

# Scrutiny Committee

## Updates

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**Date:** Thursday, 13th March, 2025  
**Time:** 10.30 am  
**Venue:** The Capesthorne Room - Town Hall, Macclesfield SK10 1EA

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The information on the following pages was received following publication of the committee agenda.

1. **Update on Flood Risk Management** (Pages 3 - 42)

Presentations from Lead Local Flood Authority, Environment Agency and United Utilities.

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# Flood Risk Management and Drainage

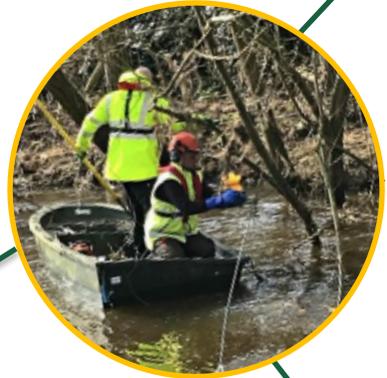
Scrutiny Committee, 13 March 2025



# We will cover ...

1. Introductions
2. Context: Flood risk management and drainage in Cheshire East
3. Update since March 2024
4. What we're planning for 2025-6

# Context: A growing problem



Recurrent Issues

- Old drainage infrastructure
- Significant 3rd party / riparian issues
- Run-off from fields
- Issues from developments

Climate Change

- More storm events
- More frequent excessive rainfall and summer floods
- Milder, wetter winters
- Instances of heavy snowfall & meltwater

Critical Mass for Funding

- Large number of small hotspots
- Difficult to provide benefits for large numbers of people

Where is the Funding?

- FDGiA?
- Local Levy – RFCC?
- SuDS for Schools?
- Natural Flood Management?
- Quick Win bids

Increasing development

- NPPF suggests Planning Apps in CE could rise to around 2,600 pa (160% increase)
- Additional strain on existing infrastructure and resources

# Since March 2024

## Weather events

### Named storms

- 11 in last storm season (Sept 23/24)
- Significantly increased rainfall outside storm events

### Flooding investigations

- More than 50 instances of property flooding

### s19 formal investigation reports

- 3 instances triggered

## Operational services

### Gully cleansing

- 33,376 cleaned to end Jan 25

### Intensive works

- 97 dig-ups completed

### Applications

- 445 Planning applications
- 27 Land Drainage Consent applications

## Capital scheme delivery

### Number of significant schemes completed and ongoing:

- Moss Lane, Styal
- Station Road, Wrenbury
- Ryle Street, Macclesfield
- Crewe Road, Shavington

Open

Fair

Green



## A555 Manchester Airport Relief Road

- Crosses CE, Stockport and Manchester City Council areas
  - Opened 1995, extension 2018
  - Stockport oversaw design and build of extension
- SMBC areas
  - Winter conditions hampered re-opening of road

### Future actions

- Investigating increasing pumping station capacity
- Discuss design issues with Stockport

### January 2025

- Flooded at B5358 underpass
- Pumping station functioning
- Flooding also experienced in MCC and

## A34 Melrose Way and Fulshaw Park South

Related to heavy rainfall experienced in the South Manchester area

### January 2025

- Melrose Way: Obstruction in drainage ditch and pumping station failure
- Fulshaw Park South: Triggered S19 report. Various contributory factors.

### Future actions

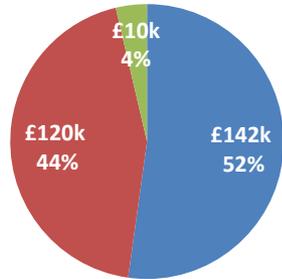
- Melrose Way: Cyclical cleansing of ditch to be reviewed
- Fulshaw Park South: Riparian owners to clear Whitehall Brook and implement of S19 recommendations



# External Funding Opportunities

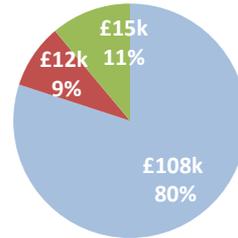
## Ryle Street, Macclesfield

- FDGiA (EA)
- Local Levy (RFCC)
- CEC Contribution



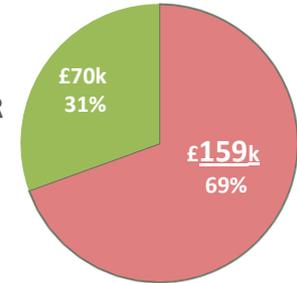
## LINDOW COMMUNITY SCHOOL, WILMSLOW

- FDGiA (EA)
- Local Levy (RFCC)
- CEC Contribution



## PARK LANE, MACCLESFIELD

- Local Levy (RFCC)
- CEC Contribution



*(Bid withdrawn)*

## A51, CALVELEY

- Quick Win (EA)



## LINLEY LANE, ALSAGER

- Section 106



**Funding sources:**  
 EA – Environment Agency  
 FDGiA – Flood Defence Grant in Aid  
 RFCC – Regional Flood & Coastal Committee  
 CEC – Cheshire East Council

# Our plans for 2025-6



## Funding

- Drainage, Flood Risk and Pumping Stations:
  - Revenue: £2.29m (+19%)
  - Capital: £2.86m (+30%)
- External Funding Opportunities



## Strategy / Review

- Revised Local Flood Risk Management Strategy
- S19 Reports to be published
- Promoting Sustainable Drainage Systems with developers



## Systems

- Introduction of Map16:
  - Managing drainage assets
  - More flexible and better data than existing system
- Considering StormChain: Managing storm event response



## Delivery

- Improved volume and efficiency of gully cleansing
- Focus on key routes and urban areas
- Deliver / complete our important capital schemes

# Appendices



# Strategic Framework and Legislation

## Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

- Published in 2017
- Currently under review for 2025

### Objectives:

1. Set out responsibilities for flooding
2. Assess the risks of flooding
3. Reduce flood risk and adverse consequences
4. Develop actions and interventions to reduce flood risk
5. Manage flood risk sustainably

*Land Drainage Act 1991 and Flood and Water Management Act 2010*

## Drainage Strategy

- Duty to maintain highway infrastructure as safe and available

### Approach:

- Risk-based approach
- Targeted cleansing programme:
  - Higher risk areas / more likely to flood = higher frequency
  - Lower risk areas have reduced or reactive frequency.

