

Barrington

1.1 Background

As the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) for Cambridgeshire, it is Cambridgeshire County Council's duty to investigate flood incidents as detailed within Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.

Flood and Water Management Act 2010: Section 19 – Local Authorities: Investigations

- 1) On becoming aware of a flood in its area, a lead local flood authority must, to the extent that it considers it necessary or appropriate, investigate -
 - a) Which risk management authorities have relevant flood risk management functions, and
 - b) Whether each of those risk management authorities has exercised, or is proposing to exercise, those functions in response to the flood.
- 2) Where an authority carries out an investigation under subsection (1) it must -
 - a) Publish the results of its investigation, and
 - b) Notify any relevant risk management authorities.

The County Council carries out flood investigation in order to comply with current legislation. Unfortunately owing to very limited resources it is not possible to investigate every incident and as such thresholds for investigation have been set within the Cambridgeshire Flood Risk Management Strategy.

1.2 Risk Management Authority

The flood investigation reports have been produced in partnership with the relevant Risk Management Authorities (RMA). RMA's are defined by the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, as they have responsibilities for flood risk management. The RMAs have a duty to carry out flood risk management functions in a manner consistent with national and local strategies.

The RMAs in Cambridgeshire are listed below; Table 1 highlights the relevant RMA that will take the lead in managing the risk from various local sources of flooding.

- Environment Agency (EA)
- Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) – the County Council
- Sewerage Undertaker - Anglian Water (AW)
- City and District Councils (C&DC)
- Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs)
- Highway Authority (HA) – the County Council other than for the A1, A1(M), M11, A14 and A428 for which Highways England are responsible.

The flood investigation reports determine which RMA(s) have exercised their flood risk management functions in response to flooding.

Table 1 Relevant flood Risk Management Authorities that will take the lead in managing the risk from various local sources of flooding.

| Flood Sources | EA | LLFA | C&DCs | AW | HA | IDBs |
|---|----|------|-------|----|----|------|
| WATERCOURSES | | | | | | |
| Main River | ✓ | | | | | |
| Ordinary Watercourse | | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| Awarded Watercourse | | | ✓ | | | |
| SURFACE RUNOFF | | | | | | |
| Surface water | | ✓ | | | | |
| Surface water originating on the highway | | | | | ✓ | |
| Surface water sewer flooding from water company systems | | | | ✓ | | |
| OTHER | | | | | | |
| Groundwater | | ✓ | | | | |
| Foul sewer flooding | | | | ✓ | | |
| Reservoirs | ✓ | | | | | |
| The sea | ✓ | | | | | |

In the case of Barrington, the relevant RMA's are Cambridgeshire County Council, the Highways Authority, Anglian Water, Cemex who own the nearby closed quarry have also been consulted.

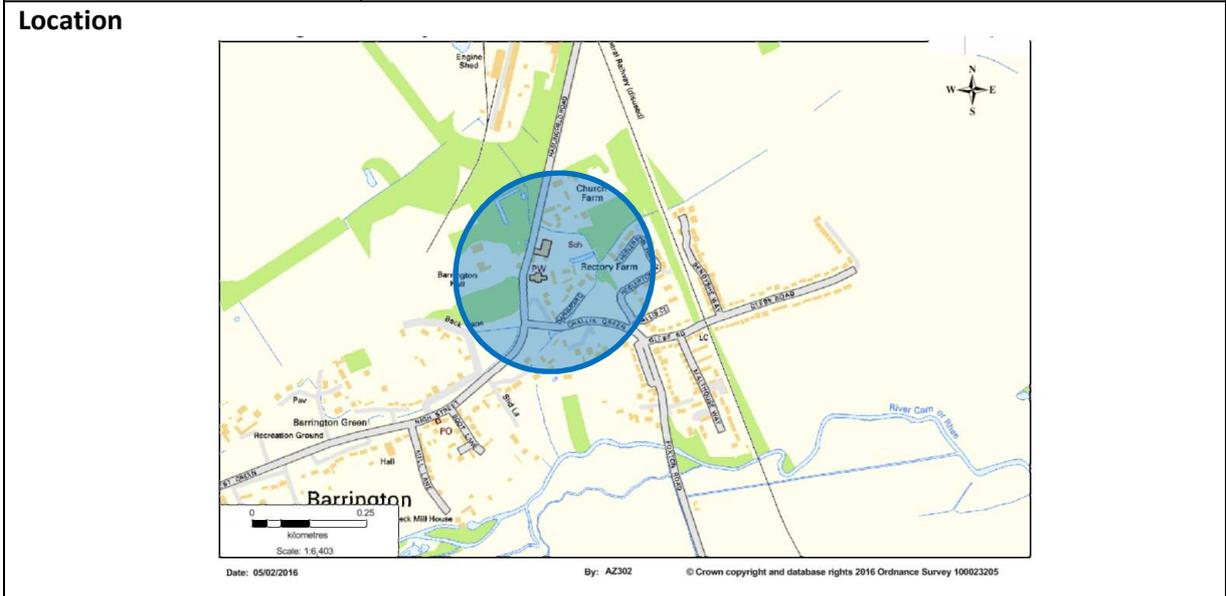
Riparian owners also often have an important role to play. A riparian owner is a landowner with a watercourse running through or alongside their land. Riparian owners have responsibilities to maintain and allow the free flow of water through their land. Further information on riparian owner rights can be found on the [Cambridgeshire County Council website](#)

