



## **SECTION 19 REPORT – CARLTON ON TRENT 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2012**

### **Introduction**

Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 states:

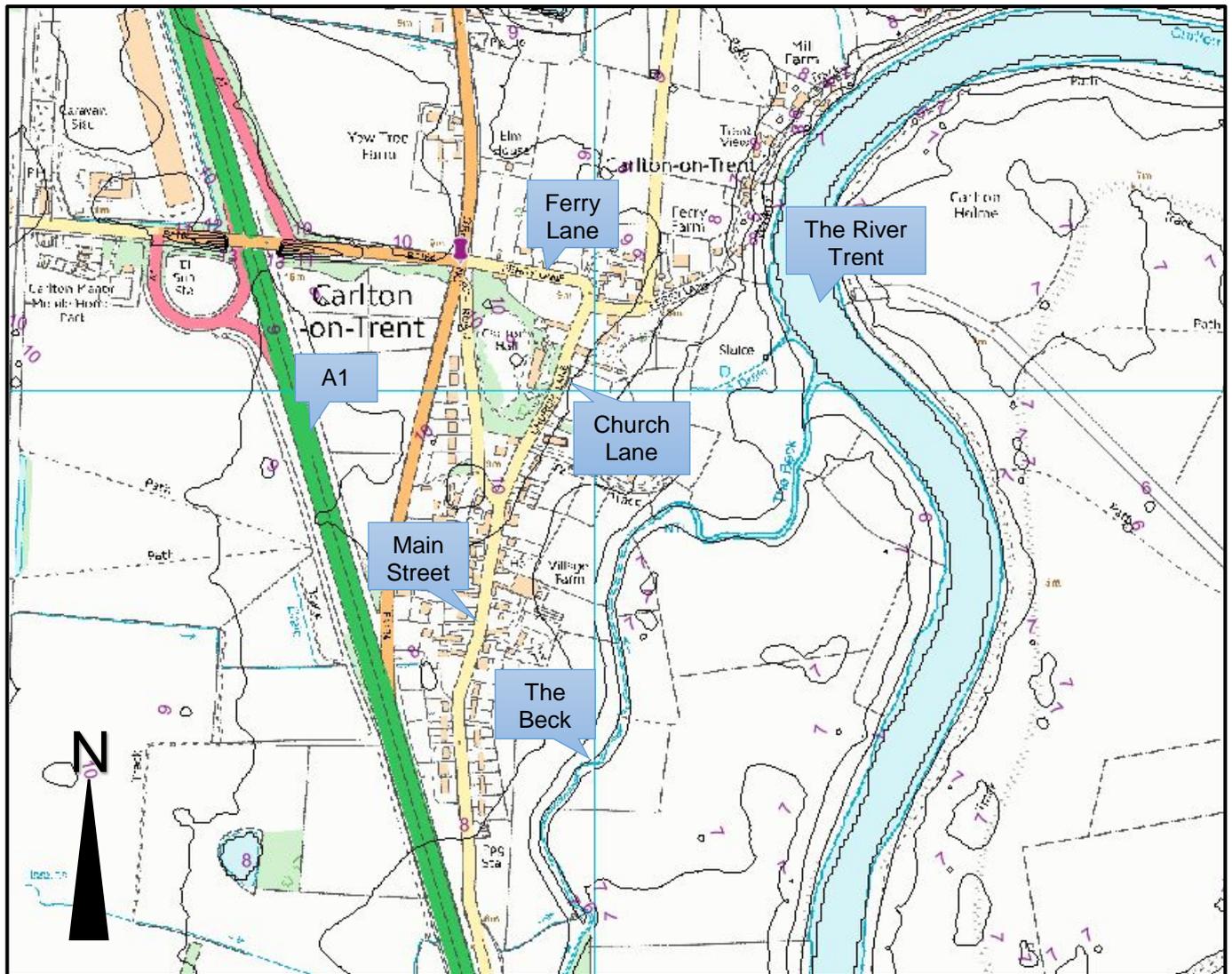
1. On becoming aware of a flood in its area, a lead local flood authority must, to the extent that it considers it necessary or appropriate, investigate:
  - (a) Which Risk Management Authorities (RMAs) have relevant flood risk management functions.
  - (b) Whether each of those risk management authorities has exercised, or is proposing to exercise, those functions in response to the flood.
2. Where an authority carries out an investigation under subsection (1) it must:-
  - (a) Publish the results of its investigation.
  - (b) Notify any relevant risk management authorities.
3. The objective of this report is to investigate which RMAs had relevant flood risk management functions during the flooding in November 2012 and whether the relevant RMAs have exercised, or propose to exercise, their risk management functions (as per section 19(1) of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010).
4. The RMA's for this area of Nottinghamshire are The Environment Agency (EA), Newark and Sherwood District Council (N&S), Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) as Lead Local Flood Authority and Highways Authority, Highways England (HA), Severn Trent Water Ltd (STW) and Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board (TVIDB).
5. It should be noted that this duty to investigate does not guarantee that flooding problems will be resolved and cannot force others into action.

