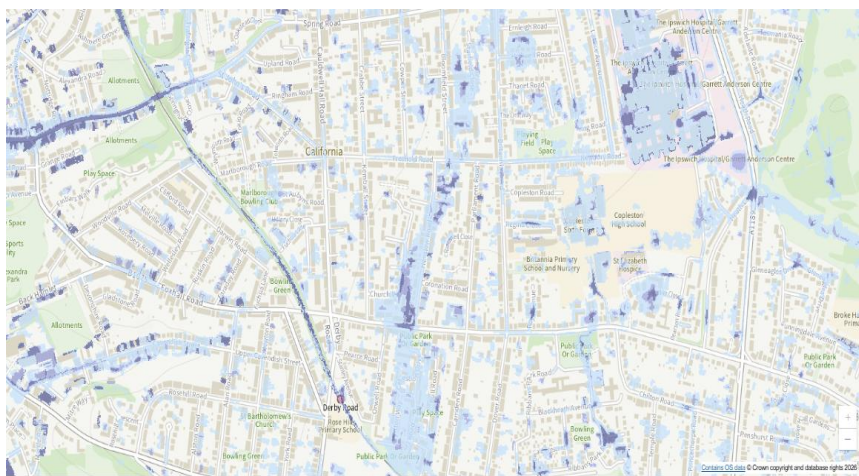


Section 19 Flood and Water Management Act 2010

Report Title: Nottidge Road, Ipswich

Report Reference(s): 65778



	Name	Date
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RMA Review:		
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Contents

Executive summary

Justification for Investigation

Understanding the flood context

Flooding Sources, Pathways & Receptors

Risk Management Authorities, Non-Risk Management Authority and flood risk function(s)

Action(s) completed to date

LLFA Recommended Action(s)

Approval

Appendices

Disclaimer

Executive Summary

Flooding affected many parts of Suffolk after torrential rain and thunderstorms in early June 2026. One of these locations was Spring Road, Ipswich where surface water flows were reported to Suffolk County Council Lead Local Flood Authority as having resulted in internal flooding of a single property. As the resident confirmed this has also happened previously in 2024, the Lead Local Flood Authority has therefore undertaken a Section 19 Flood Investigation. The resulting report will

- highlight the probable causes of flooding
- identify options to reduce future flood risk and increase property resilience
- make recommendations for actions by relevant responsible organisations, landowners or homeowners.

Spring Road is in an area at significant risk of pluvial (surface water) flooding, and the nature of the surrounding topography and urbanised nature of the catchment contributes to the susceptibility of this area to flooding.

The description of the flood events detailed in this report have been compiled using information provided to Suffolk County Council, as well as information from Risk Management Authorities (e.g. Suffolk County Council Highways and Anglian Water) and the community.

Short-, medium- and longer-term recommendations have been published, and each have a potential role to improve resilience and reduce the risk of flooding to properties which are at risk of internal flooding on Spring Road. Short term recommendations include cleansing any blocked gullies and ensuring they are on the rota for regular maintenance. Medium term to long term recommendations includes the installation of property flood resilience measures and the consideration of wider improvements to the surface water management systems in the catchment in the form of natural flood management or sustainable drainage.

Justification for Investigation

Suffolk County Council, Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) has determined that in accordance with our criteria, it is considered necessary and appropriate to carry out an investigation into this flood event.

This is in accordance with Section 19 (1) of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, and in accordance with Section 19 (2) of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, to publish the results and notify the relevant risk management authorities (RMAs).

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

Criteria for an investigation (as per Appendix D of the Suffolk Flood Risk Management Strategy):	✓
There was a risk to life because of flooding?	
Internal flooding of one property (domestic or business) has been experienced on more than one occasion?	✓
Internal flooding of five properties has been experienced during one single flood incident	
Where a major transport route was closed for more than 10 hours because of flooding	
Critical infrastructure was affected by flooding	
There is ambiguity surrounding the source or responsibility of a flood incident	

Understanding the flood context

What happened

Flooding affected many parts of Suffolk after torrential rain and thunderstorms in early June 2026. One of these locations was Spring Road, Ipswich where surface water flows were reported to Suffolk County Council Lead Local Flood Authority as having resulted in internal flooding of a single property.