*Highways Act 1980*

Open

Fair

Green

# Functions

## Drainage

- **Routine:** Cleaning of gullies, drainage structures
- **Reactive:** Unblocking gullies, removing surface water
- **Proactive:** Drainage schemes to increase capacity

## Lead Local Flood Authority

- **Flood infrastructure management:** Deliver works to manage flood risk
- **Multi-agency:** Coordination with risk management authorities
- **Planning consultee:** Consulted on planning applications for surface water drainage / SuDS

# Our High-Risk Areas

- High risk areas are outlined in the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS)
- 2017 LFRMS detailed 25,900 residential properties in areas at risk of surface water flooding in Cheshire East. New NaFRA2 data suggests 28,172 an increase of ~8.5%.
- 2017 LFRMS detailed 1,160 residential properties in areas at risk of fluvial flooding (rivers) in Cheshire East. New NaFRA2 data suggests 4,586 an increase of ~300%.

*NB: NaFRA2 provides significantly improved flood risk mapping thanks to; much better data, improved modelling methodologies, improved property and infrastructure assessments, and incorporated climate change projections*

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# Environment Agency

**David Brown**

**Senior Advisor – Flood Risk Management**

**Katy Holt**

**Partnership & Strategic Overview Team Leader**

**13 March 2025**

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# Environment Agency

## Roles and Responsibilities

The Environment Agency is responsible for taking a **strategic overview** of the management **of all sources of flooding** and coastal erosion and are responsible for managing the risk of flooding from main rivers, reservoirs estuaries and the sea

**Strategically:** this involves **working with partners** to assess and determine flood risk and to identify and deliver solutions to mitigate that risk.

We provide **information on areas at risk** of river, surface water and coastal flooding through flood risk maps.

Operationally: We issue **flood warnings** for main river flooding, our operations team **maintain assets** and clear blockages.

We conduct post-flood investigations to understand what occurred..

Our Resilience team **work with the community** to help the community respond to the event.

# Environment Agency



Over 15,200 properties at flood risk from rivers and sea. 593 in Cheshire East



Over 300 incident response staff



13 Flood Alert Areas  
4 in Cheshire East



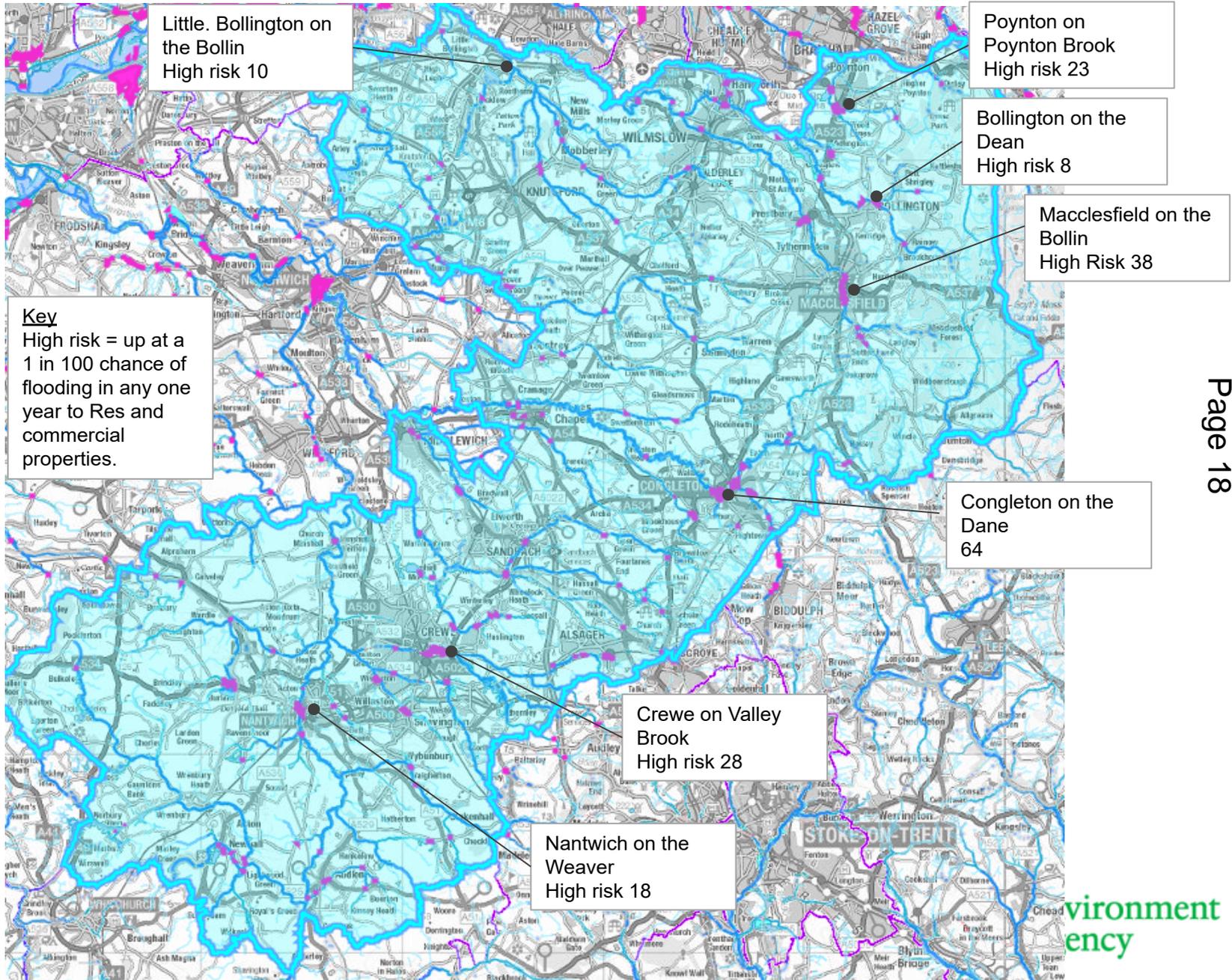
180 Flood Warning Areas- 15 in Cheshire East



