

Poynton Flood Update Newsletter

January 2020

Section 19 Report

A formal flood investigation is currently being undertaken in the catchments of Poynton Brook, River Dean, River Bollin, Harrop Brook and tributary of Todd Brook, due to the flooding experienced between the 28th – 31st July 2019.

Cheshire East Council undertake formal flood investigation, also called a section 19 report. This report is a requirement of section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act, 2010.

The purpose of a formal flood investigation is to:

- identify who was responsible for managing the risk of flooding
- understand what caused the flooding
- make recommendations for reducing future risk

Cheshire East share reports with other flood risk management authorities. These include United Utilities and the Environment Agency.

Other stakeholders involved in flood risk management include:

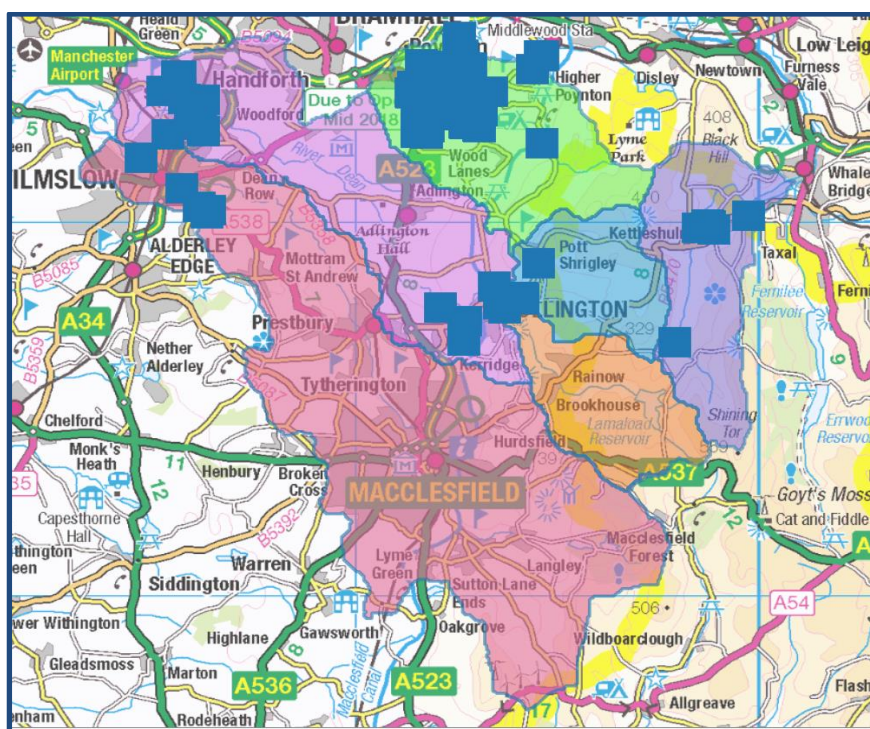
- Riparian landowners are those who own land adjoining or containing a watercourse. They have certain rights and responsibilities, including the maintenance of watercourses and assets within their ownership to ensure flood risks are not increased upstream or downstream of their land. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/owning-a-watercourse>
- Residents who are concerned they may be at risk of flooding should take appropriate action to protect themselves and their property. These actions may include registering with the Environment Agency to receive flood warnings, obtaining a personal supply of sandbags, and moving valuable items to higher ground. Individuals should also consider more resilient and permanent property protection measures including water resistant doors, air brick covers, floodgates, raised electrical sockets and the fitting of non-return valves on pipes.
- The Canal & River Trust are not a Risk Management Authority. Under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 the responsibilities of the Canal and River Trust relate to its function as a navigation authority. It is not funded for flood risk management except in the context of maintaining the canals and their feeder streams, by-passes and discharge weirs fit for purpose.

The draft is now in the review/approval process. Local investigations will continue, but will not be included in the final report. When available, the approved report will be published online:

<https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/planning/flooding/floods-and-flood-risk/flood-investigations.aspx>

To report internal property flooding to the LLFA please email: Flood.Investigation@cheshireeast.gov.uk or call 0300 123 5500.