Flood Incident, Extent and Impact:

Table 2. Formal Flood Investigation Report

| | |
|--|--|
| Date of incident | 17 th July 2015 |
| Reference number | FI/1/60 |
| Location of incident | Various, Barrington |
| Risk Management Authority reported to | Environment Agency, Cambridgeshire County Council. |
| Incident reported by | Environment Agency |
| Historical flooding | Unknown |

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Source of flooding | Multiple sources that included drains, local ditches and surface water. |
|---------------------------|---|



Likely cause of incident

Flooding is likely to have occurred as a result of extremely high levels of intense rainfall falling in a short time period onto a localised area. Contributing factors include:

- Owing to the extreme rainfall, the capacity of all drainage networks were overwhelmed; and
- The volume of rainwater inundated the watercourses and road network in the village, resulting in flooding from a range of sources that included surface water on roads, the overtopping of watercourses and surcharging of local drains.

Cemex commissioned an assessment of the annual probability of the rainfall event from JBA Consulting and they estimated it to have an annual probability of 1 in 180 (0.56%) based on the 3-hour duration rainfall (70.4 mm) or 1 in 187 (0.53%) based on the 6-hour duration rainfall (79.1 mm).

Summary of impact

At least three properties were reported by the community as having flooded internally.

Action taken or to be taken by Relevant Risk Management Authorities and other relevant bodies

| | |
|----------|---|
| HA (CCC) | Following the extreme rainfall event, Cambridgeshire County Council Highways arranged for the cleansing and surveying of the relevant surface water drains for which they have responsibility. This work has started and is due to be completed during 2016/17. |
| LLFA | In April 2015, Cambridgeshire County Council became a statutory consultee for surface water management. The Council will review any future developments applications |

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|--|---|
| | considering all historical flood information. The County will add Barrington to its list of wetspots. ¹ |
| Anglian Water | No issues with Anglian Water sewers have been reported. |
| Cemex | Although Cemex owns a disused quarry near to the location of the flooding incident, it is not a risk management authority per se. Cemex has undertaken remedial measures following the flooding incident. Cemex has commissioned consultants to prepare a surface water drainage report in respect of the drainage proposals for the two planning applications for development at the site (Full planning permission S/01080/10/CW and the resolution to grant outline planning permission for S/2365/14/OL). This report articulates the combined impact of the two applications on the culverted outfall that runs under Haslingfield Road. |
| Further actions | |
| Cambridgeshire County Council recommends that residents whose properties have been flooded contact the National Flood Forum for details on how to protect their property. | |
| Cambridgeshire highways issues should be reported via the County Council's website or by calling 0345 045 5212. The routine cleansing of highways gullies across Cambridgeshire is now prioritised as part of a risk based approach to highway drainage maintenance. | |

Please note: Actions undertaken as part of this flood investigation do not preclude the risk of the area flooding in the future. If you live in an area that is at a risk of flooding, CCC would encourage you undertake the action highlighted in the 'Further Solutions' section in Table 2.

Next steps

Cambridgeshire County Council, as LLFA, will ensure that this report is forwarded to the RMAs and the riparian owner(s) identified in the above table and that these authorities are aware of their flood risk management responsibilities. It is expected that all bodies will continue to share information and work co-operatively to manage future risk.

¹ For all wetspots a risk based approach is taken to the co-ordination and development of future projects. Once an area is prioritised for project development, viable project options must be available, as part of a partnership with local stakeholders, in order for business case approval and funding to be granted.