Working with 50 Communities at risk



# Environment Agency Main River risk map



# Environment Agency

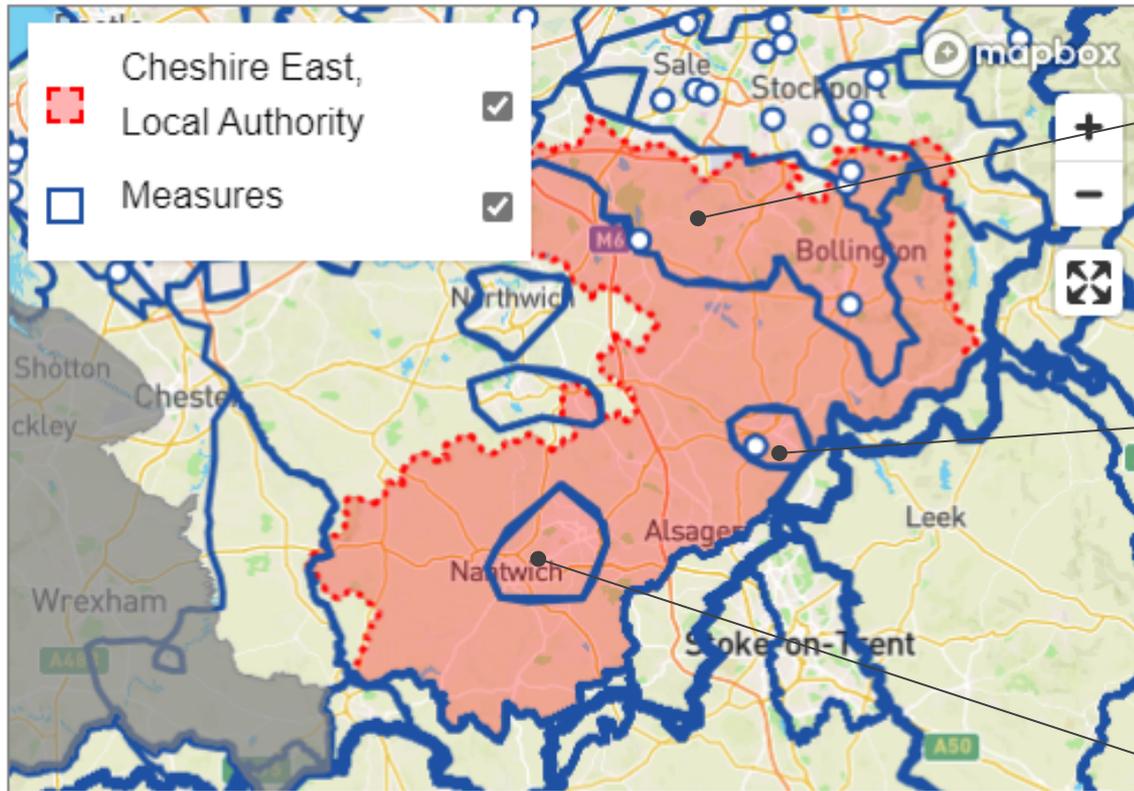
## Flood Risk Management Plan 2

National EA strategy

EA: area based strategy, with measures in FRMP2 (second cycle)

Available on Gov.uk

- Key messages: climate change mitigation
- work together
- reduce Carbon
- invest in flood risk assets
- provide planning advice
- monitor weather
- forecast flooding



Click on a feature below to view further details.

Close

[Work together at places and communities that will be exposed to significantly increased flood risk as a result of climate change in the North West of England](#)

Work together on Climate Change Mitigation

Take further action where the case is most compelling in identified areas in the North West of England

Work together on Climate Change Mitigation

# Environment Agency

Investigate main river flood risk solutions. Strategically, EA administer Defra Flood Defence Grant in Aid (FDGiA) Schemes, and Local Levy funding for the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee. This means advising on schemes, and providing QA on business cases to turn indicative allocations into signed off business cases and deliverable schemes.

## Cheshire East Lead Local Flood Authority

### Lindow Community Primary School Flood Alleviation



Figure 1 Scheme location, existing flood risk and benefit area

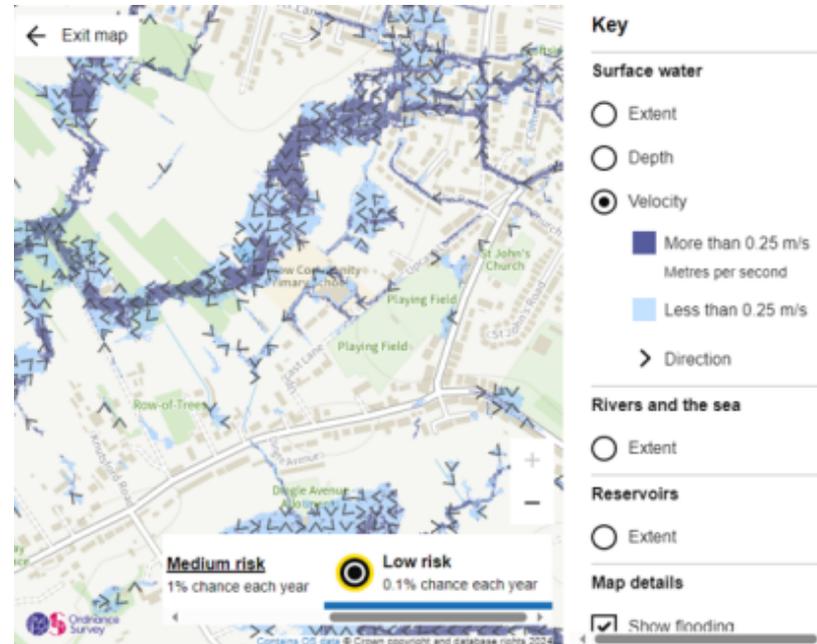


Figure 2 Overland flow route direction and speed (EA Long Term Flood Risk Map)

