

Annex C

Summary Reports of S19 Investigations

Chertsey

Hamm Court, Weybridge, Enquiry Reference: 105429

This report/ slides investigate the flooding events occurred in Hamm Court during and after Storm Henk in January 2024. The investigation complies with the requirements of Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.

Hamm Court Estate is a private residential area located in Surrey, England, within the Runnymede Borough. It is situated near the towns of Weybridge and Shepperton, and is bordered by the River Thames, the Bourne, and the River Wey. The estate is accessible via a single narrow road and is surrounded by approximately 19 acres of farmland and paddocks. The estate is part of the constituency of Runnymede and Weybridge.

Hamm Court Estate is considered to have a high flood risk. The area is prone to flooding due to its proximity to the River Thames and the Bourne.

Flood Event Description

Flood event description:

Flood Impact:

- 57 external properties were affected by flooding.
- 3 internal properties experienced flooding.
- Hamm Court experienced significant flooding during Storm Henk, which affected the UK between 2nd and 12th January 2024. The storm brought damaging winds and heavy rainfall between 2nd and 4th January, resulting in over 50mm of rainfall in Surrey and widespread surface water flooding. This was followed by significant fluvial flooding from the rivers.
- River Thames Overflow: The Thames overtopped its banks, flooding the River Bourne and properties in Hamm Court.
- Stream Water Levels: Water levels rose, causing overland flows and road damage. Water entered manholes as soon as it rose above ground level.
- Thames Water Pumping Station: The removable flood barrier was not deployed, leading to surface water flooding and failure of electrical pumps. This caused a prolonged inability to remove foul sewage from Hamm Court Estate.
- Groundwater Emergence: Groundwater pooled in fields, contributing to road and property flooding.

It is understood that the River Thames flooding into the River Bourne is a significant flood source which exacerbates the flooding from the Bourne.

Recommendations

The Environment Agency should consider the following:

- **Repair and Raise Flood Barrier:** Fix and elevate the subsided concrete flood barrier between the Thames and the Bourne to prevent downstream flooding in Hamm Court Estate.
- **Tree Maintenance:** Confirm responsibility with Spelthorne Borough Council for tree maintenance and ensure regular surveys and any debris must be cleared.

Surrey County Council should consider the following:

- **Engage and coordinate:** Continue to engage and coordinate with residents and RMAs fulfilling their duty to investigate flood events under section 19 of the Flood and Water Management act 2010.

Spelthorne and Runnymede Borough Councils should consider the following:

- **Spelthorne:** Inspect and maintain the area between Hamm Court and Towpath and clarify maintenance responsibilities with the EA any debris must be cleared.
- **Runnymede:** Evaluate flood risk as part of emergency planning.

Thames Water should consider the following:

- **Asset Maintenance:** Regularly maintain and inspect assets, including the water pumping station and removable barriers.
- **Effective Drainage:** Ensure the drainage system operates effectively.

Landowners/Residents/Hamm Court Estate Ltd should consider the following:

- **Flood Resilience Grants:** Apply for grants to install property flood resilience measures. See <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/community/emergency-planning-and-community-safety/flooding>
- **Report Flooding:** Continue reporting property and sewage flooding to relevant authorities.
- **Drainage Permissions:** Avoid draining surface water into foul sewers without permission.
- **Flood Alerts:** Sign up for flood alerts and warnings. See <https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings>
- **Safe Access/Egress:** Ensure safe access and egress during emergencies.

Actions taken/to be taken

Environment Agency

- **River Thames Scheme (RTS):** The River Thames scheme is a major infrastructure scheme being developed to reduce the risk of flooding from the Thames. Led by the EA in collaboration with both County and Borough Council partners.
- **Site Visits and Coordination:** The EA has visited the site, coordinated with residents, ensuring they receive accurate and timely information on flood warnings and alerts, this include sending information via email.
- **Asset Maintenance:** Provided a list of inspected and maintained assets.

- EA Response: EA unlikely to receive funding to raise the bank without measurable benefits. Raising the bank may delay inundation by the Bourne but won't prevent larger floods from the River Thames. Also it might have negative impacts elsewhere.

Surrey County Council

- Surrey Fire and Rescue services attended during the flood event, assessing and evacuating residents.
- Site Visits and Coordination: SCC flood and climate resilience officers have conducted site visits and coordinated with residents and the EA, documenting concerns and information as per Section 19.