Properties reporting flooding between 28th-31st July 2019
Green area highlights the Poynton Brook catchment.



Cheshire East Update

Planning applications and strategic planning sites in Poynton

- Further reviewed by the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) with the Local Planning Authority 3/10/19 in response to the flood
- New planning applications across Cheshire East will continue to see consult the LLFA:
 - LLFA continue to raise objections to sites on the basis of flood risk, proximity to watercourses etc.
 - LLFA continue to apply conditions to restrict runoff from new developments match those of the predeveloped rates (greenfield runoff rates)

Highway drainage investigations completed, systems freely draining:

- London Road North, Vicarage Lane, London Road South and Anglesey Drive
- Further works required by 3rd parties to clear drains on 3rd party land associated with highway drains
- Some small local improvements have been identified to highway outfalls

Drainage investigations ongoing at A555 Manchester Airport Relief Road

- A555 pumping station No3: vegetation cleared and inspection of pumps, rising main and storage tanks. 1 of the 4 pumps had burnt out and has now been replaced and relocated.

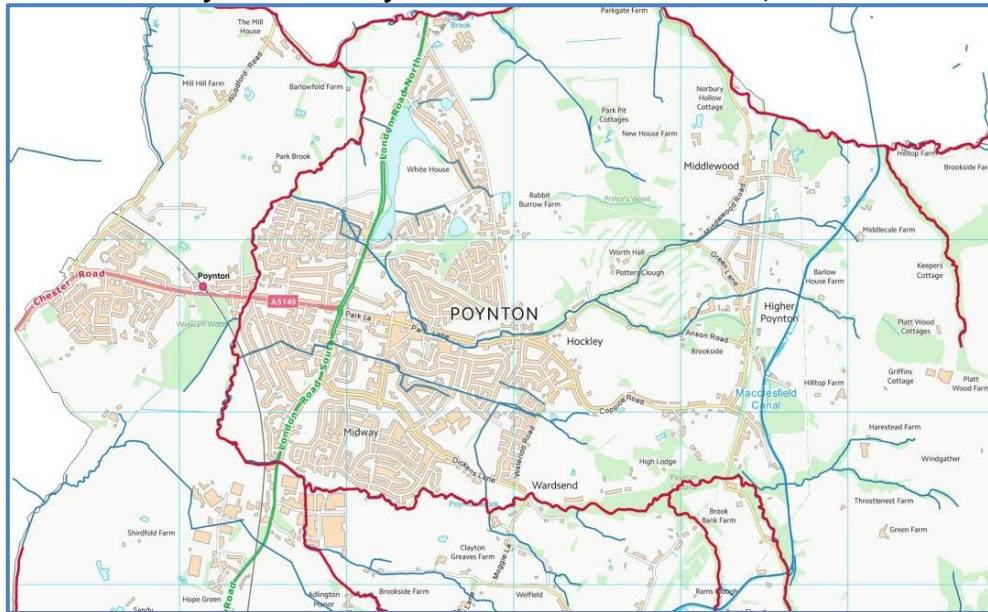
Highway gully clearance

- Cheshire East Highways have completed the additional programme of gully emptying in the north, 8,690 gullies have been emptied. 410 issues discovered with gullies, 217 tasks completed 193 outstanding.
- To report an issue: <https://www.cheshireeasthighways.org/report-it-general.aspx>

Ordinary watercourses

- Park Lane stream: The Council has, without prejudice, to undertake a CCTV survey of the culverted watercourse directly upstream of Glastonbury Drive. This information will be used to assist and inform the riparian owners.
- Coppice Stream: Localised issues have been discussed on site with local residents / landowners.

Watercourse within Poynton: ordinary watercourses shown in blue, main rivers shown in red



Natural Flood Management options are being reviewed to slow the flow and hold water flood waters upstream by multi agency partners in conjunction with the National Trust and other local land owners: meetings have been held with relevant parties to discuss options for Park Lane Stream, Coppice Stream and Poynton Brook

Wards End Bridge (retaining wall adjacent to the bridge) – Poynton Brook

Work is progressing well, consultations undertaken with all relevant parties. Water pipes and gas pipes both cross this bridge. United Utilities are currently on-site installing a new trunk water main to enable works to progress in the area of collapse.