### Recommendation

It is recommended that the approval for expenditure of **£89.5k** (including £72.5k GiA and £17k Local Levy) is given to implement Natural Flood Management and Sustainable Drainage features to reduce flood risk to Lindow Community Primary School and surrounding residential properties in Wilmslow. This project provides around £970k of benefits over a 50 year appraisal period and provides a 50 year

# New Years Flooding Event - GMMC

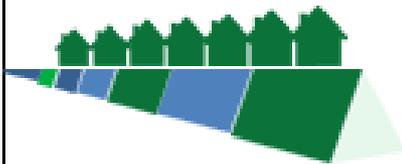
## Flood Event Impacts



### Record river levels on River Mersey

- Brinksway – 5.01m
- Didsbury – 7.67m
- Northenden – 3.76m

All 7 flood storage reservoirs were operated



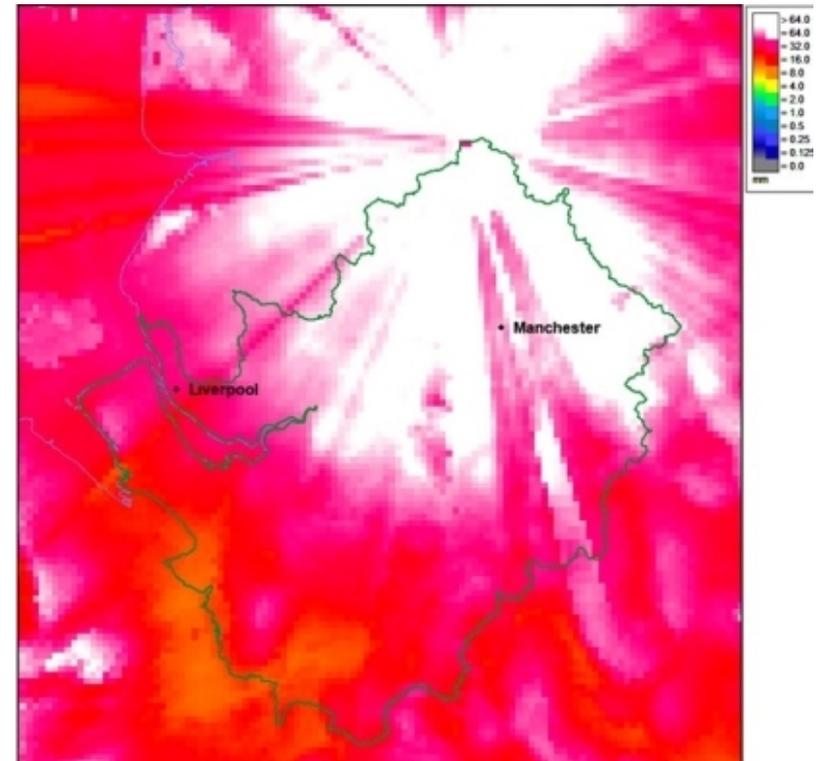
10,454 properties across GMMC were protected

360 properties flooded across GMMC,



350+ incident reports received from the public

## Rainfall



*A map representing the total rate of rainfall over the 24hr period from 17:00 31/12 to 01/01*

# Incident Response

During a Flood Event, we:

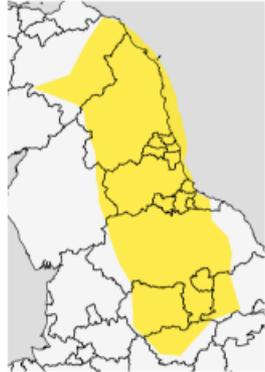
- Receive Weather Warnings from the Met Office.
- Run Forecast weather through Hydrological flood models to determine Best Estimate and Reasonable Worse case forecast scenarios
- Hold Flood Advisory Service (FAS) Telecoms with Resilience forum to disseminate intelligence
- Attend command structures and give technical advice on Flood Warnings and operational response and potential impacts
- Issue Flood Alerts & Warnings using Flood Warning System - telephone system, text and internet, partners, media etc
- Operate flood control structures and pumping stations
- Clear debris from channels, screens and culverts on main rivers and monitor/repair stressed defences

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Met Office National Severe Weather Warning Service

**Yellow warning**  
Wind

Between  
**05:00 Fri 17 Feb 2023** and  
**14:00 Fri 17 Feb 2023**



**Very strong winds developing through Friday morning associated with Storm Otto may bring disruption to travel.**

**What to expect**

- Road, rail, air and ferry services may be affected, with longer journey times and cancellations possible. High-sided vehicles may be particularly prone in this set-up.
- Some roads and bridges may close
- Power cuts may occur, with the potential to affect other services, such as mobile phone coverage
- Some damage to buildings, such as tiles blown from roofs, could happen
- Injuries and danger to life from flying debris are possible

**Further details**

A spell of very strong winds is expected during Friday morning, easing from the west during the afternoon.

Winds will be strongest over, and immediately to the east of high ground, with gusts of 55-65 mph. Gusts as high as 75 mph are possible, particularly for some of the more exposed trans-Pennine routes.

High-sided vehicles may be particularly impacted.



