



# Allesley Flood Risk Management Scheme

## Changes Proposed In Your Area

December 2020

**Latest News:** We are looking to commence Property Flood Resilience works and continue Natural Flood Management in the upper Sherbourne catchment.

Flooding occurred in 2008, 2012 and 2016 in the area around the junction of Butt Lane and Browns Lane, Allesley. In 2016, 17 properties flooded from a combination of surface water and overtopping from the River Sherbourne. This resulted in significant damage to residential and commercial properties.

Allesley Flood Risk Management Scheme is a partnership project between the Environment Agency, Coventry City Council and Warwickshire Wildlife Trust. The scheme aims to reduce flood risk to 30 properties and local roads within Allesley. This will be achieved through installation of Natural Flood Management measures and Property Flood Resilience.

Natural Flood Management is an approach to flood risk management which uses natural processes and provides multiple benefits to a community. This involves implementing measures that help to protect, restore and emulate the natural functions of the river and its catchment and floodplain. Property Flood Resilience refers to measures that help keep flood water out of a property or reduce the damage if it gets in.

We last spoke with the community in November 2019 and shared our findings from our options review and conclusion to move forward with Natural Flood Management and Property Flood Resilience. This newsletter has been produced to help inform the community of progress.

## What's happening?

The scheme has now been approved and funding confirmed. We have appointed a Contractor to undertake property surveys and install property flood resilience measures to those homes most at

risk of flooding. Surveys will take place this winter (2020/21). We will contact eligible homeowners to arrange a suitable date for surveys. The survey involves undertaking an assessment to understand how water can enter the property and suggest ways to mitigate potential flooding. As well as resistance methods (preventing water entering the property) such as flood gates and air brick covers, the survey will also include the investigation of resilience measures (adapting inside the property) such as raising plug sockets above flood levels, to limit the damage and disruption that occurs when water enters.

The results of the survey will be provided to property owners. This will provide details of suitable Property Flood Resilience options available to them. The Project Team will discuss options with the property owner and agree a suitable package of measures. Following a signed agreement, the contractor will arrange a date for installation of the agreed measures.

Natural Flood Management work is to continue until spring 2022. This is being led by Warwickshire Wildlife Trust.

## How is Coronavirus impacting this scheme?

The Environment Agency remains fully operational and committed to adhering to all Government guidelines with the majority of our staff working from home. However we are unable to hold community meetings or drop-in sessions at this time. Our contractors are also implementing special arrangements to allow them to continue to work whilst maintaining social distancing and keeping their staff, partners and the public safe.

## What has been achieved to date?

- A number of measures to reduce surface water flood risk have been completed.

- In October 2016 Coventry City Council carried out work on Washbrook Lane to clear and improve roadside ditches up to Sherbourne House Farm, and installed extra gullies and raised kerbs at the junction of Browns Lane.
- In February 2018 Coventry City Council completed work to improve a pipe/ culvert next to the Scout Hut. The former pipe was prone to blockage. The new pipe carries flow from a stream at the back of properties on Windmill Hill, under Washbrook Lane to the River Sherbourne.
- Natural Flood Management measures have been constructed with the first pilot Natural Flood Management measures being completed in March 2019 in Elkin Wood.
- After a short interruption due to Coronavirus restrictions, Natural Flood Management works are now continuing. Over 20 additional measures have been implemented including leaky barriers (such as in the below photo), storage pools, hedgerow gapping up and buffer strips. These measures are being designed and installed in conjunction with landowners.



- The installation of Property Flood Resilience measures to individual properties will be agreed with participating homeowners in advance of works.

## Expected Project Timeline

- Winter 2020: Property Flood Resilience Surveys
- Winter & spring 2021: Property Flood Resilience installation
- Spring & summer 2021: Property Flood Resilience post-installation surveys
- Summer 2021: Property Flood Resilience exercise
- Natural Flood Management to continue to spring 2022

## How can I get further information?

If you have any queries regarding Natural Flood Management or are a landowner in the area who would like to be involved, please contact Nick Martin, Warwickshire Wildlife Trust via email [nick.martin@wkw.org.uk](mailto:nick.martin@wkw.org.uk) or 07810 863 177.

For all other Allesley Flood Risk Management Scheme queries please contact Clare Healy on [engagement\\_westmids@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:engagement_westmids@environment-agency.gov.uk) or 02077 121 130.

## What is my flood risk?

We generate maps that show the extent and risk of flooding to a certain area. To check the level of flood risk to your property visit [www.gov.uk/check-if-youre-at-risk-of-flooding](http://www.gov.uk/check-if-youre-at-risk-of-flooding)

## What can I do?

We encourage everyone who is at risk of flooding to sign up to our free flood warning service. You can do this online at [www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings](http://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings) or by calling Floodline on 0345 988 1188. This is important for those receiving Property Flood Resilience as it will enable residents to activate their community and individual flood plans and implement their Property Flood Resilience measures. Allesley is covered by a Flood Alert for the 'River Sowe, River Sherbourne, Canley Brook and Finham Brook area' and a specific Flood Warning for the 'River Sherbourne at Allesley'.

You'll need to provide:

- the address you're registering
- a phone number you can be contacted on day or night, and
- an email address.

You can get warnings by phone, email or text message.

## Keeping updated

Due to Coronavirus we will only update you if there are any significant changes we need to make you aware of. For more information: [https://www.coventry.gov.uk/info/70/water\\_management\\_and\\_flooding/3281/allesley\\_flood\\_risk\\_management](https://www.coventry.gov.uk/info/70/water_management_and_flooding/3281/allesley_flood_risk_management)

To provide feedback on how useful you have found this update, or to be added to our mailing list to receive future updates, please email: [Engagement\\_Westmids@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:Engagement_Westmids@environment-agency.gov.uk)

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