

Wirral MBC – LLFA – Significant Flood Event Report

LOCATION: NGR Area/street name		Various locations within the Wirral Boundary		REFERENCE NO.	W24.9.12/01-36	
Start date & time	24/09/12	End date & time	25/09/12	Data collection date	2/10/12 – 1/11/12	
				Observer	J.H. Baker	
** Responsible Risk Management Authority (RMA)		Highway Authority (LLFA), United Utilities.		** Have RMA responded appropriately? Main contact (name& no)	Yes Various contacts were made	
Maximum depth (m)		750mm		History of flooding?	A number of the reported locations had flooded before.	
SOURCE OF FLOODING			CAUSE OF FLOODING			
River: Main (EA)	Y	drainage capacity exceeded			Y	
Sea (EA)	N	mechanical failure			N	
Drainage: sewer (UU, WW)	Y	operational failure/ breach of defence			N	
River: Ordinary	Y	system 'tide locked' (ie drain can not discharge due to high river level)			Y	
Drainage: highway	Y	blockage of bridge	N	blockage in culvert/pipe	Y	
Surface water	Y	blockage in channel	N	blockage of screen	N	
Ground water	Y	unknown/other (give details)				
Other/unknown (give details)						
Additional comments on the cause of flooding: An extreme storm event (1 in 20/25 yr event) hit the Wirral on Monday 24 September 2012, following an extended period of intermittent heavy rain. The storm fell on saturated ground with many of the rivers/watercourses and sewers already. It was not possible at a number of locations to confirm the reported flooding.						
Is level survey required? (mark high water level/wrack)		N	Surveyed		N/A	
EFFECT						
Properties flooded (residential)	Y	internal	1	external	24	Max depth (m) 0.75
Properties flooded (commercial)	Y	internal	0	external	1	
Infrastructure affected (list)	Public sewer system. Main rivers and ordinary watercourse culverts					
Roads affected (list)	Y A number of roads were severely affected by flood water and were closed. Reeds Lane/Reedville Grove, China Farm Lane, Spital Road, Raby Mere Road, Quarry Road Bromborough Road, Neston Road, Brimstage Lane, Brimstage, Brimstage Road, Brimstage Arrowe Brook Lane, Greasby, Saughall Massie Road, Newton Thornton Common Road, Thornton Hough, Clatterbridge Road (Claire House). Clatterbridge, Willaston Road, Raby and Birkenhead Road, Meols.					
Other (list)	Many of the public sewers surcharged preventing the highway gullies from discharging and a number of culverts under the highway were unable to cope with the volume of water and flows across the highway were reported.					0.45
Map/ sketch of flood						

ACTION TAKEN: All properties visited and details of flooding noted. Road gullies in vicinity of the properties checked and no problems identified. Residents advised to contact Water Company to report flooding.

ACTION REQUIRED: Water Companies to investigate public sewers in vicinity of flooded properties.

FURTHER INVESTIGATION: Investigations of locations where gullies are connected to a highway drain rather than a public sewer. However, the existing drainage systems as a whole were unable to deal with the amount of surface water generated by the storm event. Once storm had abated all flooding drained away.

OTHER INFO: It is unlikely that any improvements/additions to the highway drainage system would prevent future flooding from storm events of this magnitude. The Water Companies only design new sewers not to flood during this type of event they will however surcharge, which will prevent gullies connected to them from discharging.