Low likelihood of medium impacts

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## Environment Agency Flood Alerts/Warnings Floodline 0345 9881188

Severity level



 <b>FLOOD ALERT</b>	<p><b>What it means:</b> flooding could occur to low-lying land and roads. Flooding is not expected to affect homes and businesses at this stage.</p> <p>Don't panic but keep an eye on the situation—stay alert and check weather forecasts.</p> <p>Flood alerts can occur quite often and do not necessarily lead to flooding of homes and businesses so please do not be alarmed.</p>
 <b>FLOOD WARNING</b>	<p><b>What it means: Flooding is expected. Immediate action required.</b> We mainly target Flood Warnings at specific communities that are at risk from flooding. Some Flood Warnings may apply to stretches of coast and river.</p> <p>It will indicate that flooding is expected and that people should take more direct impact actions e.g. move belongings upstairs.</p>
 <b>SEVERE FLOOD WARNING</b>	<p><b>What it means: Severe Flooding. Danger to life.</b> All customers who receive a Flood Warning will receive a Severe Flood Warning if conditions are met.</p> <p>It will be used in extreme circumstances to tell people that flooding is posing significant risk to life or significant disruption to communities which could also cause risk to life. Depending on the circumstances it would indicate that people should evacuate the area or take shelter within safe buildings.</p>
<b>Warning No Longer In Force</b>	<p>We issue a message to tell people that the flood threat has passed and includes useful advice on what to do next.</p>

# Post Flood

Post-Flood, we:

- Undertake post-flood data collections. Community Support Officers advise communities on how to proceed, closely liaising with Local Authorities.

Support Multi Agency Flood Drop-ins following flooding

- We have supported communities across Poynton, Little Bollington, Bollington, Wilmslow, Church Minshull and Nantwich
- Advice ranges from insurance requests, possibly grants from Government, future flood risk, potential short-term mitigation.
- Input to LLFA's section 19 Reports
- Working collaboratively with partners on potential solutions



The channel downstream has trees growing in it. This is further impacting the conveyance of the brook and these need removing. The section requiring maintenance is the section marked in yellow above.



# Capital Programme Update

Since Last year :

LACPA post co-ordinating and assisting Business case approval and admin. Assist CE on Capital Projects delivery (add pics)

Cheshire East Project Delivery 24 to 25					
Scheme name	Funding amount/source	Business Case	Properties Better protected	Constn. date	Comments
Ryles Pool (Hobson St), Macclesfield Phase 1	£143k FDGiA, £120k LL, £10k CE	FBC	11 props	Nov-24	Phase 1 completed but culvert failure lead to withdrawal of phase 2 funding application
Lindow Primary School	£30k LL, £15k CE, FDGiA £60k	OBC Oct 2024	1 school, 3 props	Aug-25	Refresh bid for £60k FDGiA.Unsuccesful.
Wilmslow & Weston Skate Park, Macclesfield.					Unlikely to progress at the moment due to resources.
Calveley QW	£20k LL	Oct-24	Business, railway line, A road, 1 prop	Mar-25	High level carrier to reduce flooding on A51, Local business's and railway

# Future Capital Programme

- Current six-year capital investment programme will end a year early
- government deciding on the 2026/27 programme and beyond as part of the next spending review
- Partnership funding rules to be reviewed
- Overall funding bid from the EA and other RMA's far exceeded the available budget for 2025/26
- Cheshire East Projects 25/26:



	GiA Funding	Local Levy
Lindow Primary School FAS	£0	£30k (FY24/25)

# Partnership Working

Since Last year:

Monthly Operational meetings with UU and CE, where detailed operational works are progressed. (E.g. Calveley, Fulshaw Park, Wynbunbury). Review, check actions, agree investigations, raise new issues, for operational response.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Site Issue / Name	Postcode	UU Engineer		Comments	Date of Action	Action	
				and change to culvert direction was done in 1991). CE lost an attenuation pond (got filled in) 2 Bechwood Drive, Congleton (CW12 2NQ) has experienced Foul flooding and is still living in the pub - needs to be checked.			
			05.01.2024	Survey was completed, few props have built over the culvert. Residents are wanting CE to upsize the culvert but there is a property built above and CE do not have the funding at present. Lots of SW going into the UU network as it is foul only. No solution at present, no contacts to either UU or CE for a while. There is also a pond slightly further up that has had levels raised it cant hold any water any more and pools down the road.			
Yew Tree - Highway Drains		Mike Mounsey	19.07.2023	Raised with CE to remove the gully connections. Site visit hopefully next Thursday	19.07.2023	Colin	Colin to send over the location of the gullies to be removed and to arrange a site visit.
	05.01.2024		CE have done a project and removed 2x Highway Gullies from foul system but havent connected them into the culvert. Resident has called in since and said that there is a big puddle due to the gullies not being connected. Rebecca said that when they were on site they said there was another outfall so they have tapped into that - this could be blocked	19.07.2023 05.01.2023	Guy Guy	Raise for the gullies to be removed Catch up with team to understand the connection	
	05/07/2024		Gullies disconnected from sewer have not been connected back into anything.	05/07/2024	Cheshire East Jake / Mike	CE - To investigate potential misconnections JH/MM - To update with investigations	
Valley Road, Wistaston		Amy Tonner	19.07.2023	Number 14 has 4 gullies outside to try and handle overland flow but the gullies cannot control the flooding, number 14 has repeat internal flooding, next door is also slightly higher so the flows from next door also flow into number 14. They are 3rd generation of flooders. CE want to do a quick win bid for property level resilience and want to install flood doors. System here is combined. DNM monitor in MH 8402. Could be a highway drain that the gullies have been connected too. There is a pub opposite that hasnt seen any internal flooding so indicates that it may not be an issue with the combined sewer but more likely to be with the gullies/highway drains.	19.07.2023	Amy	Amy to check the DNM monitor in MH 8402 (Woodside Lane) for potential spikes
	05.01.2024		CE - Quick win bid approved for the property level resilience - £10k				
	10/05/2024		Mitigation funding has been sanctioned but the money has gone to Cheshire East pot and they are trying to retrieve the money from the CE pot. Legal conversations about the indemnity insurance so need to iron a few things out before they are installing. Being manufactured and installed by Whitehouse. Guaranteed for 12 months.				
	05/07/2024		Whitehouse are booked up programme until Nov 25. CE considering other options to try and get the work completed at an earlier date. CE to liaise with local residents on potential options	05/07/2024	Cheshire East	To liaise with legal department on potential options and update to be given at next meeting	

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# Natural Flood Risk Management

Since Last year:

Climate resilience. Increase flood awareness work. Continue to work on NFM locations. Working with landowners, on encouraging NFM (via CaBA)

**Rivers Nature North**

## Cows to Coast NFM

Cows to Coast aims to work with landowners in rural Cheshire to restore natural processes which will reduce flood risk and help increase climate resilience.