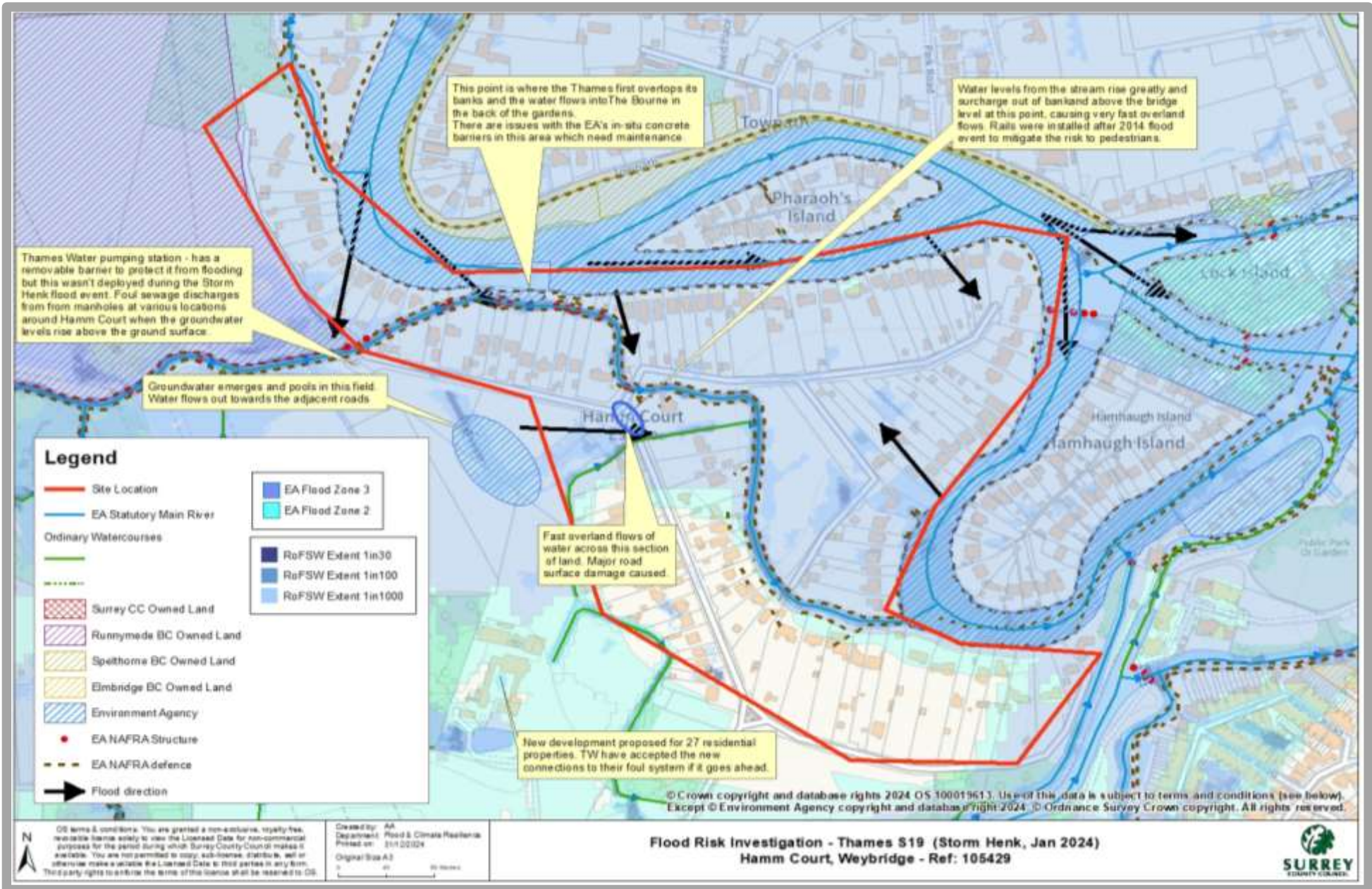
Thames Water

- Flood Response: The site experiences significant flooding when the River Thames rises. Permanent flood defence barriers are in place, but the area still floods with river water during high levels. TW sewer flooding reported at the time to our customer service centre via the following number 0800 316 9800 and complete <https://www.thameswater.co.uk/media-library/home/help/emergencies/flooding/sewer-flooding-questionnaire.pdf>

Landowners/Residents/Hamm Court Estate Ltd

- Community Flood Plan: Residents have detailed action plans and are proactive in monitoring river levels. An updated community flood plan has been implemented.
- Flood Barriers and Management: Some residents used flood barriers during the event, but these only prevented heavy silt. The area's clay soil complicates flood management efforts.

