

Lead Local Flood Authority
Section 19 (Flood and Water Management Act
2010)
Flood Investigation Report

Report Title:

Norwich Road

Halesworth

Report Reference(s):

FW2016-0847

FW2016-1576

FW2017-1337

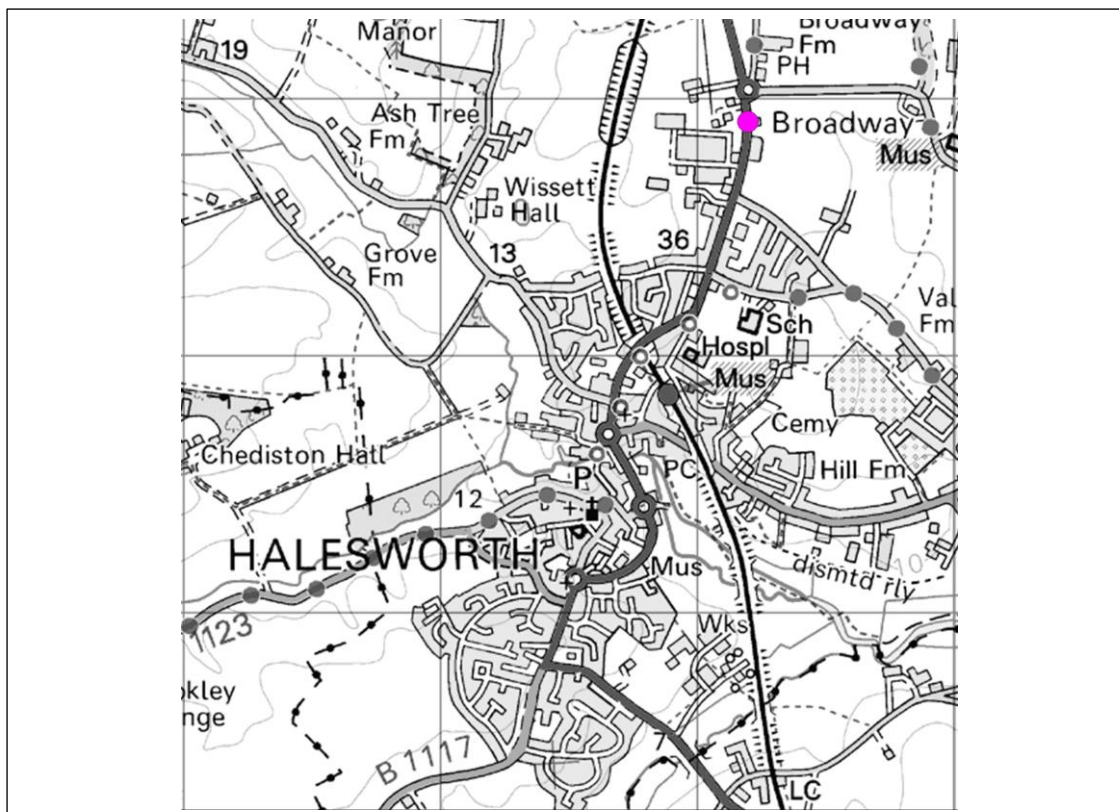
FW2018-0472

	Name	Date
Lead Officer:	Steven Halls	
Created by:	Steven Halls	09/04/2018
Checked by:	Simon Curl	10/04/2018
RMA Review:	Suffolk County Council (Highways)	28/01/2019
Approved by:	Matt Hullis	31/01/2019
Date Published		04/02/2019

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- 1.0** Suffolk County Council as a Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) has determined that in accordance with criteria, it considered it necessary or appropriate to carry out an investigation into this flood event 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).
- 2.0 Reference/s:** FW2016-0847, FW2016-1576, FW2017-1337 & FW2018-0472
- 2.1 Location:** Norwich Road, Halesworth, Suffolk
- 2.2 Flood Event Date:** 9th Feb 2018
- 2.3 Reported to SCC Date:** 9th Feb 2018
- 2.4 Investigation Commencement Date:** Initially 22nd June 2016
- 2.5 Criteria for investigation:**

Criteria for an investigation (as per Appendix D of the Suffolk Flood Risk Management Strategy):	✓/X
There was a risk to life as a result of flooding?	x
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	x
Where a major transport route was closed for more than 10 hours as a result of flooding	x
Critical infrastructure was affected by flooding	x
There is ambiguity surrounding the source or responsibility of a flood incident	x



2.6 OS Grid Reference: 63919 27890

2.7 Extent of flooding: Shallow surface water (0.15m) within 1 property along the roadside edge of Norwich Rd. Deep road flooding (0.15-0.3m)

2.8 Effect of flooding: Internal and external flooding to properties adjacent to Norwich Rd.

2.9 History: Previous flooding events occurred in April and July 2016, December 2017 and Feb 2018 where 1 property internally affected at the same location.

2.10 Flooding Source: During prolonged rainfall the Northern end of Norwich Rd (A144) frequently floods at the lowest elevation in the road. A mixture of runoff from the highway and surrounding hardstanding accumulates in the low spot until it overtops the highway drop kerb towards residential buildings. A lack of safe exceedance routes around buildings means the properties suffer from localised ponding.

A number of measures in the highway have been installed to intercept runoff and direct it towards local watercourses, however these measures can be overwhelmed during high intensity summer storms. System is highly sensitive to maintenance or lack of it.

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2.11 Causes:

- Complete blockage of local watercourses causing local highway drainage infrastructure to fail.
- Highway drainage also heavily silted and unable to positively outfall.
- Persistent rainfall leads to overloading of existing road drainage in Norwich Rd and local depressions becomes inundated. Flood depths eventually top footway kerb and run into property. Car splash also compounds the problem.
- SCC Floods carried out inspections of local drainage on the 16th March 2018 and there was clear evidence of blockages within the road drainage and receiving watercourses; SCC level surveyed choked watercourses for gradients and levels of silt.
- No road closures – cars force water out of highway when in flood.

2.12 Additional Information: N/A

3.0 Risk Management Authority with Relevant Flood Risk Function

- Suffolk County Council

3.1 Functions:

- Suffolk County Council (Public highway maintenance & asset owner)
- Suffolk County Council (Lead Local Flood Authority)

4.0 Recommendations:

- Homeowner(s) to add additional flood resilience measures to their properties i.e. property level resilience (PLR).
- Riparian landowners to desilt and restore watercourses to provide adequate capacity and conveyance. Expose highway drainage outfall.
- SCC Highways to clear highway drainage in the area and improve position and size of gullies within Norwich Road. Recommend altering drop kerb level.

4.1 Recommended Actions:

Action	Responsible Authority	Timescale for response	Latest Progress Update for Actions
Investigate and maintain road drainage in effected area	SCC Highways	Completed	System jetted and clear as of August 2018
Riparian owners to clear watercourses	SCC Floods	Completed	SCC issued S.25 letters on June 2018. Works completed July 2018
Advise residents of Property Level Resilience measures and funding opportunities.	SCC Floods	Completed	N/A