The project seeks to deliver NFM interventions on the ground. These can include leaky woody barriers, tree-planting, hedge rows planting, areas for temporarily storing flood peaks, soil aeration, and ponds.

As well as flood risk and climate resilience benefits, NFM schemes can also deliver BNG, habitat creation, community well-being benefits, and improve water resources.

This project seeks to develop a programme of work alongside partners to use private finance to uplift existing funding streams and provide capital funding to deliver more NFM schemes across Cheshire.

**Bunds empty**

**Bunds full**

**Project Location:** Cheshire

**Lead Organisation:** Mersey Forest

**Main Partners:** Environment Agency, Community Forest Trust, CabA (Weaver Catchment Partnership)

**Estimated Cost:** £2 M

**Estimated Funding Gap:** £1.5 M

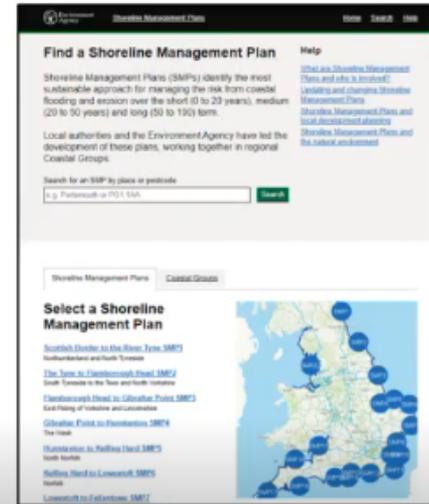
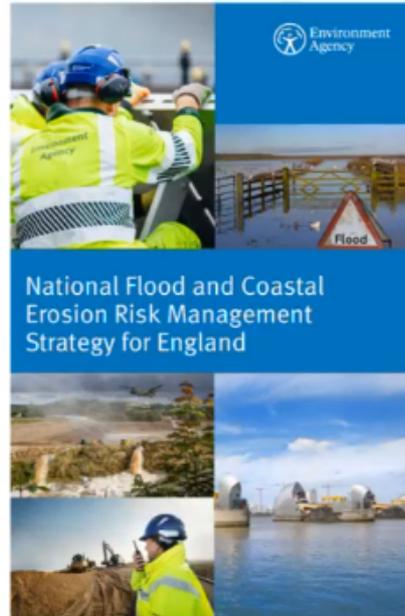
**Estimated Time Scale:** 5 - 10 years

© David Brown, Environment Agency

[Purpose](#) [Map](#) [Nature North](#) [Context](#) [Benefits](#) [Drivers](#) [Finance](#) [Pipeline](#) [Contact](#)

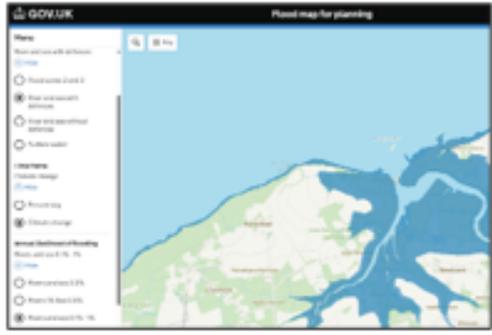
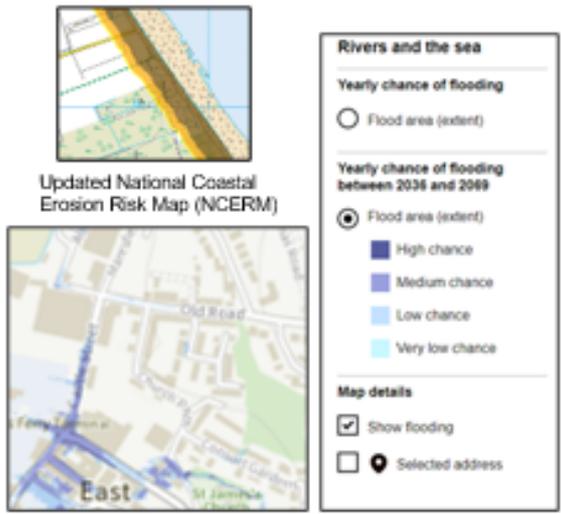
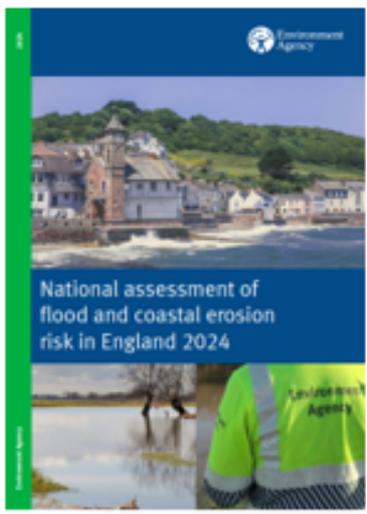
# National Assessment of Flood Risk

- Updating our current and future understanding of flood and erosion risk are requirements of our 'Strategic Overview' duties and key commitments in the statutory FCERM Strategy
- Publishing 2 significant improvements in mapping and communicating our flood and coastal erosion risk information:
  - New National Flood Risk Assessment (NaFRA2)**
  - Updated National Coastal Erosion Risk Map (NCERM)**



# National Assessment of Flood Risk

## How are we making the new information available



We published a report explaining how flood and coastal erosion risk is changing across England and why

17 December 2024

We will publish the data on GOV.UK and update our digital services - 'Check Your Long-Term Flood Risk'