### **Background**

6. On the 28<sup>th</sup> of November 2012 parts of Nottinghamshire were subjected to intense rainfall following a short period of very wet weather. The Met Office quotes 'A sequence of heavy rainfall events in late November 2012 resulted in one of the wettest weeks in England in the last 50 years'. As a result of this many parts of the County, including Carlton on Trent, experienced major flooding with many properties across the county affected. There were 5 recorded properties within Carlton on Trent that suffered flooding internally with the main contributing source being overland flow.

## Summary of flooding and its causes

7. Carlton-on-Trent is a small rural village, located between the River Trent and the A1, with a watercourse called The Beck to the South. It is situated within the Trent Valley, and though not particularly hilly in topography the village is surrounded by agricultural land.



**Map 1 – Catchment Details**

8. The areas around Ferry Lane, Main Street and Church Lane were particularly affected by flooding on the 28<sup>th</sup> of November 2012.
9. Though the village is in close proximity to the River Trent the flooding experienced by the residents of Carlton on Trent came from two identified sources. Pluvial; surface water from the surrounding fields, footpaths and roads and Highway Drainage; from drainage gullies that were at or above operational capacity.
10. Significant amounts of water flowed directly off the fields surrounding this area. Once the water reached the road it was channelled through the village.
11. The high levels of surface water once collected on the roads overwhelmed the existing drainage infrastructure. The standard design capacity of the highway drainage was not sufficient to cope with the exceptional rainfall experienced that day.

## **Risk Management Authorities and their responsibilities**

1. Nottinghamshire County Council
  - a) Lead Local Flood Authority
    - i. Investigate significant local flooding incidents and publish the results of such investigations.
    - ii. Play a lead role in emergency planning and recovery after a flood event.
    - iii. If a flood happens, all local authorities are 'category one responders' under the Civil Contingencies Act. This means they must have plans in place to respond to emergencies and control or reduce the impact of an emergency. LLFAs also have a new duty to determine which risk management authorities have relevant powers to investigate flood incidents to help understand how they happened, and whether those authorities have or intend to exercise their powers.
    - iv. By working in partnership with communities, LLFAs can raise awareness of flood risks.
    - v. LLFAs should encourage local communities to participate in local flood risk management.
  - b) Highway Authority
    - i. Maintenance of the public highways and associated drainage (No public surface water sewers).
  - c) The Environment Agency
    - i. Maintenance and Management of the River Trent.
  - d) Highways England (formerly The Highways Agency)
    - i. Maintenance of Trunk Roads (A1)
  - e) Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board
    - i. Maintenance of board prescribed ordinary watercourses.

## **Risk Management Authority Responses to Flood**

2. The following lists the actions taken by each RMA in response to the flooding both in the immediate aftermath as well as in the longer term:
  - a) Nottinghamshire County Council:
    - i. Initiated and co-ordinated Emergency Planning procedures.
    - ii. Provided emergency response crews to assist in management of flooding event.
    - iii. Initiated and led the S19 Flood Investigation.
  - b) The Environment Agency:
    - i. Provided emergency response crews to assist in management of flooding event.
    - ii. Continue to monitor River Levels.
  - c) Highways England (formerly Highways Agency):

- i) Where needed, provided emergency response crews to assist in management of flooding event.
  - d) Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board.
    - i) Provided emergency response crews to assist in management of flooding event.
    - ii) Continue to monitor River Levels.
3. The investigation concludes that all risk management authorities have and continue to, exercise their respective functions in response to the flood.

### **Future Actions**

- 4. The EA have identified Carlton on Trent as being at significant risk of fluvial flooding from the River Trent and are considering options for potential schemes for villages like this along the whole of the Trent Valley. NCC and the EA continue to work with the community to try and understand the flood mechanism and to educate them on flood resilience for potential future events.