Location of Flooding

Spring Road Ipswich

Table A – Flood incidents to be investigated.

Date of incident	Incident as reported	Response
2 nd June 2026	Came from the overflowing drain from the sudden rain. The water is coming inside our property, and our cellar is flooding quick. All our items are flooded and are floating. We can't contain the water. This happens every time the drain outside our house gets blocked. The water is coming in from 2 different points.	N/A



Figure 1 Flood Investigation Area

Records of any historical flooding

Customer advised basement was flooded approx. two years ago.

Table B – Historical Flood Incidences

Date of incident	Impact	Rainfall Intensity (if known)
2024	Flooding of basement	Unknown

Historical flood Event Map – Appendix A

Predicted Flood Risk

Spring Road is at risk from surface water/pluvial flooding. The surface water flow path along Spring Road varies in risk from low risk (higher eastern end of road) to high risk (lower western end of road). Spring Road has been affected by flooding on several occasions. Figure 2 highlights the predicted pluvial/surface water runoff from surrounding areas with the main flow path down Spring Road.

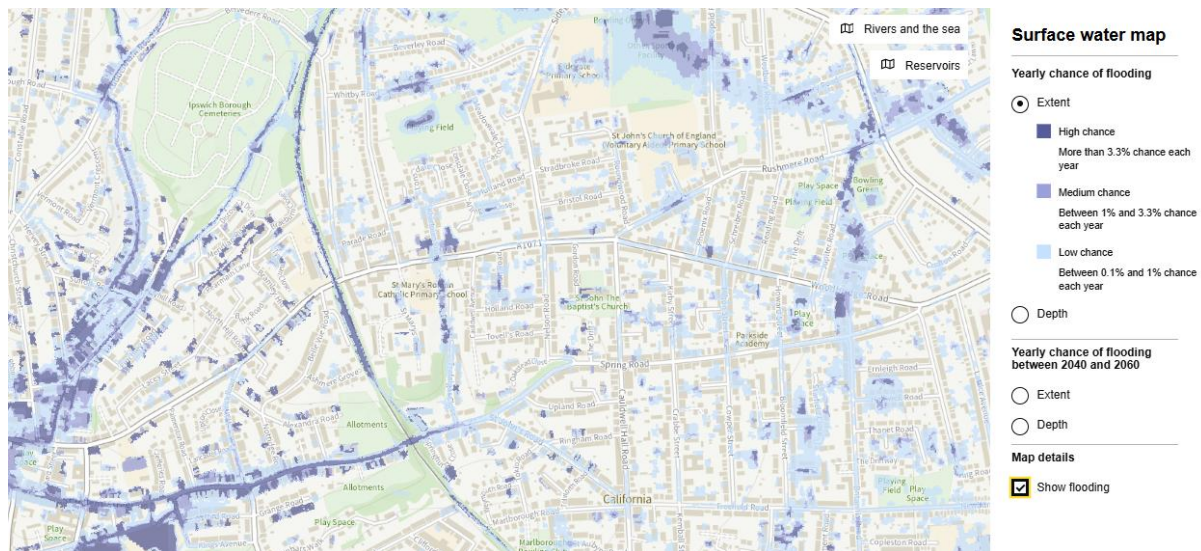


Figure 2 Surface water flooding - National Flood Maps

Catchment characteristics

Spring Road area of Ipswich varies in topography ground levels with the East sitting higher than the West. Figure 3 shows the contours of the area. The western end of Spring Road is situated in a lower lying area where higher grounds surround it from the East while it continues to fall towards the West where the Rivers Gipping and Orwell lie. The lower-lying nature of the western end of Spring Road means that during high rain events, floodwater can become close in proximity to properties. Overwhelmed drainage infrastructure is frequently observed during these rainfall events. The catchment surrounding the property is densely urban and thus water runs off instead of infiltrating to ground during prolonged or intense rainfall events.