28 January 2025

We will publish updated Flood Zones and add new data to 'Flood Map for Planning'

Spring 2025

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# United Utilities

March 2025

# Introductions

Craig Connor

County System Performance Manager

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Emma Birch

Area Engagement Lead, Cheshire

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# Building a plan for the North West

**7.3 million people** and **200,000 businesses**

**Industrial heritage** and Victorian infrastructure

Rainy, hilly region so water stored mainly in **reservoirs**

**12% of households** affected by water poverty

**29 designated** bathing waters

**34%** of land in the region has environmental protection

Annual water runoff **28% more** than rest of country

**54%** of sewer system is combined, with **2,200 storm overflows**

## Challenges facing our region

**A growing population**

**1 million more people** over the next 25 years

**Climate change**

**More severe rainfall events**

**Diverse communities**

**Differing levels of prosperity** across the region's communities

**Growing expectations**

**Environmental requirements** driving unprecedented levels of investment over next 30 years



# A plan that makes Cheshire stronger, greener and healthier.

We're investing to address the areas customers have said matter most.



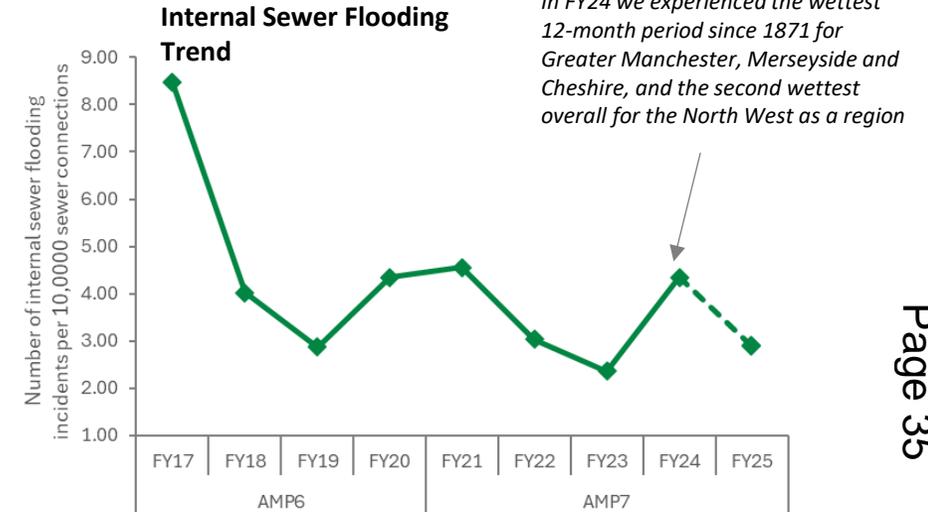
Water for the North West

# Blockage & Internal Sewer Flooding: Performance

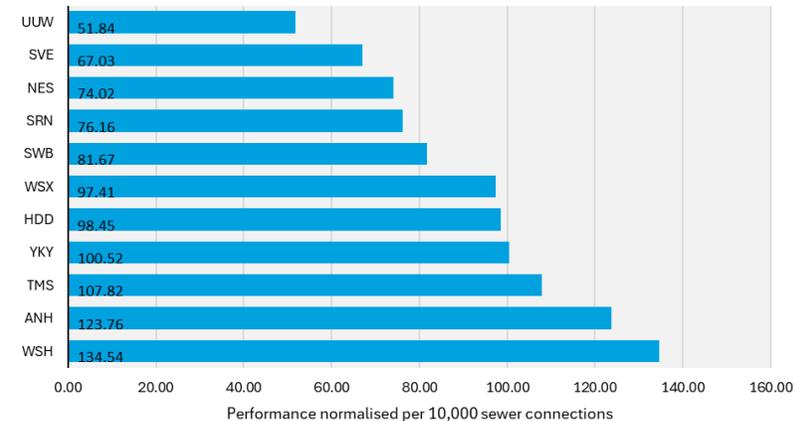
Internal Sewer Flooding is a particular challenge for UU as the North West receives 40% more urban rainfall than the industry average and has the highest percentage of combined sewers in the industry.

However, we have made progress in reducing incidents over the course of AMP7...

- We are forecast to achieve a **36.7%** reduction in internal sewer flooding incidents over AMP7 (FY21 to FY25) – however this measure is highly sensitive to extreme weather;
- We are once again set to achieve our **best ever performance for sewer blockages**, putting us on track to retain our industry leading position;
- We estimate that our dynamic network management (DNM) initiative alone has enabled us to avert **over 500** internal sewer flooding incidents since its implementation in FY23.



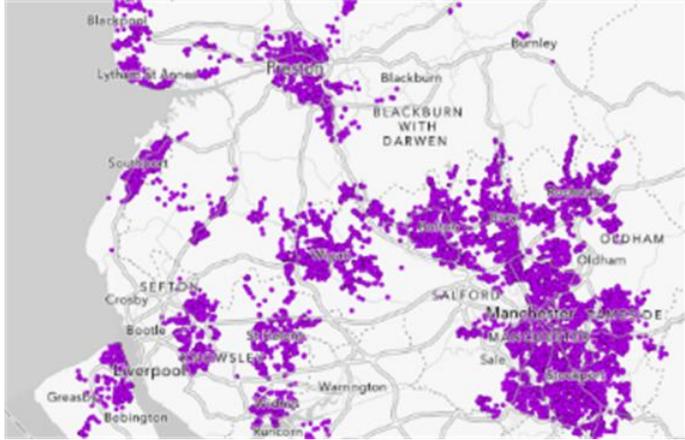
FY24 Blockage performance



Count of INCIDENT ID	Column Labels												Grand Total
Row Labels	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Grand Total
FY21	318	304	332	249	257	250	306	304	323	402	339	406	3,790
FY22	349	338	272	276	256	290	234	215	317	310	304	310	3,471
FY23	302	337	280	243	234	220	263	288	287	395	345	384	3,578
FY24	294	268	260	259	207	215	232	214	272	315	309	325	3,170
FY25	280	235	208	202	173	186	205	235	279	314	307		2,624
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,543</b>	<b>1,482</b>	<b>1,352</b>	<b>1,229</b>	<b>1,127</b>	<b>1,161</b>	<b>1,240</b>	<b>1,256</b>	<b>1,478</b>	<b>1,736</b>	<b>1,604</b>	<b>1,425</b>	<b>16,633</b>

Best ever	Green
Better than average	Yellow
Average	Orange
Worse than average	Red
Worst Ever	Dark Red

# AMP7: What have we implemented so far?



Images - partial blockages proactively identified and resolved through DNM.