Flood Summary Map



Chertsey

Ferry Lane, Towpath, Lock/Pharoh's Island, Docketts Eddy Lane and Chertsey Road enclosed area, Enquiry References 124184 and 160463

This report examines the flooding events caused by Storm Henk in January 2024 in the Thameside Chertsey area. The investigation complies with the requirements of Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.

There is a mix of both houses, chalets, and businesses along Chertsey Bridge Road.

Flood Event Description

- Between 1 - 4 January 2024, 50-75mm of rain fell over the already saturated Thames catchment. This is 130% of 4-month Autumn average.
- On the evening of Sun 8th The river broke its bank at Laleham and below the M3 crossing at Thameside and poured into the already full Littleton Lake South flooding as a wall of water across the Travellers site and drained under Littleton Lane through the drainage Tunnels.
- Water was concentrated by the landfill site next to Littleton Lane and flowed down to Chertsey Road, some exiting down the footpath back down to the river but most towards Range Villas.
- This crossed onto Ryepeck Meadow, behind Riversleigh and Mead Farms, across Dockett Eddy Lane and onto the recently purchased Ferry Lane flood plain. A second breach at the end of Dockett Eddy Lane added to this water and flooded the houses adjacent to the ditch and to the rear of Towpath bordering the floodplain.
- Drainage from the flood plain was restricted by lack of Riparian maintenance from landowners and householders combined, slowing egress and raising the water table higher than it needed.
- Ferry lane flooded due to highway assets being overwhelmed combined with the effect of a new cycleway removing the protective kerb reducing existing asset performance.
- 9 properties reported flooding internally, 12 properties reported flooding externally, and 5 roads were reported as flooded.

Other impacts:

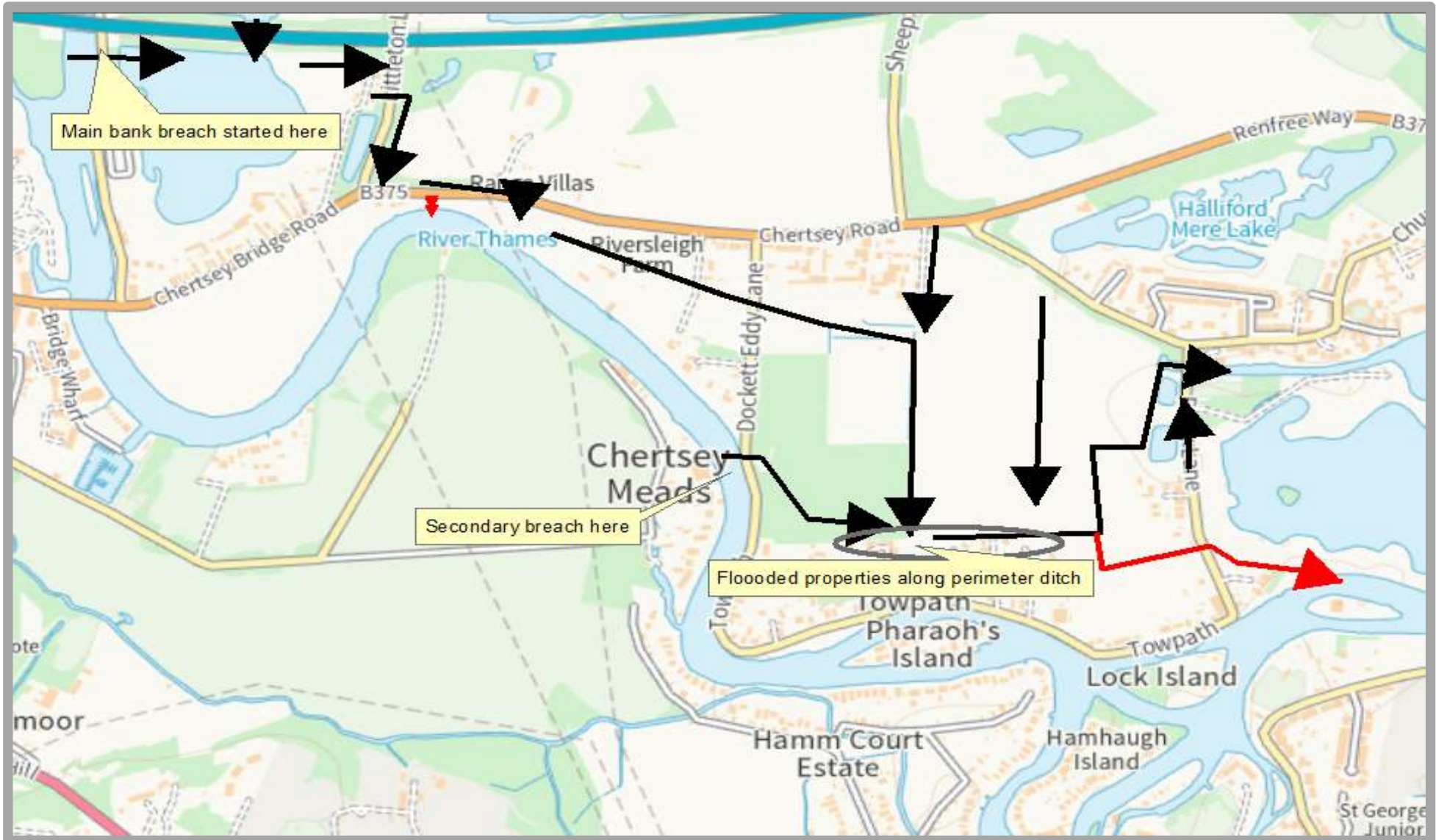
Ferry lane was cut off effectively and with Tow Path being a one-way system left all residents without large 4x4's stranded for 6-10 days. Thames sewers overflowed.