Figure 3 - Ipswich Spring Road Contours (TessaDEM as cited in topographic-map.com)

Flooding Sources, Pathways & Receptors

The flooding occurred during and after a series of intense downpours associated with thunderstorms across the East of England in early June 2026. Due to the localised nature of these storms, nearby rainfall gauges did not capture the events accurately. Significant volumes of rainfall fell in a short period of time which overwhelmed the highway drainage systems and resulted in internal flooding in a single property within the basement. A site visit revealed that the highway drainage was significantly silted up and roof runoff from the property *is directed straight to the ground within the property boundary*.

Photo of Flooding



Risk Management Authorities, Non-Risk Management Authority and flood risk function(s)

Risk Management Authority	Relevant Flood Risk Function(s)
Suffolk County Council	Lead local Flood Authority, Highways Authority & Asset Owner
Anglian Water	Asset Owner
Ipswich Borough Council	Local Planning Authority & Asset Owner
Non-Risk Management Authority	Relevant Flood Risk Function(s)
Private Homeowners	Improving flood resilience to property

Action(s) completed to date:

The following section acknowledges actions that RMA's and Non-RMAs have implemented or are currently in progress since the rainfall event and prior to the publishing of this report.

Action	Risk Management Authority	Progress
Remedial works to the highway drainage immediately adjacent the property	SCC, Highways	Works ordered

LLFA Recommended Action(s):

Action	Risk Management Authority	Timescale for response	Latest Progress Update for Actions
Short Term Actions (e.g. standard maintenance activity and initial investigation of options that can be undertaken with limited need for forward planning)			
Continue inspection and maintenance regime to ensure continued functionality'	SCC, Highways	6 months	
Medium Term Actions (e.g. longer planning timescales and potential need to source funding but potential for greater impact)			
Basement and property to be made flood resilient and/or resistant	Homeowner with support from SCC	N/A	
Investigate additional interventions, e.g. Natural flood management, sustainable drainage or property flood resilience, which	Landowners and/residents, supported by relevant authority, resource dependant (SCC LLFA, EA)	12-24 months	

