

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

Report Title:

The Glebe,
Haverhill,
Suffolk

Report Reference: FW2020-1276

	Name	Date
Lead Officer:	Ellie Beecroft	
Created by:	Ellie Beecroft	September 2020
Checked by:	Simon Curl	October 2020
RMA Review:		October 2020
Approved by:	Matt Hullis	November 2020
Date Published		6 th November 2020

1.0 Suffolk County Council (SCC) 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: FW2020-1276

2.1 Location: The Glebe, Haverhill, Suffolk, CB9 0DL

2.2 Flood Event Date: 27/08/2020

2.3 Reported to SCC Date: 28/08/2020

2.4 Investigation Commencement Date: 28/08/2020

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: 567188 246169

2.7 Extent of flooding: Single property flooding internally on multiple occasions resulting in damage to property. Multiple properties experiencing flooding to gardens and driveways.

2.8 Effect of flooding: Water seeping through brickwork and floorboards causing ground floor of property to flood. Multiple garages flooded as well as front/rear gardens and driveways.

2.9 History: Property flooded internally on the 27th August but experienced external flooding on multiple occasions during the week commencing 24th August 2020. A number of properties have experienced flooding to front/rear gardens and driveways since 2016.

2.10 Flooding Source: Surface Water system surcharged causing water to flow out of private drainage systems and highway system. Overland flow from carriageway caused additional flooding to front of properties and consequently saw flooding through brickwork and flooring.

2.11 Potential Causes:

- Significant rainfall event
- Anglian Water Services (AWS) surface water sewer may have become blocked or overwhelmed causing connecting highway and private drainage systems to surcharge.
- Private drainage connection may be the low point in the system and be initial route for water to surcharge.
- Driveways are sloped towards properties and therefore experience overland flow when drainage system is overwhelmed.

2.12 Additional Information:

- Suffolk County Council's Highway Authority completed a drainage investigation (CCTV and Jetting) of the highway drainage system in July 2018. It was confirmed that private and highway drainage networks connect to the AWS surface water sewer. CCTV survey confirmed blockage within AWS surface water sewer. Information was passed to AWS in July 2018 and system confirmed to be clear by AWS in August 2018.
- The Highway Authority confirmed the gullies were jetted and clear in July 2020. Flooding was experienced after this date.
- Nearest rain gauge (Wixoe) recorded 16mm of rainfall over 5 hours (not validated).

3.0 Risk Management Authority with Relevant Flood Risk Function

- Suffolk County Council
- Anglian Water Services

3.1 Functions:

- Suffolk County Council (Lead Local Flood Authority - LLFA)
- Suffolk County Council (Highway Authority)
- Anglian Water Services (Sewer maintenance & asset owner)

4.0 Recommendations:

- Anglian Water Services to investigate surface water sewer in The Glebe and establish whether system is blocked or has sufficient capacity.
- Homeowner(s) to explore the addition of flood resilience measures to their properties i.e. property level resilience (PLR).

4.1 Recommended Actions:

Action	Responsible Authority	Timescale for response	Latest Progress Update for Actions
Investigate and maintain SW sewer and ensure it is clear and free flowing.	Anglian Water Services	November 2020	No acknowledgement of the need for this action by AWS. Action remains outstanding (March 2021).
Investigate/model SW sewer and identify if it has sufficient capacity.	Anglian Water Services	December 2020	No acknowledgement of the need for this action by AWS. Action remains outstanding (March 2021).
Investigate possibility of non-return valve on private drainage connections.	Anglian Water Services/Homeowner	November 2020	No acknowledgement of the need for this action by AWS. Action remains outstanding (March 2021).
Advise residents of Property Level Resilience measures.	SCC Lead Local Flood Authority.	November 2020.	Action Completed (December 2020).