



Members' Briefing Note

26 November 2012

Ref: MS/DB/DM/11

What's happened this Weekend

At 3.30am Sunday (25 November) morning, the Council's Streetwise staff were called out to deal with homes that were flooding, or at risk of flooding, in the Borough. The team delivered 1,000 sandbags to over 100 affected properties. The problems were caused by a combination of factors such as rivers and their tributaries and other watercourses overflowing, water run-off from land, surface water not being able to drain away as land is so waterlogged and water on roads (as drains cannot cope) being sprayed back onto properties.

Some villages in the Soar Valley were affected and received our help with sandbags as the Soar flooded (areas affected included Zouch, Kingston-on-Soar, Stanford-on-Soar, Ratcliffe-on-Soar, Normanton-on-Soar and Thrumpton).

Some homes in East Leake and Gotham were affected by surface water run-off as land was already wet. Water run-off from land and dykes overflowing caused problems in Tollerton, Radcliffe-on-Trent and Shelford.

Water levels in the River Smite and tributaries were also high and threatened homes in the Aslockton and Whatton area.

The Council had temporary accommodation standing by, but as yet no requests have been received from people needing alternative accommodation.

Future forecast

We continue to work with partners at the County Council and Environment Agency to keep a close watch on levels of water in the River Trent, with particular attention to low-lying areas such as the mobile home park at Ratcliffe-on-Trent. We are also watching what is happening to the River Soar at Zouch which has already flooded, but it is anticipated the water should subside, assuming there is no more rain.

The forecast for the next 48-hours is for light rain and an improving picture for better weather.

Support available

Residents are being advised to contact us if they need help. The Council is keen to spread the message that people should get in touch if they have been affected by

the floods and now need extra help. People are also being asked to keep a lookout for any vulnerable neighbours who may need help and to put them in touch with the Council.

In addition, our Streetwise team will also be continuing to go out to visit those areas affected by the flooding.

People are advised to call **0115 981 9911** for any help.

Advice given in *Rushcliffe Reports*

All homes should now have received the latest copy of *Rushcliffe Reports* and below is a summary of advice found on page 21 in this edition.

Weird weather

We will keep our website and call centre staff up to date with news. We'll also tweet regularly - follow @rushcliffe. If a property has flooded before, our advice is that residents should put flood protection measures in place. The following websites carry the main information about weather warning and flood protection issues.

Check the Environment Agency website for flood advice - www.environment-agency.gov.uk. For information on the weather, visit the www.metoffice.gov.uk.

Notts County Council – <http://www3.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/enjoying/countryside/flooding/floodingadvice/> is the lead council that deals with the management of flood risk. The County Council also works closely with the emergency services and others to provide an emergency response.

In the event of an emergency, Rushcliffe may be able to help with sandbags for people whose homes are at risk – priority will be given to the most vulnerable. However if you're liable to flood, we would strongly recommend that you buy sandbags or use any suitable deterrents eg bags of building sand and buy flood protection products in advance from DIY stores. In an emergency, while we'll make every effort to respond to demand, with limited resources we may not be able to cope with an exceptionally high number of requests.

For sandbags, call our contact centre on **0115 981 9911** for help. For advice on sewer flooding please visit Severn Trent Water's website - www.stwater.co.uk - or call their Emergency Helpline (24 hours) **0800 783 4444**

Another useful website is www.floodforum.org.uk – and for flood protection products www.bluepages.org.uk.

For any further information please contact Dave Banks, Head of Environment and Waste Management and Dave Mitchell, Head of Partnerships and Performance.