Recommendations

- SCC Highways have cleared Ferry Lane gulleys and installed a new low point gully and designed a new Titan Kerb on the inside roadside end of Dockett Eddy Lane.
- The EA must increase the riverbank height below the M3 at Thameside to 14m AOD as per RTS proposals in the full Abbeyfield S19 report.
- Consider Littleton Lane Travellers Site bund protection improvement & formalisation
- Respective landowners and householders from Ryepeck to Ferry Lane should co-ordinate ditch clearing of the flood plain area to improve hydraulic efficiency.

- Spelthorne BC should consider leading co-ordination of pre-Autumn intelligence and enforcement of illegal mooring pre bad weather between RMA's.
- Spelthorne BC have scheduled repair of the bank revetments at Dockett Eddy Lane
- Homeowners to install property Flood Resilience measures and have action plans
- Utilise SCC funding / social media and group comms to set up a wider Flood Action group and complete an effective large scale LRF drill for a 150mm flood event utilising all newly available technology and resources.

Flood Summary Map



Chertsey

Abbeyfield's Park Home/Old Littleton Lane/Chertsey Bridge Road, Chertsey, Enquiry References 99155 and 105074

This report examines the flooding events caused by Storm Henk in January 2024 in the Thameside Chertsey area. The investigation complies with the requirements of Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.

Abbeyfield's Park Home and Littleton Lane Travellers Site both house high vulnerability residents and consist of static and mobile home as well as chalets. There is a mix of both houses, chalets and businesses along Chertsey Bridge Road.

Flood Event Description

- Between 1 - 4 January 2024, 50-75mm of rain fell over the already saturated Thames catchment. This is 130% of 4-month Autumn average
- As the storm water drained from the upper catchment downstream to Oxford it was tracked by the slower moving returning front. This deposited very heavy rainfall at both the same speed and direction of the Thames' path, adding more rain to the catchment where flow was at its peak. This resulted in a faster rise in river level than would occur if the point the flow was draining down at the same speed the front was moving forwards, creating a faster than usual rise and fall in river levels
- The river broke its bank at Laleham and below the M3 crossing and the already full lake flooded the surrounding area, draining away across the flood plain towards Dumpsey Meadow and Ferry Lane, Shepperton

Recommendations

- Landowners to consider raising and formalising the bund protecting Traveller Site to a consistent height reducing most downstream risk
- EA to consider groundwater anomaly effect in designing new below M3 sill for separating Littleton Lakes
- SCC should replace surface drains at GRT site
- Include the Littleton Lake drain outlet in the EA asset register as a key asset
- Increase the Riverbank height below the M3 at Thameside to Chertsey lock to 14m AOD matching the lock mooring protection height
- Abbeyfield Park homes and Traveller's site Managers to create a safe evacuation plan including signage and complete an effective and regular drill
- Property owners to investigate installing property Flood Resilience measures and have action plans prepared
- Utilise social media and group comms to set up a Flood Action group
- 27 properties reported flooding internally, 48 properties reported flooding externally, and 3 roads were reported as flooded.

Other impacts: All properties lost power and foul services during the 14-day effects of the event. Residents at Abbeyfield were rescued by boat by SFRS and were particularly impacted with

social and mental health problems during and following the flooding. This was compounded by the fact that their properties are un-insurable, and Tenants are not particularly digitally connected, easy to co-ordinate or particularly mobile themselves, making warning and rescue difficult.

Flood Summary Map