Trash Screen/culvert clearance on ordinary watercourses, Cheshire East Highways clear the screens on a monthly basis along with ad-hoc clearance following periods of high rainfall:

- Middlewood Road
- Park Lane (Willow Close)
- To report an issue: <https://www.cheshireeasthighways.org/report-it-general.aspx>

Images clockwise: Gully emptying, Wards End Bridge retaining wall, A555 storage tank, Park Lane (Willow Close) Trash Screen



United Utilities Update

United Utilities are the statutory undertaker for water and wastewater services and have carried out investigations into flooding which was reported to them.

- They have supported the inaugural meeting of the Poynton Flood Working Group and will continue to do so.
- Opportunities to remove surface water from the combined sewer are being investigated.
- Locations for in sewer monitoring are being agreed internally.
- They are conducting a study of the drainage area to understand the interactions with rivers and streams.
- They have met upstream landowner with Cheshire East and Stockport Councils to discuss land use / Natural Flood Management of the catchment to slow the flow of water from upstream catchments to Poynton and Norbury Brooks.
- They are looking for opportunities to work in partnership with other Flood Risk Management Authorities and any such opportunities will be welcomed and considered.

Environment Agency Update

The Environment Agency have looked at the upper catchment of Poynton with Natural Flood Management (NFM) practitioners from the Mersey Forest to look at locations suitable for holding and slowing the flow of water from the upper reaches. At the current time this is at a preliminary stage and the amount of NFM interventions that would be required to make a tangible difference to the flood risk in Poynton is not inconsiderable, but any intervention is a step in the right direction. If any landowners in the upper catchment wish to help with this work or have land where we could hold water temporarily during periods of heavy rainfall, please contact the Environment Agency at FloodResilienceGMMC@environment-agency.gov.uk.

Following initial river debris clearance downstream of the railway bridge at London Road, we have undertaken further upstream removal of large fallen tree blockage material. This will improve river conveyance alongside the properties on Vernon Road and prevent restrictions at the London Road Bridge. The work will be completed in two stages with the final section currently underway and completed by the end of December.

The Environment agency are currently working with the Poynton Working Group and the Poynton Flood Group with the support of Newground we have visited several residents to give help and support with flood resilience.

Poynton Flood Group Update

Poynton Flood Action Group was formed in August 2019 by a small group of local residents, in response to the flooding experienced in Poynton in June and September 2016 and July 2019. The aim of the group is to actively take charge of flood risk in Poynton and improve resilience - while continually pushing plans for long-term flood reduction in the village. Working with various agencies and councils is giving the group a more accurate understanding of what can be done short and long-term to safeguard the village, and the Flood Action Group will continue to work as a collective until a long-term reduction in flooding has been achieved. The Flood Smart event will take place on 25th January at 10 am and 2pm at Poynton Civic Hall where residents can get an update on all the work taking place behind the scenes, as well as give people an opportunity to discuss any concerns.

Poynton Working Group Update

The Flood Working Group was established by the Town Council in response to the floods of the 31st July 2019. As well as reviewing the recent flood events it is also reviewing what actions were taken following the 2016 floods. The Group has collected evidence on properties affected in order to ensure that Cheshire East and the Environment Agency have a comprehensive understanding of all the properties affected in 2016 and 2019. It is currently reviewing watercourse, culvert and drain maps. The Flood Working Group have met with the Flood Risk Authorities to gain an understanding of the floods and what action can be taken. More recently the Working Group have engaged with the National Trust Riverlands project to look at higher catchment issues. Going forward the group will look to ensure that any recommendations are undertaken in a timely manner.

Flood Hub

The Flood Hub website is a joint initiative by Newground, the Environment Agency, United Utilities, and the Cumbria, Lancashire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Cheshire Strategic Flood Partnerships. It is funded by the North West Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC), and it launched on 5th November 2018.

The website aims to be a one-stop-shop for providing flood resilience advice and information for householders, businesses and communities. Using our online digital capability we keep users up to date with the latest flood news, events and information resources available in order to stay flood aware and increase their own resilience.