Implementation of our dynamic network management (DNM) operating model – Installation of over **17,500** intelligent sensors, allowing us to proactively detect, and be alerted to blockage formation, such that our teams can intervene to clear the blockage before flooding occurs

Since its launch, DNM has proactively detected over **5,500** blockages!

Ongoing regional ‘Stop the Block’ and ‘What not to Flush’ customer awareness campaigns, as well as local targeted hotspot campaigns

Partnership with ECAS, conducting **over 20,000 site visits** to high-priority food service establishments since Oct 2019, preventing an estimated **3,372 tonnes** of fats, oil and greases entering the sewer!



WATER COMPANY NEWS

Olympic swimming pool of fats, oils and greases diverted from North West sewers



## Increasing resilience to severe weather



Delivering upgrades to the local sewer network in Cottam, Preston

- We have invested over **£35 million** in our ‘hydraulic flood risk resilience’ schemes to reduce the impact of hydraulic incapacity through cut and pump solutions as well as planned installation of **9,945 m<sup>3</sup>** of storage by the end of AMP7;
- We’ve also deployed over **1,400** property-level flood mitigation devices

# Internal Sewer Flooding: Customer Response

Whilst our priority is preventing incidents, where incidents do, unfortunately, occur, we ensure our response is swift and empathetic.

- Over the past 12 months, our average time to respond to customers experiencing internal sewer flooding was **2.57 hours**, down from 5.02 hours in the previous 12-month period. This is despite some significant storm events;
- **75-80%** of our incidents are resolved on the first visit;
- Our latest (Q2 of FY25) C-MeX results place us **1<sup>st</sup> place** for wastewater customer experience - The range of company WaSC scores was 88.78 to 61.42 with only 4 companies achieving a score in the 80's;
- We have **monthly executive-level** meetings to review our worst served customers for sewer flooding to drive mitigation/resolution;
- Business wide **repeats steering group** to learn the common themes of failure to prevent repeats and first-time incidents.

## The four pillars of improving our time to respond:

Stop the Customer Contact

Stop sewer flooding occurring in the first place through targeted activities including cleaning, DNM and customer awareness campaigns

Stop the Contact Becoming a Job

Improve triaging activities within our customer call centre to screen out private incidents prior to attendance

Work Optimisation

Ensuring the right resource is sent to the right job, including fast-tracking of repeat incidents

Efficient and Effective Resolution

Swift response to customers in urgent need through effective scheduling and utilisation of contract partners where required

# We know we can do more: Looking ahead to AMP8

## Our AMP8 Strategy

*'Controlling the Controllable & Increasing Resilience to Severe Weather'*

**Digitally-enable our system** to proactively prevent sewer flooding



**Support customers** affected by sewer flooding at every stage



Apply data-driven intelligence to **target interventions** effectively



Embed a **root cause analysis** culture throughout all that we do



**At final determinations, Ofwat has set a challenging target to achieve a further 45% reduction in internal sewer flooding incidents over AMP8 (2025-2030)**

### Controlling the Controllable

- An enhanced targeting programme – proactive inspection and sewer rehabilitation in postcodes of high flooding and other causes (FoC) risk;
- Improving operational intelligence through expansion of DNM principles, including trialling reactive sensor deployment following first time incidents to prevent repeats;
- Targeted customer awareness campaigns in areas of misuse

### Increasing Resilience to Severe Weather

- We are seeking to introduce a dedicated funding pot for worst served customers, to be managed by our executive, to trial solutions where resolution has been cost prohibitive historically;
- Establishment of a dedicated emergency fund for customers experiencing sewer flooding who may not have household insurance in place – eligibility criteria are being established;
- Expansion of our property-level flood mitigation programme

# Progress, key updates & partnership working

## Progress since last year

- Improved collaboration on key issues and willingness to work together
- Regular operational and strategic meetings covering breadth of topics
- Strengthened working relationships at various levels

## Partnership working on recent flooding incidents

- Aston Flooding
  - Jointly attended residents meeting after escalated complaints to both CEC & UU CEOs, MPs and Councillors
  - Guarantee given by our CEO to meet and listen to residents & be readily accessible to customers and stakeholders
  - Explained UU assets overwhelmed in periods of heavy rain and challenges to resolve

## Key updates

- Some projects from last year still ongoing:
  - Calveley flooding – progress being made given the complexities
  - Hobson St/Ryle St – recharge still outstanding

# Upcoming projects

## Upcoming projects

- Opportunities in Crewe – nature-based solutions, sustainable drainage
  - Positive discussions have taken place
  - Next steps include a mapping exercise of planned projects for CEC, UU, Crewe Town Council
- Combined sewer overflow spills reduction plan (2025 – 2030)
  - Investing in 23 overflows in Cheshire East
  - Investigations highlighting cases where there are flows we are not bound to receive
  - Expect to find more of these so need a clear plan on how to deal with these
  - Important that this issue is understood as a risk by all local authorities
- Chancel Lane – UU scheme to reduce combined sewer overflow spills and improve river water quality
  - Requires culvert disconnection – culvert connected into our combined system increasing spills downstream
  - Discussed solution at both operational & strategic meetings
- Integrated Water Management Plan
  - Early discussions around an integrated water management plan for Cheshire – approach in place in Greater Manchester Combined Authority and MOU recently signed with Liverpool City Region

# Any questions?



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