

Economic Regeneration, Growth & Environment

S19. (1) Flood Investigation Report

Engineering & Flood Risk Management Team

Warrington Borough Council – Lead Local Flood Authority


Date: February 2016

Location: Massey Brook Lane, Lymm

Flood Investigation Reference Number: 2016/001/001

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1.0 Introduction

Following this flood event an investigation under Section 19 (1) of the Flood and Water Management Act was undertaken to determine which risk management authorities had relevant flood risk management functions and whether each of those risk management authorities had exercised or was proposing to exercise those functions in response to the flood. In accordance with Section 19 (2) of the Flood and Water Management Act this report details the results of the investigation.

2.0 Details of the Flood Event

Reference:	2016/001/001		
Location:	Massey Brook Lane, Lymm		
Date of Flood Events:	26/12/2015	Duration:	unknown
Reason for investigation:	Flooding affecting 8 properties (as reported by Cheshire Fire & Rescue)		
Identified Cause:	Burst Water Main		

3.0 Impacts/Extent of the Flooding

3.1 Flooded Properties

According to the Department for Communities and Local Government:

The definition of a “flooded property” is a property (includes both homes and businesses), where flood water has internally entered the fabric of a building, this definition includes:

- Basements and below ground level floors;
- Garages, if they form part of the fabric of a building. However, garages adjacent to, or separate from the main building are not included;
- Occupied caravans and park homes, but not tents.

Warrington Borough Council is not aware that any properties were flooded.

3.2 Affected Properties

According to the Department for Communities and Local Government:

The definition of an “affected property” is one where:

- Water has entered gardens or surrounding areas restricting access to a property; and/or
- Flooding has disrupted essential services to the property, such as utility services e.g. sewage, drinking water, gas, electricity etc;
- And for businesses, this includes those businesses where flood waters are preventing an enterprise from trading as usual.

Warrington Borough Council is aware that 8 residential properties were affected.

4.0 Emergency Response

According to the Cheshire Fire & Rescue website:

Incident ID: 1512010015

Date: 26/12/2015

Time: 14:31

Attendance: Fire engines from Stockton Heath and Widnes

Fire crews were called to help with a flooding situation on Massey Brook Lane, Warrington.

A main had collapsed in the road and the water levels were rising effecting eight homes.

Crews attempted to divert the water and used special equipment to pump the flood away from the houses. They worked alongside other agencies until about 8pm.

5.0 Flood History

Warrington Borough Council is not aware of any historical flooding at Massey Brook Lane, Lymm.

6.0 Conclusion

In the absence of further information, the following conclusions have been made:

- It appears that the flooding on 26 December 2015 at Massey Brook Lane, Lymm was at as a result of a burst water main.
- The water leak is the responsibility of the water company for the area.

7.0 Flood Risk Management Authority Responsibility

It is the conclusion of this report that United Utilities as the water company for the area are responsible for managing the flood risk from the potable water network.

8.0 Action Plan

The following are recommended but not binding actions for Warrington Borough Council and its partner organisations:

- Warrington Borough Council and United Utilities to continue to liaise with one another in respect of flood incidents.
- United Utilities to continue to maintain its potable water network in accordance with their statutory duties.

9.0 Disclaimer

Although every effort has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the information contained within the pages of this report, we can't guarantee that the contents will always be current, accurate or complete.

This report has been prepared as part of Council's responsibilities under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 as Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA).

The findings of this report are based on a subjective assessment of the information available to those undertaking the investigation and therefore may not include all relevant information. Therefore it shouldn't be considered as a definitive assessment of all factors that may have triggered or contributed to the flood event.

The opinions, conclusions and any recommendations in this report are based on our assumptions when preparing this report, including, but not limited to those key assumptions noted in the reports, including reliance on information provided by third parties.

The Council expressly disclaims responsibility for any error in, or omission from, this report arising from or in connection with any of the assumptions made being incorrect. The opinions, conclusions and any recommendations in these reports are based on conditions encountered and information reviewed at the time of preparation and the Council expressly disclaims responsibility for any error in, or omission from, this report arising from or in connection with those opinions, conclusions and any recommendations.

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10.0 Control and Distribution

This document is owned, maintained, and updated by the Engineering & Flood Risk Team, Warrington Borough Council.

All users are asked to advise the Engineering & Flood Risk Team of any changes in circumstances or information that may materially affect this investigation.

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This document will be reviewed following any new information being received in relation to the flood event and its causes/effects.