

Section 19 Flood Investigation

Addendum to Storm Henk 2024 Flooding, Wolston

January 2025

Warwickshire County Council as Lead Local Flood Authority

Version	Date	Issued to
Version 1	20/03/2025	LLFA

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1 INTRODUCTION

This is an addendum to the 2024 Storm Henk Section 19 report published in December 2024. The 2024 report was produced following large county wide flooding in January 2024 which led to a total of 106 reports of internal property flooding in addition to many reports of other flooding such as land, gardens and outbuildings. There were also 446 reports of highway flooding received including 28 road closures as a result of the flooding. Of these 106 internal property flood reports, 16 of these were in the village of Wolston. Due to the number of properties internally flooded, this met the Warwickshire County Councils (WCC) thresholds to trigger a formal investigation under Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.

Further internal flooding to 15 properties was experienced in January 2025 from a singular rainfall event, and section 2 is intended as an addendum to the original report and provides detail on the January 2025 flooding. Section 3 includes the relevant actions and opportunities that were identified on following Storm Henk. These actions and opportunities have been discussed and reviewed by the Flood Risk Management team and are still deemed applicable in reducing flood risk in Wolston following the January 2025 flooding

2 ADDENDUM TO REPORT

Further flooding was reported to have internally affected 15 properties in Wolston on 6th January 2025. On this date the County of Warwickshire as well as the wider West Midland area was subject to a yellow warning of thunderstorms and heavy downpours from the Met Office (Figure 1)

The village of Wolston experienced heavy rainfall on 6th January 2025 in which a total of 22.7mm of rain fell within a 24hr timeframe (Figure 2). This followed a period of wet weather in December 2024 in which a total of 51.80mm of rain fell within the Wolston catchment (Figure 3) meaning that the ground was already saturated. A flood warning was issued on the morning of the 6th January 2025 and was in force until the morning of the 8th January 2025, rainfall data suggests 71.9mm of rain fell in the Wolston catchment throughout the month of January (Figure 3). All rainfall data has been calculated using Hydromaster and the absence of any local rain gauges discounts further verification.

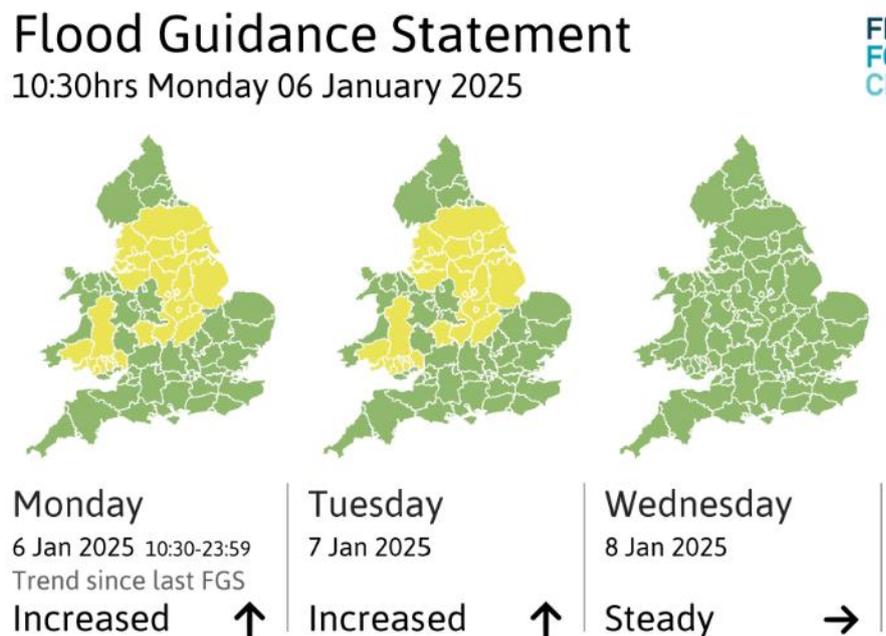


Figure 1: Flood Guidance Statement



Figure 2: Wolston day to day rainfall data
Source:Hydromaster

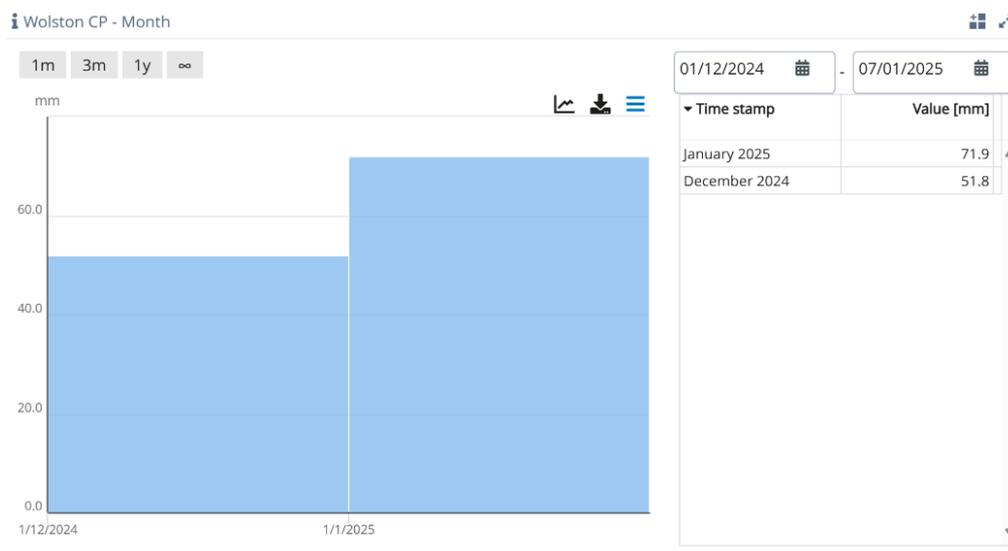


Figure 3: Wolston month to month rainfall data
Source:Hydromaster

Internal property flooding was reported to the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) by the local Flood Action Group (FLAG), the borough councillor and the Environment Agency (EA). The flooding was also reported in the local news. Whilst the LLFA did not carry out a site visit, the EA undertook a door knocking exercises. Extensive conversations were also had with partners to verify flood reports and better understand the cause of flooding. From these discussions it was concluded that there had been no apparent asset failure or restriction within any artificial drainage network (e.g highways system, Severn Trent Water (STW) sewer network etc). Flooding is therefore understood to have resulted from high intensity rainfall either exceeding the capacity of the artificial drainage network, the inability of flows to enter the drainage network at a sufficient rate and the brook bursting its banks.

3 ACTIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

What actions are being taken?

No.	Action	Responsible party	Progress
1	Set up central government Property Flood Resilience (PFR) Grant Scheme framework and work with the community to administer the relevant funding	LLFA/Residents	Ongoing
2	Work to put together an RFCC application for a potential funding bid as a result of flooding from Main River	EA	Ongoing
3	Undertake appropriate watercourse maintenance	Landowners/WCC Highways	Ongoing
4	Identify sites which may be suitable for potential NFM works upstream of Wolston	FLAG	Ongoing
5	Ensure that highway cyclic gully cleansing is scheduled at an appropriate interval	WCC Highways	Ongoing/Frequency Increased
6	Offer advice to residents that have been internally flooded from this event	LLFA	Complete
7	Undertake work to put an Emergency Flood Action Plan in place for Wolston	FLAG	Ongoing
8	Speak to Spitfire Homes regarding the management of surface water during construction of the development	FLAG	Ongoing

What are the future opportunities that may reduce flood risk in this location?

