

Responsibilities for Flood Risk Management

BACKGROUND

1. Responsibilities for flood risk management fall to different organisation depending on the nature or cause of the flooding.
2. This document highlights the responsibilities for each agency.

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

3. The EA has strategic overview of all sources of flooding and is responsible for flood risk management activities on all main rivers.
4. The EA are responsible for managing the risk of flooding from main rivers, reservoirs, estuaries and the sea.
5. The EA can prepare and deliver projects to manage flood risk from main rivers.
 - a. The project at Mill Corner focuses on fluvial flood risk and therefore the EA can progress a project in this area.
 - b. The Kingsway project being carried out by Hart relates to surface water, fluvial and sewer flooding and therefore the EA are an important stakeholder in the project. The could carry out work to reduce the fluvial flood risk to the properties.
 - c. The main focus of the Phoenix Green project is surface water flood risk and hence why the EA could not apply for funding and carry out this work.
6. The EA has a priority to increase the resilience of people, property and businesses to the risks of flooding and coastal erosion.
7. The EA provides funding opportunities to Local Authorities to carry out flood alleviation work for both fluvial and surface water flooding.

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

8. HCC is the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) and is required to:
 - a. Prepare and maintain a strategy for local flood risk management in their areas.
 - b. Investigate significant flooding incidents and publish the results of the investigations.
 - c. Regulate ordinary watercourses and has powers to enforce obligations for maintenance.
9. Lead local flood authorities (LLFAs) are responsible for managing the risk of flooding from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses and lead on community recovery.
10. HCC is also the Highway Authority and has responsibility for:
 - a. Providing and managing highway drainage and roadside ditches.
 - b. This includes all road drains and the connection to the public sewer.
11. Hampshire County Council has a responsibility surrounding surface water flood risk but does not have any requirement to carry out large projects to address flood risk unless it falls within their direct responsibility.

12. HCC is a stakeholder in all the Hart owned projects.

THAMES WATER

13. Thames Water is the sewerage undertaker for the district of Hart.
14. This means they have a duty to provide, improve and maintain the public sewer system for surface water, foul water and combined sewers. This is to ensure properties and residents are not adversely affected by sewer issues or flooding.
15. They are not responsible for private drainage systems.
16. Thames Water can carry out flood mitigation works to their sewer networks to improve drainage and reduce flood risk.
17. They also provide funding opportunities to Local Authorities for reducing that aim to reduce the pressure on sewer networks.
18. They can work as a stakeholder in major flood alleviation projects and are an important Agency in the Kingsway scheme due to the known risk from sewer flooding. Hart is working with TW to develop other opportunities to reduce flood risk to the at-risk properties.

HART DISTRICT COUNCIL

19. Hart District Council is a Risk Management Authority under the Flood and Water Management Act (2010). This means it has a responsibility to:
 - a. Co-operate with other RMAs (Environment Agency, HCC, Water companies etc.)
 - b. Act in a manner that is consistent with National and County Flood Management Strategies.
 - c. Exchange information between RMAs.
20. District Councils are key in planning local flood risk management and can carry out flood risk management works on minor watercourses. It works with LLFAs (HCC) to ensure risks are managed effectively.
21. Hart is responsible for all watercourse that flow through or adjacent to land that it owns and can carry out works to manage flood risk.
22. The Council does not have any statutory responsibility for carrying out the work within the work within the three Flood Alleviation Schemes. However, it can apply for funding to carry out larger flood risk management works. It is often the case that Local Authorities are relied on to carry out these works as the funding is often only available to them.

SOUTH EAST WATER

23. South East Water is responsible for the supply of clean water up to and including the water stopcock of properties.
24. Any flooding caused by burst water mains should be reported to South East Water for their attention.
25. They do not have any involvement in the Hart managed Flood Schemes as there are no issues with the water supply.