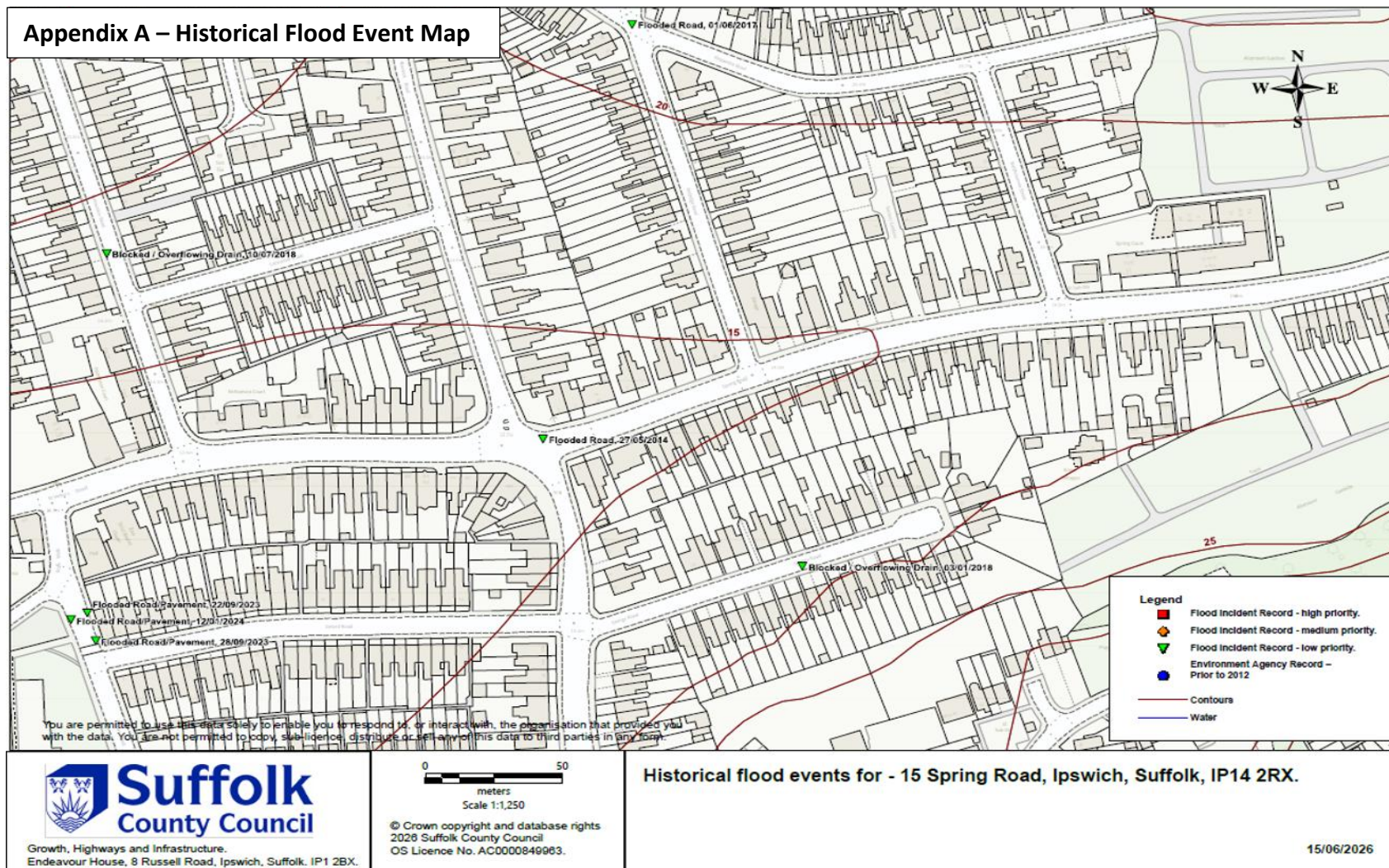
may improve flood resilience			
Long Term actions (significantly longer timescale and budget required with potentially greater positive impact)			
Deliver any interventions that are economically, technically and environmentally feasible and acceptable to improve the flood resilience of the area, e.g. See above.	Landowners and/residents, supported by relevant authority, resource dependant (SCC LLFA, EA)	As required	

Approval

This report will be reviewed and updated every 6 months until actions are marked as complete.

Reviewer	Date of Review

Appendix A – Historical Flood Event Map



Disclaimer

This report has been prepared and published as part of Suffolk County Council's responsibilities under Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. It is intended to provide context and information to support the delivery of the local flood risk management strategy and should not be used for any other purpose.

The findings of the report are based on a subjective assessment of the information available by those undertaking the investigation and therefore while all reasonable efforts have been made to gather and verify such information may not include all relevant information. As such it should not be considered as a definitive assessment of all factors that may have triggered or contributed to the flood event.

The opinions, conclusions and recommendations in this Report are based on assumptions made by Suffolk County Council when preparing this report, including, but not limited to those key assumptions noted in the Report, including reliance on information provided by third parties.

Suffolk County Council expressly disclaims responsibility for any error in, or omission from, this report arising from or in connection with any of the assumptions being incorrect.

The opinions, conclusions and any recommendations in this report are based on conditions encountered and information reviewed at the time of preparation and Suffolk County Council expressly disclaims responsibility for any error in, or omission from this report arising from or in connection with those opinions, conclusions, and any recommendations.

The implications for producing Flood Investigation Reports and any consequences of blight have been considered. The process of gaining insurance for a property and/or purchasing/selling a property and any flooding issues identified are considered a separate and legally binding process placed upon property owners and this is independent of and does not relate to Suffolk County Council highlighting flooding to properties at a street level. Property owners and prospective purchasers or occupiers of property are advised to seek and rely on their own surveys and reports regarding any specific risk to any identified area of land.

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