

Severe weather bulletin – Flooding response update

30 November 2017

Lancashire County Council's highways teams, resilience service and flood risk management team have continued to work to help parts of the county which were affected by last week's flooding.

During the initial phase of the flooding our out of hours highways teams spent all night assisting the emergency services and the Environment Agency, clearing drains and culverts, putting out warning signs and delivering sandbags.

The flooding incident resulted in a lot of debris being deposited in highway gullies and culverts, and one of our main tasks as part of the recovery has been to clear this debris and check that they're in full working order. Parts of Lancaster have been worst hit by the floods, so we have redeployed LCC resources and employed additional contractors to ensure this work can be carried out promptly.

This includes:

- Removing around 70 tonnes of debris which had been washed into a culvert at Cote Beck, Halton, Lancaster. Further work will take place from Friday 1 December to clear the culvert where it goes under the road at Church Brow.
- Checking and clearing of gullies between Low Road and High Road in Halton, Lancaster. This work is currently underway.
- Clearing gullies in Galgate, Lancaster. Some gullies could not be accessed due to vehicles still requiring recovery from the flooding, however we'll be doing a letter drop and posting notices in the area on Friday and Saturday to let residents know that we will return to finish this task on Monday. The letters and notices will ask that the areas we need to access are kept clear.
- Gully clearing wherever needed in other parts of the county affected by flooding, particularly pockets of the Fylde, Chorley, Whalley and Hyndburn to ensure flood waters could clear, and drains are working.

For regular updates on the weather:



www.gov.uk/environment-agency

Search warnings and river levels in your area or call Floodline on 0345 988 1188.



Check the Met Office Severe Weather Warnings



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Stay up to date

- Tune in to your local radio for the latest information about flooding and traffic reports.

Key contacts

- If there is an immediate risk to life or you are trapped by floodwater call 999.
- To report a flood incident or have concerns your property may be immediately at risk of flooding:
 - Call the Floodline Service on 0345 988 1188.
- If the flooding is from highway drainage, surface water, groundwater or watercourses:
 - Call Lancashire County Council - 0300 123 6780
- If the flooding is from a main river or coastal water:
 - Call Environment Agency - 0345 988 1188.
- If the flooding is from sewers or burst water mains contact your water provider:
 - Call United Utilities - 0345 6723 723.
 - Call Yorkshire Water - 0800 57 3553

Further work will be needed in some locations to carry out minor repairs or replace infrastructure, such as damaged culvert trash screens.

Resilience staff worked through the night during the incident to help co-ordinate the county response, and support rest centres where residents needed to be evacuated. Since then they have continued working with partners including district councils and the Environment Agency to coordinate recovery efforts.

After visiting residents to offer advice and support in the immediate aftermath, staff from the council's Flood Risk Management team have continued to work to respond to enquiries, and where appropriate have begun investigations to see what lessons might be learnt to mitigate future occurrences. The team has been visiting communities which experienced flooding to gather information from residents to assist these investigations. This includes knocking on doors in Thornton Cleveleys where further reports of flooding had only reached the team by word of mouth. The team is continuing to work with other authorities responsible for flood risk management to gather and share data and report actions.

Officers from Highways and the Flood Risk Management Team attended a public meeting in Halton on Tuesday evening, and will also be attending a drop-in event in Wyre next week.

For information and advice for the public, including steps to stay safe during a flood please visit our website – www.lancashire.gov.uk/flooding