.

What happens next?

In the coming months, two community-based workshops will be held in both Tandridge and Croydon. The first will be an opportunity for residents and businesses to meet with the Project Team and share their experiences about the flooding, the impact it had on them, any concerns they have and to hear about/comment on the long-term solutions identified to alleviate future flooding.

The follow-up workshops will be an opportunity to hear more about and comment on the detailed flood alleviation measures being proposed before a final report and action plan are produced. Dates and venues for the workshops will be available on Croydon and Surrey websites (see Useful Contacts below) as well as partner agency websites.

Flood Alleviation Measures – Project Team Update

Croydon Council (CC)

CC completed several flood alleviation measures between June and December 2014. The establishment of a permanent flood storage area in Bourne Park will be investigated as part of the long-term solutions.

Further flood alleviation works were undertaken between 2015 and 2016 in Dale Road, Old Barn Lane and Borne View Allotment. These involved replacement of structurally damaged/collapsed culvert, installation of a larger pipe and gauge boards (water level measuring devices).

CC continues to regularly inspect the Bourne and ensure all 'trash screens' are kept clear of silt and debris.



Culvert replacement in Dale Road

Sutton and East Surrey Water (SES Water)

SES Water have completed a number of flood resilience measures to protect the Kenley Treatment Works on Godstone Road from future flooding. These measures included culvert replacement, construction of a reinforce wall, fitting of flood rated doors and the installation of a penstock gate (a device for controlling the flow of water). Works were also undertaken to upgrade the drainage infrastructure on the site.

Environment Agency (EA)

The EA completed installation of the mountings for a flow gauge in Bourne View Allotment Gardens. This will allow gauging equipment to be installed in the Caterham Bourne on occasions when there are high flows.

The EA is continuing to regularly inspect the main river sections of the Caterham Bourne to ensure that obstructions are removed and debris kept to a minimum.

Work was undertaken around the old gas storage tanks off Godstone Road, by the riparian landowner after EA Inspectors discovered the channel to be partially blocked with silt.



Surrey County Council (SCC)/ Tandridge District Council (TDC)

The ponds and flow control structures constructed in Woldingham after the 2014 flooding event have been formalised into permanent structures.

Works to construct a new culvert under the railway viaduct and a sluice gate (which controls flow) adjacent the Wapses Lodge roundabout on the A22, are on-going. Further update will be available in the next edition of the newsletter.

Funding from the Local Enterprise Partnership was supplemented with SCC funding to implement network resilience measures along the A22 corridor. This has involved improvements to the highway drainage infrastructure and resurfacing of the carriageway. Repairs and maintenance works were also carried out to the culverted and open sections of the Bourne.

Thames Water (TW)

A depth measuring meter was installed in an inspection chamber outside St John the Baptist Church car park entrance in Dale Road. The device sends alert messages to highway officers.

Flood Preparation

In the event of a major flooding incident, the Project Team collectively have in place these flood relief measures to mitigate the impact:

- Approximately 19,000 sandbags filled with sand ready to be deployed to protect properties and critical infrastructure at risk
- A depth measuring device which constantly monitors the depth of water inside the Bourne and send alert messages to highway officers. This allows the different agencies to put in place measures to manage the water in the Bourne and reduce the risk of flooding
- A gauging device and data recording equipment which monitors the flow of water in the Bourne. This allows the emergency services and local authorities to put in place measures to manage the flow and reduce the risk of flooding
- A penstock gate (a device for controlling the flow of water) to manage high flows in the Bourne between Bourne View Allotment and Roke School in Kenley
- The converted raw water main pipe in Kenley Treatment Works which will provide a relief pipe to divert water from the Bourne along Godstone Road should this be necessary. This will prevent the need to lay temporary pipes and closure of Godstone Road
- Gauge boards (water level measuring devices) which will record the level of water within Bourne View Allotment flood storage area. This will allow measures to manage the level of water to be put in place thereby reducing the risk of flooding to nearby properties and infrastructure
- Devices installed in boreholes in Tandridge and Croydon which monitors the level of groundwater. This allows groundwater alerts to be issued to local authorities so that flood relief measures can be put in place to protect properties and critical infrastructure.

How you can help

Here is a list of actions that residents and businesses can take, to help minimise the risk of flooding:

- Homeowners can install Property Level Protection (PLP) measures to prevent flood water from entering their property. These may include flood doors, temporary barriers, air brick covers etc. For more information, visit www.nationalfloodforum.org.uk/what-is-plp. If you are a tenant, you should contact your landlord for assistance
- If you have a watercourse, ditch or culvert running through, underneath or alongside your property, you are a riparian owner for the stretch within your property boundary and it is your responsibility to maintain the infrastructure and to clear any obstructions (natural or otherwise) so the normal flow of water is not impeded. For more information, contact your local authority (see Useful Contacts below)
- Flooding incidents must be reported to the appropriate authorities so that they are correctly logged and properly dealt with. For information on which authority is responsible for managing which flood risk, see Useful Contacts below or visit www.thameswater.co.uk/help-and-advice, www.gov.uk/report-flood-cause
- Sign up to receive severe weather warnings/alerts by visiting www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings



Manifold installed in 2014 to allow Purley Raw Water main to be used as drainage main

Useful Contacts

Croydon Council

☎ 020 8726 6000

✉ floodandwater@croydon.gov.uk

🌐 www.croydon.gov.uk/flooding

Surrey County Council

☎ 0300 200 1003

✉ flooding.enquiries@surreycc.gov.uk

🌐 www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/emergency-planning-and-community-safety/emergency-planning/prepare-yourself-and-your-community-for-emergencies